

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Election Night Brass Tacks

Anchorage – 5 things you need to know about Election Night results reporting.

- Division of Elections (DOE) will only release the 1st-choice results for the Ranked Choice General Election after polls close. Additional 1st-choice results will be released on day 7 (November 15) and day 10 (November 18), including absentee, early, and questioned ballots counts.
- 2. DOE anticipates the first set of unofficial results being published around 9pm with additional results published throughout the evening. DOE will announce when the last results have been posted for the night.
- 3. Election Night Results will include ballots cast at polling places on Election Day, and ballots cast at Early Voting locations from October 24 through November 3.
- 4. Media outlets reporting results during this period should make it abundantly clear that only 1st-choice results are available and use cautious language when describing the outcome. It is helpful for the public to understand that we have "preliminary 1st-choice results only" while we await tabulation. Similarly, the candidate with the most 1st-choice votes may be "ahead" as we await tabulation, but they do not win unless they clearly earn a majority.
- 5. Additional rounds will not be released until all votes have been received from rural, military, and college students. Additionally, overseas voters have up to 15 days after Election Day to return their ballot, but the ballot return envelope must be postmarked by Election Day. (AS 15.20.081(e)). Once these ballots have been received and determined to be eligible, they will be included with the unofficial results. Then the Division of Elections will identify the races where no candidate received 50%+1 of the vote, and those will move to tabulation.
 - a. KTOO will provide live Gavel Alaska special coverage of RCV tabulation on November 23 starting at 4pm Alaska Time. It will be broadcast live on KTOO 360TV (available via broadcast, cable, satellite, ARCS TV services across AK, and can be streamed live on <u>http://ktoo.org/tv</u>.

The video will be available after the event for on-demand viewing in the Gavel Alaska online archive at <u>http://ktoo.org/gavel</u>. Coverage will be made available to other media organizations.