



***Terry Bartruff***

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## State Board of Elections' Pending Objection Hearings Delay By Mail and Early Voting

Jonesboro, IL – Union County Clerk, Terry Bartruff announced today that ongoing objections to several Presidential Candidates are not anticipated to be resolved by the State Board of Elections in time for ballots to be prepared and voting tabulators to be programmed for the opening of By Mail and Early Voting on February 4, 2016. The ballots and machines will be available no later than February 17, 2016 – the beginning of Grace Period Registration and Voting – by which time most challenges seeking to remove candidates from the ballot should have been decided and final ballot certifications issued by the State Board of Elections.

“It is possible that ballots may be available prior to February 17, and if so, we will notify the media and voters through a release and social media,” said Bartruff. “It’s unfortunate that the compressed filing calendar for Presidential candidates and the circumstances of these objections will likely delay our receiving final certifications from the State Board of Elections and affect the opening of voting statewide. Once final certifications are received, we will move as quickly as possible to finalize ballots, program machines and open for voting.”

**For questions, you may call the Union County Clerk’s office at 618-833-5711**

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