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**STATE OF ALASKA
Division of Elections
Office of the Lieutenant Governor**

For Immediate Release: October 27, 2006

Adak Regional School Board Race Determined by Coin Toss

(Anchorage) – An Aleutian Region School District school board race in Regional Educational Attendance Area (REAA) 8 in Adak between incumbent Katherine Dunton, Dona Highstone and Anthony Sherman ended in a tie vote between Katherine Dunton and Dona Highstone. A recount was done and confirmed the election results. In statute, a tie vote must be settled by lot after a recount has been completed. Unfortunately, on Election Day, October 3, 2006, Katherine Dunton passed away.

The applicable State statute is AS 15.20.530, which reads: "If after a recount and appeal two or more candidates tie in having the highest number of votes for the same office, the director shall notify the candidates who are tied. The director shall notify the candidates of a reasonably suitable time and place to determine the successful candidate by lot. After the determination has been made by lot, the director shall so certify."

This regional school board seat is a 3-year term in Section II of REAA 8.

Director of the Division of Elections Whitney Brewster flipped the coin to determine the winner. Dona Highstone made the call of "heads," however the coin landed on "tails." Katherine Dunton won the coin toss and the race. Because Dunton is deceased, the vacancy will be filled by the remaining members of the regional school board as allowed under AS 14.08.045.

For more information, contact Elections Director Whitney Brewster at (907) 375-6400 or Chief of Staff Annette Kreitzer at (907) 465-3520.

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