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BAKER RECALL ELECTION SET FOR FEBRUARY 24

– Bosier Certifies Recall Petitions to County Commissioners; Legal Challenge Expected –

LITTLETON, CO (Dec. 16, 2003) – Upon formally receiving petitions signifying that 37,261 electors want a chance to vote on recalling Arapahoe County Clerk & Recorder Tracy Baker, the County's Commissioners set February 24, 2004, as the date for a recall election. The petitions were certified to the Commissioners today by the official they had appointed to oversee the recall effort, County Assessor Ed Bosier.

On Friday, over the objections of Baker and his legal team, Bosier confirmed that a review of evidence submitted by both Baker and the recall proponents determined that there were indeed enough valid signatures to force a public vote on the question of recall. Baker is expected to appeal Bosier's ruling to the District Court.

Today's action by the Commissioners also triggered a 15-day deadline by which candidates wishing to supplant Baker must file their own petitions to get their names on the ballot. As was done with the recent recall of Governor Gray Davis in California, the election of a replacement clerk and recorder will occur simultaneously with the recall vote. Candidate petitions with the required number of signatures are due to Bosier's office by Wednesday, Dec. 31.

About the Arapahoe County Assessor's Office

The Assessor's Office discovers, lists, classifies and values all real and personal property in Arapahoe County. The Office is also responsible for maintaining public records, including ownership and parcel maps; submitting the Abstract of Assessment to the Colorado Division of Property Taxation; certifying values to taxing entities; and producing the warrant roll. The Arapahoe County Assessor, Ed Bosier, began working for the Office in 1987 as a certified appraiser/supervisor in Land Development. Voters first elected him to the Office of the Assessor in 1995. He is currently serving his third term, which expires January of 2007.

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