

Director's Office  
240 Main Street Suite 400  
P.O. Box 110017  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0017  
☎ 907-465-4611 📠 907-465-3203  
elections@alaska.gov



Elections Offices ☎  
Absentee-Petition 907-270-2700  
Anchorage 907-522-8683  
Fairbanks 907-451-2835  
Juneau 907-465-3021  
Nome 907-443-5285  
Mat-Su 907-373-8952

STATE OF ALASKA  
Division of Elections  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

## News Release for Immediate Release

August 31, 2016

### 2016 Primary Election Results Update

Juneau – The job of the Alaska Division of Elections is to ensure that every qualified voter in the State has a meaningful opportunity to cast a ballot and to have their vote count.

On Primary Election Day, more than 1500 trained poll workers staff the State's 441 precinct polling places throughout the State's 40 House Districts. Due to the sheer volume of individuals and locations involved, it is impossible to guarantee an error-free election.

Fortunately, the Division has a thorough statutory and administrative process it follows to ensure election integrity in spite of occasional human and technical error. That process includes a final review of all ballots cast by a bipartisan State Review Board appointed under state law. The State Review Board is currently reviewing the results of the August 16 Primary Election.

The Division is aware of a number of issues, both documented and rumored, that arose on Primary Election Day at specific polling places, and it takes those issues seriously. All documented issues have either been addressed or are currently under review by the State Review Board, which is hard at work this week in Juneau and scheduled to certify the election by September 2, 2016.

In House District 40, data provided to the Division indicates that an error at the Shungnak precinct—where a poll worker mistakenly gave all in-person voters both the combined Democratic-Libertarian-Alaskan Independence ballot and the Republican Primary ballot and all voters voted both ballots—could potentially alter the outcome of the race. Even so, it should be noted that under party rules, the Alaska Democratic Party allows any qualified voter to vote in their Primary, so anyone who voted in that Primary was legally entitled to do so under party rules. Moreover, a candidate's name appears on only one ballot, not multiple ballots, so no voter was able to cast more than one vote for any individual candidate in Shungnak or anywhere else.

Again, the State Review Board is still reviewing all ballots cast in the Primary Election, including those cast in House District 40 and in Shungnak. We expect to know more after the State Review Board completes its work and will have no further comments or information until then. Under state law, certification of the election result is a necessary predicate to any request for a recount or other legal challenge.