PETE DUNCAN

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OBJECTIONS ON PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES DELAY EARLY VOTING AND VOTE BY MAIL

County News: January 25, 2016

Carlinville – While early voting and voting by mail is supposed to start February 4th, County Clerk Pete Duncan announced that delays with the State certifying Presidential candidates may cause delays.

Currently eight objections on seven Presidential candidates are yet to be decided by the State Board of Elections. According to the State Board, final decisions on these objections are not anticipated to be made until after the start of the early vote and vote by mail period. Because Macoupin County's ballots can not be printed and voting tabulators programmed until the State completes these hearings and certifies which Presidential candidates are to be listed on the ballot, voting will be delayed until the final certification is received.

"Our office has worked hard to have the local races prepped and ready to be printed on the ballot in time for February 4th," Duncan said. "But our office can't complete the ballot preparation process until the State certifies the Presidential candidates to us. I would expect that no later than February 17th, ballots will be finalized and machines ready for any voter who wishes to cast their vote early."

Duncan added that voters can apply now for a vote by mail ballot and have it mailed to them as soon as the ballots are printed. Any voter who does come into the County Clerk's office from February 4th until the ballot is finalized will have the option of completing a vote by mail application or coming back once early voting begins.

Duncan advised that voters can check the County's Election website, www.macoupinvotes.com, or County Clerk's Facebook page, Macoupin County Clerk's office, for updates on when early voting and vote by mail will start. As always, anyone with questions may call the County Clerk's office at (217) 854-3214 ext 707 or email elections@macoupincountyil.gov

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