

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
OF THE STATE OF IDAHO**

In RE: Emergency Closure of the
Owyhee County Courthouse and
Office of the District Court Clerk

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**Administrative Order
2023-06**

WHEREAS, I.C.A.R. 48(a) provides: “In the event of an emergency or threatened emergency, the Administrative Director of the Courts or his or her designee, or where practicable, after consultation with the Administrative Director of the Courts or his or her designee, the administrative judge, or his or her designee if the administrative judge is unavailable, may order the closure of a district court and related offices, including the district court clerk’s office, until safe operations of the court and its offices can be restored”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to I.C.A.R. 48(b), “‘Emergency or threatened emergency’ includes, but is not limited to, any occurrence or threatened occurrence, whether natural, man-made, or technological, that causes or threatens to cause:

- (1) the destruction of court facilities, including the offices of the district court clerk, or substantial damage to such facilities;
- (2) an interruption in the performance of court operations; or
- (3) harm to the safety or health of court personnel, including personnel of the district court clerk’s office, or other person using court facilities”; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned has been advised that severe natural weather has caused Idaho State Highway 78 to be compromised which has made it unsafe for travel and it to be closed until further notice. It has been determined that such road closure threatens an interruption in the performance of court operations and harm to the health and safety of court personnel and other person scheduled to use court facilities in Owyhee County since the roadway is washed out near mile post 28, which is approximately 1 mile northwest of Murphy, Idaho; and


WHEREAS, the undersigned has consulted with the Administrative Director of the Courts while making this determination pursuant to I.C.A.R. 48(a).

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Owyhee County district and magistrate courts, and related offices, including the Owyhee district court clerk's office located in Murphy, Idaho are closed on June 14, 2023 and until such time as safe operation of the court and offices can be restored; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of the District Court in Owyhee County shall ensure that individuals wishing to access the Court shall be able to do so remotely or through operations of the Homedale Annex.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED.

Dated this 14 day of June, 2023.



Honorable Davis F. VanderVelde
Administrative District Judge
Third Judicial District

C: Sara Omundson, Administrative Director of the Courts
Hon. Shane Darrington, Owyhee County Magistrate Judge
Hon. Randy Grove, Owyhee County District Judge
Angela Barkell, Owyhee County Clerk of the District Court
Owyhee County Board of Commissioners