

Available County Services During Winter Recess

The County is taking a Winter Recess between Christmas and New Year's during which most County offices and facilities will be closed. Below shows the status of each department's offices and services from Friday, December 22, 2023, through Monday, January 1, 2024.

If any department is not listed, please check that department's website or contact them.

The list of departmental websites is at <https://www.kerncounty.com/government/departments>

Fire and Sheriff emergency services will be fully staffed throughout the holidays. In case of an emergency, please call 911.

Aging and Adult Services

- Meals on Wheels deliveries will continue as normally scheduled.
- Senior centers will be closed for senior nutrition during this period. Previously scheduled reservations at the senior center will be honored.
- Some Adult Protective Services and Conservatorship Program staff will be working for emergency purposes.

Airport

- Administrative offices will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Commercial flights will continue as regularly scheduled.

Agriculture and Measurement Standards

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- On all days which are not either actual holidays (12/25 and 12/31-1/1/24) or Sundays, we will have minimal field staff that will be responding to certain service calls.

Animal Services

- Animal Services will remain open during their normal operating hours during the Winter Recess.
- Animal Control Officers will be available in an emergency response only capacity.

Assessor

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Auditor-Controller/County Clerk/Elections

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

- All BHRS service clinics will be open and available to the public during Winter Recess.
- Some administrative services may be limited during Winter Recess.
- The Suicide and Crisis lifeline is available 24/7, call or text 988 to be connected with the Kern County Crisis Hotline team.
- The Substance Use Disorder Access Line will be available 24/7 at 1-866-266-4898 throughout the holiday.

2023 Kern County Winter Recess Departmental Hours of Operation

- If you are in need of immediate in-person behavioral health services, please visit the Psychiatric Evaluation Center located at the back entrance to our Mary K. Shell site at 2151 College Ave.
- Administrative services will be closed during Winter Recess.
- The Suicide and Crisis lifeline is also available 24/7, call or text 988 to be connected with the Kern County Crisis Hotline team.

Child Support Services

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess (Friday, December 22, 2023 – Monday, January 1, 2024).
- Our offices and phone lines will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024.
- Customers can access the payment kiosk at our Bakersfield office in the lobby at 3701 N. Sillect Avenue during normal business hours (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) from Tuesday, December 26 thru Thursday, December 28, 2023. No other services will be offered these days.
- Our offices in Ridgecrest at 400 N. China Lake Blvd. and Delano at 455 Lexington St. will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Clerk of the Board

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Agendas for the January 8 and 9, 2024 Board meetings will be posted on Thursday, January 4, 2024.

County Counsel

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Risk Management will be available by phone

District Attorney

- Closed on December 22, December 25, December 29, and January 1, 2024.
- Open on December 26 through December 28, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Farm and Home

- The Farm and Home Advisors office will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Fire

- The Kern County Fire Department continues to staff all stations and respond to emergencies and requests for service. If you have requests for emergency services, please call 911.

General Services

- Main office will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Human Services

- All offices will be closed during the normal holidays of 12/22/2023 – 12/25/2023 and 12/29/2023 - 1/2/2024.
- The Department of Human Services main building in Bakersfield at 100 East California will be open during the three days of Winter Recess from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- All other outlying offices will be closed for Winter Recess (12/26 - 12/28).
- Our phone lines, including the CPS hotline, will continue to be available, as well as online application services.

ITS

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- On call staff available for departments that are open and/or working during the Winter Recess.
- ITS will have Tech Supprt teams at Mt. Vernon and Truxtun Ave. during the Winter Recess.

2023 Kern County Winter Recess Departmental Hours of Operation

Libraries

- The Kern County Library will be closed to the public during Winter Recess.

Planning and Natural Resources

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess. Last day to submit hard copy applications is December 21, 2023 by close of business.
- Last day for Building Permit Compliance is December 21, 2023.
- Emails and phone calls will be returned beginning Tuesday, January 2, 2024.

Probation

Probation Department locations and status during the winter recess:

- Adult Probation (1415 Truxtun) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (Investigations-868-4550 & Supervision-868-4500).
- Youth Court Services (2005 Ridge Road) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (868-4100).
- Southeast Center (1600 E. Belle Terrace) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (661-336-6750).
- Youth Supervision - Stockdale Office (5121 Stockdale Hwy) Closed to the public, available by appointment only (396-4560)
- Youth Programs and Supports Unit (1809 Ridge Road) Closed to the public.
- • Bridges Academy (301 E. 18th Street) Closed to the public.

