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NEWS RELEASE

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**Irons Announces Plans to Address King County Elections Woes**

*"If elected, I will take the steps necessary to rehabilitate the department and restore public trust - steps our current executive is unwilling and unable to take."*

Seattle, Wash. - Today County Executive candidate David Irons laid out his plans for the King County Elections Department. He was joined by former Elections Director Bob Bruce, a department veteran who retired in 2002.

Bruce is an experienced manager (13 years as either Superintendent or Department Director). He worked under both Republican and Democrat Executives and was widely praised during his tenure. Bob Roegner was appointed by Sims even though he had no experience in elections, and problems started shortly afterward.

If elected King County Executive, Irons said, he will let go of current Director Dean Logan immediately. He will appoint a better manager to run the department, which oversees elections, records and licensing, and give the Sims-appointed turnaround team full management control over the elections section. Finally he will bring in Bob Bruce as a consultant to advise the team on the technical aspects of running elections.

Bruce commented, "I hired most of the elections employees and wrote most of their procedures. Updating procedures was my last act in the Elections Section. I don't question the current leadership's knowledge of elections. They just never implemented the procedures necessary to ensure the integrity of the election. But management is about more than just following procedures. You've got a whole department of great employees working down there. The current management has created an environment where staff is afraid, and morale is low. A place where employees are afraid to communicate with management doesn't help staff to do their best work."

Irons said "Bob Bruce's proven experience will bring stability back to the office where it is definitely needed. When the turnaround team has completed its work in 12 to 18 months, the reputation of the Elections office will be such that we can do a national search and find a quality person."

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