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BAKER, BOSIER TO PRESENT RECALL ARGUMENTS IN COURT

– Friday Hearing before District Judge to Determine Fate of Feb. 24 Election –

LITTLETON, CO (Feb. 10, 2004) – At 10:00 a.m. this Friday, Feb. 13, District Court Judge J. Mark Hannen will hear Tracy Baker's final plea for halting the Feb. 24 election that could lead to the Arapahoe County clerk & recorder's recall from office.

Baker has brought a legal challenge against Arapahoe County Assessor and designated election official Ed Bosier's ruling that recall proponents gathered sufficient petition signatures to force an election. In addition to questioning the manner by which signatures were gathered, Baker claims that Bosier lacks legal standing to serve as the designated election official and should be disqualified from this role because he has shown bias against Baker. Bosier has refuted all claims in writing and will be present in court this Friday to respond to Baker's arguments.

The evidentiary hearing will be held at 10:00 a.m. in Arapahoe County District Court, 7325 S. Potomac Street in Englewood.

Unless halted by Judge Hannen, the Feb. 24 recall election will go on as scheduled. According to Bosier, the election will take place in polling locations – unlike this past November's elections, which were handled exclusively by mail. Those wishing to vote by absentee ballot should contact Bosier's office at 303-795-4602 to request absentee ballot applications or download the applications from the County website at: <http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us>.

The last day to apply for an absentee ballot for the recall election is Feb. 20, although those wishing to receive their ballots by mail must file their applications by Feb. 17.

Bosier also clarified that the election of a replacement clerk and recorder will occur on the same ballot as the recall vote. By statute (C.R.S. 1-12-118), voters may not vote for a successor unless they have also voted *for or against* the question of recall. “We’ve had some confusion among individuals who thought their vote for a replacement candidate would count only if they voted in favor of the recall – that’s not the case,” said Bosier. “But you must vote one way or the other on the recall in order to cast an eligible vote for a candidate.”

Sample ballots and other information about the special recall election can be found online at <http://www.co.arapahoe.co.us/AS/RecallElection.asp>.

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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