Youth Facilities will remain open during Winter Recess, with the following exceptions:

- Youth Detention Center, 1831 Ridge Road, Bakersfield, CA 93305, (661) 868-4300; visitors' lobby will remain open.
- Kern Crossroads Facility, 17824 Quality Road, Bakersfield, CA 93308, (661) 391-2200, visitors' lobby will be closed to the public.
- Camp Erwin Owen, 14401 Sierra Way, Kernville, CA 93238, (760) 376-2844, office will be closed to the public.

Public Health

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Will be accepting lab specimens only.

Public Works

- Building Inspection (Building Permits, Inspection, and Plan Check) will be closed during Winter Recess as well as the Building Inspection Offices in Lebec, Lake Isabella, Ridgecrest, and Tehachapi.
- During these holiday closures, Building Inspection will not be processing new permits or conducting inspections. Important Dates:
- Last Day for New Permits: Thursday, December 21, 2023, by 4:00 p.m. (NO code changes for the upcoming 2024 calendar year)
- Last Day for Inspections: Thursday, December 21, 2023
- Code Compliance will be closed during Winter Recess.
- Flood, Drainage, and Grading will be closed during Winter Recess
- County Service Areas (CSA) will be closed during Winter Recess.
- Sanitation Districts will be operating with adequate staff to operate the respective wastewater treatment facilities, as well as respond to emergency calls. In the case of a Sewer Emergency, call 661-203-6026.
- All County disposal sites such as landfills, transfer stations, special waste facilities, and bin sites will be operating during normal hours except for the normal closures on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.
- Construction Projects will not be operating between December 24 through New Year's Day.

2023 Kern County Winter Recess Departmental Hours of Operation

- Road Maintenance will be on call for emergencies including impacts related to weather.
- Traffic Signals and Sign Maintenance will be on call for emergencies including impacts related to weather.
- Encroachment Permit Inspection will be on call for emergencies.
- Transportation Permits will be operating between 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM with reduced staff.
- Public Services Building Cashier Counter and 1st Floor Kiosk will be closed during Winter Recess.
- Kern Transit will operate its regularly scheduled service, with the exception of the following:
- Kern Transit will be fully closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day. Kern Transit will operate reduced service hours for Route 100 only on December 24 and December 31.
-Route 100 EB departing at 3:15 p.m. & Route 100 WB departing at 7:35 p.m. will not be running on December 24 or December 31.
- Kern Transit Dispatch can be reached throughout the winter recess as normal at (800) 323-2396, except during the reduced service hours and on full closure days.

Recorder/Hall of Records

- Closed to the public 12/25/2023 and 1/1/2024.
- Open from 8 a.m. – 12 noon on 12/22/2023 and 12/29/2023.

Sheriff

The Sheriff's Office will be observing the Christmas holidays on December 22 and 25, and the New Year's holidays on the 29 and January 1, 2024.

The County of Kern will be observing a period of Winter Recess which includes all non-holiday business days between Christmas and New Year's, specifically December 26, 27, and 28. While we will be available to respond to calls for service, many of our lobbies/counters will be closed to the public.

See below for a complete list:

- Communications Center is available 24/7. Non-emergency: 661-861-3110 Emergency: 9-1-1
- Coroner will respond as usual; however, public lobby is closed December 22, 2023 – January 1, 2024. Phone: (661) 868-0100

The following will be open December 26, 27, 28, and 29:

- Courts Unit (Metro and Justice)
- Records (for vehicle releases only) – *except on 12/29 (will be closed this day)*
- Arrest Records: (661)391-7624– *except on 12/29 (will be closed this day)*
- Crime Reports: (661)391-7623– *except on 12/29 (will be closed this day)*
- Justice Inmate Receiving Facility Clerks' Office
- Electronic Monitoring Program and Work Release
- Civil Processing Unit: Civil will be open on Friday, December 22, December 26-29. Closed December 25 and January 1.

2023 Kern County Winter Recess Departmental Hours of Operation

The following will be closed from December 22, 2023 through January 1, 2024:

- Property Room
- Public Administrator's Section
- Building A (HR/Personnel) will be closed. All calls will be forwarded to Crime Reports during the Winter Recess.
- Work Release and Registration Unit
- Licensing Unit

The following Substations will be closed during Winter Recess.

- Delano Substation
- Buttonwillow Substation
- Taft Substation
- Ridgecrest Substation

The following Substations will be open during the Winter Recess.

- Wasco Substation
- Mojave Substation
- Lamont Substation
- Frazier Park Substation
- Tehachapi Substation
- Kern Valley Substation

Treasurer/Tax Collector

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess.
- Taxpayers can get property tax information and pay their property taxes online on our website at: www.kcttc.co.kern.ca.us

Veterans' Service

- Closed to the public during Winter Recess. Inquiries can still be submitted to kernvets@kerncounty.com