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**For release: November 29, 2007**

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## **Centennial recount ends in tie: Lot drawing determines 21<sup>st</sup> Centennial Charter Commission member**

**Littleton, Colo.** - The Arapahoe County Board of Canvassers named Gail Coombs as the 21<sup>st</sup> candidate elected to the Centennial Charter Commission in a race where voters were asked to vote for not more than 21 of the 35 candidates.

After a one vote difference on election night and a recount of 17,819 ballots, the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> candidates ended in a tie vote. Colorado law requires that a tie vote be determined by lot.

“In order to conduct the recount we had to sort out the 17,819 Centennial ballots from the 78,247 ballots cast in Arapahoe County,” said Nancy Doty, Clerk and Recorder. “It was a huge undertaking that took two full days to accomplish.”

After the recount, Gail Coombs and Karen Hamilton each had 3,216 votes. The Board of Canvassers witnessed the lot drawing that ended with Karen Hamilton drawing the 22<sup>nd</sup> position, making Gail Coombs the 21<sup>st</sup> member of the commission.

“We’ve never seen anything like this in Arapahoe County,” said Doty. “With 35 candidates running in that race and 78,000 ballots in the County, what are the odds?”

Colorado law requires a recount if the candidates are within a one half of one percent margin. One other candidate, Lynn Goering, was included in the recount, but her election to the Charter Commission was assured after the recount. Observers from the City of Centennial witnessed the entire recount process.

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