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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **BAKER RECALL EFFORT GATHERS ENOUGH VALID SIGNATURES TO FORCE ELECTION**

**– Bosier Says Petitioners Had Margin of Nearly 3,000 Names, Though Challenge Likely –**

**LITTLETON, CO (October 28, 2003)** – Arapahoe County Assessor Ed Bosier confirmed today that The Committee to Recall Tracy Baker successfully gathered enough signatures to prompt an election on whether to force the Arapahoe County Clerk & Recorder from office. An extensive audit of the submitted recall petitions found that of the 45,027 signatures collected, 37,464 were valid. Because statutes required the Committee to produce 34,603 valid signatures, the actual total represents a cushion of 2,861 names.

According to Bosier, most of the 7,563 invalid signatures were rejected because they did not come from registered voters of Arapahoe County or because they were listed on petitions that were not circulated by registered county voters. Other leading reasons that a signature could be voided are if it contains an inaccurate address or an address other than the one the registered voter currently lives at or if it is a duplicate signature.

“We had teams of 25 people working 11-hour days to review each and every signature in relation to the county’s voter rolls,” said Bosier. “This was a tedious but important task, and anyone who thinks democracy is easy should have seen the hard work and dedication these people contributed.”

Today's announcement triggers a 15-day period during which any registered voter in the County can file a protest. If a protest is filed – and Baker has already indicated he will challenge the petitioning process – Bosier's office must hold a hearing on the matter of protest and make a determination on its validity within 30 days. If the protest is upheld and enough signatures are invalidated, the petition to recall will be rejected.

If the protest is not upheld, Mr. Bosier will certify the petition to the County Commissioners, who will set a date for the election that is no less than 45 and no more than 75 days after the date of certification.

### **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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