

For Immediate Release: August 18, 2006

## EAC Chairman in Alaska for Primary Election

(Anchorage) – Federal Elections Assistance Commission (EAC) Chairman Paul DeGregorio is traveling in Southcentral and Southeast Alaska this week, viewing our election process. Chairman DeGregorio visits states throughout the U.S. during elections so he can observe and learn more about election processes employed by individual states, particularly in response to the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), while providing feedback to allow each state to improve on its process.

Chairman DeGregorio was initially nominated by President George Bush to serve a two-year term on the EAC and has since been elected Chairman. Mr. DeGregorio is nationally renowned in elections. He has focused his efforts on EAC's mandates to review state election reform plans and distribute \$2.3 billion to the states, establish new voluntary system voting guidelines and among other things conduct studies on election reform issues.

Mr. DeGregorio will arrive in Juneau, Sunday August 20 to be available for a breakfast hosted at the Governor's Residence by Lt. Governor Loren Leman with Russian governors and mayors interested in learning about Alaska's election process. Following the breakfast, the Chairman and Lt. Governor will tour the Capitol, the Division of Elections Director's office and the Region I Elections Office in the Mendenhall Valley.

Monday evening, he will arrive in Tyonek with Lt. Governor Loren Leman to observe the set up of a rural polling place when the polls open Tuesday at 7 a.m. Following the Tyonek visit, DeGregorio, Elections Director Whitney Brewster and Leman will observe voting activity at individual precincts in Anchorage, Eagle River and Wasilla. In Wasilla, the Chairman will see the Satellite Office, established this year with federal Help America Vote Act funds. This office and the Kenai Satellite office have been established to bring election services to the fastest growing regions of the State.

He and Lt. Governor Leman will observe after-election operations at the Region II office in Anchorage and then visit Election Central to view election results.

Mr. DeGregorio will be available to meet with the press at the following times and locations:

Monday, August 21, 2006 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

State Capitol Building  
Lieutenant Governor Leman's office  
Third Floor  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Monday, August 21, 2006 4:00-4:30 p.m.

Region II Elections Office  
2525 Gambell St, Suite 100  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503-2838

Tuesday, August 22, 2006 2:30-3:00 p.m.\*time dependent on travel

Matanuska-Susitna Elections Office  
North Fork Professional Building  
1700 E. Bogard Road, Building B, Suite 102  
Wasilla, Alaska 99654

Times are subject to change due to traveling between precincts and other activities. Please contact Lisa Vaught for press availability: (907) 269-7460.