

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA

IN RE:)
)
INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY) **GENERAL ORDER**
) NO. 2003-01

Whereas, from time to time, court operations are impacted by inclement weather, the following policy is implemented. Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED that:

1. At 6:00 a.m., the Chief Judge will consult with the Clerk of the Court about weather conditions in Omaha and Lincoln.
2. Shortly after 6:00 a.m., the Chief Judge will make a decision regarding the opening or closing of court operations in Omaha and Lincoln. If the Chief Judge decides to close court operations at either or both locations, the court in that location is closed in its entirety and no judge may expect services from the Clerk's Office, Pretrial Services, the Probation Office, or the Marshals Service. The Chief Probation Officer is granted discretion to make the decision regarding Probation Office employees in North Platte. In the instance that a trial session is ongoing in North Platte, the presiding judge will make the decision regarding the opening or closing of court operations at that location.
3. Once the decision is made to close or to remain open, the Chief Judge will inform the Clerk of the Court.
4. Subsequently, the Clerk of the Court will record the Chief Judge's decision on the district's voice messaging system. After 6:30 a.m., if not sooner, employees can access that messaging system for instructions and information regarding the opening or closing of court operations. The courtroom deputy clerk for each judge will notify their particular judge and chambers staff as to the Chief Judge's decision.
5. When inclement weather strikes during the workday, the unit executives will jointly decide whether to reduce operations to a skeleton staff. However, all court units shall continue to support ongoing trials, hearings and the like.
6. This order does not pertain to the Bankruptcy Court which has a separate inclement weather policy.
7. This order does not pertain to judges, their secretaries, and law clerks; that is, each judge will decide whether his or her personal staff will work during inclement weather. Nevertheless, if the Chief Judge has decided to close court operations, no judge may expect services from the Clerk's Office, Pretrial Services, the Probation Office, or the Marshals Service.

8. This order rescinds General Order No. 00-04.

DATED this 9th day of January, 2003.

BY THE COURT:

s/ Richard G. Kopf
Chief United States District Judge