



ELBERT COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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For Immediate Release

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Elbert County Commissioners Express Continued Confidence in Local Elections Team

ELBERT COUNTY, CO – The Elbert County Board of County Commissioners has full and complete confidence in the professionalism, expertise, and dedication of Clerk and Recorder Dallas Schroeder and his entire elections team – employees, bi-partisan election judges and canvass board members. Together, they ensure that all votes properly cast in Elbert County are counted and tabulated accurately. This has been confirmed by bi-partisan hand counts of key races, in the last two election cycles.

We are extremely disappointed that the current Secretary of State, Jenna Griswold, has chosen to depart from the long-held standards of conduct of her predecessors to blatantly pursue partisan political action. The suspicious timing of her latest election order – issued just as voters are receiving ballots – yet based on information publicly available to her for over six months seems timed more for maximum political impact than to ensure election security or voter confidence.

Though she has issued multiple election orders over the past several months, Ms. Griswold has never expressed any concern regarding the counting of Elbert County votes. In fact, previous Secretaries of State have requested our Elections Department conduct elections for other governments and have brought observers from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government to learn from our county. While there is an ongoing disagreement regarding the definition of "election records", and our County Clerk endeavored to ensure strict compliance with state and federal law regarding records retention, our local elections are secure.

Though not necessary to ensure the appropriate execution of the ongoing primary election, the county welcomes observation of our procedures. We are confident that the findings of any observer will be that Elbert County meets or exceeds all standards, our citizens can be confident that their votes are correctly counted, and all can trust the results of our local elections.

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