

## Court Closure Arrangements for Magistrates Courts

23 December 2024 to 3 January 2025 inclusive

All Magistrates Court Registries will be closed Monday, 23 December 2024 to Friday, 3 January 2025 inclusive in accordance with [Practice Direction No. 1 of 2024](#).

### Custody matters

During the closure period, some Magistrates Courts will only operate for the purpose of **overnight in-custody matters (both adults and children) and urgent police applications**. Judicial Officers will be made available at the below listed court locations, with all other Magistrates Courts to arrange for telephone or videolink appearances to their allocated court below.

Court will commence at 9:00am unless advised otherwise.

Locations with Magistrates sitting during Court Closure	
Brisbane Magistrates Court	Townsville Magistrates Court
Southport Magistrates Court	Cairns Magistrates Court
Caboolture Magistrates Court	Ipswich Magistrates Court
Rockhampton Magistrates Court	Beenleigh Magistrates Court

### 1. Remaining Matters

All other matters, civil and criminal, currently before the Court will be adjourned on the papers without appearance to a date to be fixed by the Magistrate. Notice of the adjournment date will be posted or emailed to the parties and their legal practitioners by the Magistrates Court registry. Bail will be enlarged in the absence of the defendant in criminal matters. Temporary orders in force in domestic violence and child protection applications will continue for the period of the adjournment.

Matters where the current Police Protection Notice or Child Protection Order are expiring during the closure period should be brought forward to allow for the extension to a new date.

### 2. Electronic Adjournments

Legal practitioners who wish to apply for an adjournment are encouraged to apply using the Online Application for a Court Event portal. Applications lodged through the [Online Application for a Court Event](#) portal must be submitted **two clear business days** before the current listed date.

### 3. Domestic & Family Violence Matters

Given the closure of all Magistrates Court Registries, parties will be unable to file any Applications for Protection Orders, including via electronic means, during the closure period.

Any person seeking to apply for an **urgent domestic violence order** under the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act (Qld) 2012* will only be able to do so by attending a Queensland Police Station. Details of the nearest 24 hour police station can be obtained by calling 131 444. **If you are in danger and require urgent assistance you should contact 000.**

If the matter is not urgent a Domestic Violence Order under the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act (Qld) 2012* can be sought by preparing an Application (available from <http://www.courts.qld.gov.au/forms>) and lodging it at your local Magistrates Court Registry upon re-opening.

Support is available from DV Connect (24hr) 1800 811 811, 1800 RESPECT (1800 737 732) or Lifeline 13 11 14 or you can use our search tool to find a [domestic violence support service](#).

#### **4. Court Contact Information**

Details of telephone numbers and email addresses for all registries across Queensland can be found on the Queensland Courts Website – Magistrates Court  
<https://www.courts.qld.gov.au/contacts/courthouses>