

# Some Lake County courthouse offices closed because of flooding <sup>NH</sup> 11-6-12

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Flooding in the Lake County Courthouse West Annex on Monday caused the closure of multiple offices that will remain closed today.

Lake County Clerk of Courts Maureen Kelly said the Common Pleas General Division, Domestic Relations and Court of Appeals offices will be closed today as cleanup continues.

Kelly said judges' offices will remain open and anyone scheduled to serve on jury duty should report as scheduled. All offices are expected to open as usual on Wednesday.

Kelly said some computers may have been affected and the damage was "significant." As of Monday afternoon, it was still unclear exactly how much damage the flooding caused as workers were still trying to rid the building of excess water.

Kelly said power also was shut

off to the building Monday, as multiple electricity outlets were damaged.

The problems could have been worse had it not been for a maintenance employee. The water touched a boiler in the building, setting off an alarm. The maintenance employee heard the alarm and discovered the flooding, Kelly said.

A large water main break from Saturday may be to blame for the flooding in the annex, she said.

"From what we understand, when the water main was reconnected, the pipes burst," Kelly said.

Kelly said officials are working to determine exactly how the flooding began.

Additionally, a boil advisory enacted at 4 p.m. Saturday, after the water main break, ended Monday at 1:15 p.m. after samples came back free of bacteria.

The advisory applied to those on North Saint Clair Street between East Erie and Main streets, East Erie Street between

North St. Clair Street to Richmond and Phelps streets.

The advisory was "issued due to the remote possibility that coliform bacteria could be introduced into the water system when a main is depressurized," according to a statement on the City of Painesville's website.

The Lake County Jail, which holds more than 360 inmates, also fell under the boil advisory, said Chief Deputy Frank Leonbruno with the Lake County Sheriff's Office.

When the jail was told of the boil advisory, Leonbruno said each inmate received a note to not drink the water.

The jail then bought 90 cases of water from Giant Eagle and Sam's Club to supply drinking water to inmates and employees.

"Every inmate was supplied each day with three bottles of water," which came out to somewhere between 64 and 90 ounces per day, the chief deputy said.

Staff Writer Max Reinhart contributed to this report.