

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 21, 2016 **Contact:** Jason Latimer, Communications Director (727) 464-4988 or 464-6108

TENTATIVE Ballot Mailing Schedule for March 15 Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Elections

Ballot mailings for the March 15, 2016 Presidential Preference Primary and Municipal Elections are <u>tentatively</u> scheduled as follows for Pinellas County voters registered with the Republican and Democratic parties and all registered voters in the 11 participating municipalities (Town of Belleair, City of Clearwater, City of Gulfport, City of Indian Rocks Beach, City of Madeira Beach, City of Oldsmar, City of Pinellas Park, City of South Pasadena, City of St. Pete Beach, City of Tarpon Springs and City of Treasure Island – District 4):

- January 29 Mail approximately 1,500 ballots to absent military and overseas voters who have requested ballots to date. State law requires ballots for absent military and overseas voters to be mailed at least 45 days prior to an election.
- February 9 Mail approximately 203,000 ballots to domestic voters who have requested ballots to date. State law requires domestic ballots to be mailed between 35 and 28 days prior to an election.

Absent military and overseas voters include all active-duty military, their spouses and dependents currently absent from their places of residence, and civilians who are U.S. citizens residing outside the United States. Domestic voters are civilian voters residing within the United States and active-duty military voters residing in Pinellas County.

Additional mail ballot requests will be fulfilled daily as received. To request a mail ballot, visit <u>VotePinellas.com</u>, call (727) 464-VOTE (8683), or email <u>Absentee@VotePinellas.com</u>. The deadline to request that a ballot be mailed is March 9, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Mail Ballots must be received at one of the Supervisor of Elections Offices by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day. Voters are advised to allow at least 5 days for their ballot to be returned by mail to the Supervisor of Elections Office.

Mail Ballots may also be dropped off at any Supervisor of Elections Office or at one of the 12 remote ballot drop-off sites throughout Pinellas County. Check VotePinellas.com for hours and locations.

Tentative Ballot Mailing Schedule, continued

Florida is a closed primary state. Only voters who are registered with the Republican Party or Democratic Party may vote in the Republican or Democratic Primary for President. All voters residing in the participating municipalities may vote in their nonpartisan municipal elections on March 15 (note that St. Pete Beach and Treasure Island races are voted by single-member districts).

Daily ballot requests, ballot mailing updates and statistics on voted ballots received by the Supervisor of Elections Office are posted to <u>VotePinellas.com</u> once mailings begin.

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NOTE: If this **<u>TENTATIVE</u>** schedule needs to be revised, notification will be issued as soon as possible.