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## **Election rumor causes voters to surrender mail-in ballots**

*Clerk and Recorder reassures voters that mail-in ballots count in every election*

**LITTLETON, COLO.** – With early voting underway at eight locations in Arapahoe County, there is growing confusion among voters about whether their mail-in ballot will be counted in the 2012 General Election. The Arapahoe County Clerk and Recorder's Office has encountered a number of voters who desire to surrender their mail-in ballot in favor of using a voting machine.

"Many voters have arrived today at Early Vote Sites with their mail-in ballot in-hand and have asked to surrender their ballot and vote on a voting machine. They tell us that this stems from a rumor, whether malicious or benign, that mail-in ballots 'might not count' in the election," said Clerk and Recorder Nancy Doty. "We hope to clear up this confusion swiftly by reassuring voters that their mail-in ballot absolutely counts, as long as it is received by 7 p.m. on Election Day."

Approximately 80 percent of Arapahoe County's active, registered voters have requested to vote by mail-in ballot. The Clerk and Recorder's started mailing ballots Oct. 15 to all active registered voters who requested one.

"If you received a mail-in ballot, there is no need to go to the polls to cast a substitute ballot on a machine," said Doty. "Take your time to consider the candidates and issues from the comfort of your own home, and then drop off your mail-in ballot with total confidence that it will count, just the same as any vote cast on a voting machine."

Mail-in ballots may be sent back by postal mail with 65 cents in postage, delivered to one of 16 convenient mail-in ballot drop-off locations, or dropped off at any Early Vote site through Nov. 2 or to a Vote Center location by 7 p.m. Election Day. If you would like to receive a ballot by mail for the upcoming election, you have until Oct. 30 to request one by mail and until Nov. 2 to pick up one in person.

To find a mail ballot drop-off or voting location nearest you, or for more information about the Nov. 6 General Election, please contact the Elections Division at 303-795-4511 or visit [www.arapahoevotes.com](http://www.arapahoevotes.com).

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