

**IT IS SO ORDERED** this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2026.

Electronically signed by Ralph M. Ramirez

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Hon. Ralph M. Ramirez  
Waukesha County Presiding Judge

STATE OF WISCONSIN

CIRCUIT COURT  
THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

WAUKESHA COUNTY  
26-SO-09 (67)

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**IN THE MATTER OF:  
TEMPORARILY CLOSING THE  
WAUKESHA COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
ON MARCH 16, 2026**

**ORDER**

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**WHEREAS**, The Waukesha County Executive has declared a snow emergency for March 16, 2026 in Waukesha County and has closed the Waukesha County Courthouse Complex to County personnel;

**AND WHEREAS**, severe inclement weather is forecast for Waukesha County on March 16, 2026, creating hazardous travel conditions and impairing the ability of court staff, litigants, jurors, attorneys, and members of the public to safely access the Waukesha County Courthouse Complex;

**AND WHEREAS**, under Supreme Court Rules 70.19 and 70.20, the Chief Judge of the Judicial Administrative District is vested with authority to supervise and direct judicial administration within the district, including the establishment of days and hours of court operation and the issuance of directives necessary to ensure the safe and efficient administration of justice;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Supreme Court has recognized that the courts possess inherent authority to take actions necessary to ensure the judiciary can fulfill its constitutional and statutory functions, including adjusting court operations when circumstances materially impair the courts' ability to function efficiently;

**AND WHEREAS**, court closure decisions must balance the judiciary's responsibility to remain open to the public with the obligation to ensure the safety of the public and court personnel, and must account for mandated statutory timelines and emergency matters;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:**

1. Court Closure: The Waukesha County Circuit Courts shall be closed to the public on March 16, 2026, due to severe inclement weather and resulting safety concerns.
2. Suspension of In-Person Proceedings: All in-person hearings, trials, and court events scheduled for March 16, 2026, are canceled and shall be rescheduled by the presiding judge or the Clerk of Court.
3. Filings and Deadlines: For purposes of time computation under Wis. Stat. § 801.15, March 16, 2026, shall be treated as a day on which the clerk's office is closed, and filing deadlines falling on this date shall be extended to the next business day.