



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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Barbara A. Jones, Municipal Clerk

### **VOTE BY MAIL**

Signature verification plays a vital role in Vote by Mail elections; it ensures only individuals eligible to vote will have their votes counted. The Vote by Mail project team has worked on a “signature verification” project over the last six months to add and confirm Anchorage voter signatures are on file in the State of Alaska Voter Registration Database.

The project identified a number of Anchorage voters who do not have signatures on file in the State’s voter database. These voters will receive a mailing from the Municipality of Anchorage. Voters will need to sign the card and return it for verification and inclusion in the State’s Voter Registration Database. If a signature is not provided by these voters before the April 2018 election, these voters will need to authenticate their signature during the election, by either returning a signature card, voting at an Accessible Vote Center, or visiting the MOA Election Center. Participating now will save voters the time and hassle of updating their signature during the election season next year.

“Comparing signatures in the State’s voter database with voter signatures on ballot envelopes using the Municipality’s new Signature Verification System is an integral security component of voting by mail. Signature verification is a safeguard that ensures only qualified registered voters participate in municipal elections and will help election administrators identify fraud attempts. To make this work for all voters, we need their signatures in the State’s voter database,” stated Dennis Wheeler, Resource Data, Inc., Project Manager for the MOA Vote by Mail Project.

The postcard will be mailed before the end of November and recipients are encouraged to sign and return it as soon as practicable. If voters have questions about the card, please call the Municipal Clerk’s Office at 907-243-VOTE (8683) or 343-4321.

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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