SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE

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Herschler Building East Suites 100 & 101 122 West 25th Street Cheyenne, WY 82002-0020

CHUCK GRAY, WYOMING SECRETARY OF STATE

For Immediate Release:

Date: May 23, 2025 **Contact:** Joe Rubino **Phone:** 307-777-5365

Email: Joe.Rubino1@wyo.gov

Secretary Gray Statement Concerning Governor Gordon's Becky Hadlock Response

CHEYENNE, **WY** – In response to Governor Mark Gordon's May 23rd decision not to initiate removal proceedings for Weston County Clerk Becky Hadlock, Secretary of State Chuck Gray issued the following statement:

"I am deeply troubled by Governor Gordon's letter and for refusing to conduct a rigorous analysis of the facts of this case. I am particularly troubled by the Governor's lies by omission in completely ignoring our finding that Clerk Hadlock submitted a false post-election audit report with our office, which we discussed multiple times as the most serious finding in our investigation released in March. The Weston County Clerk's submittal of a false post-election audit report on November 6, 2024 does appear to be a willful violation of the code, as revealed by the Weston County Canvassing Board meeting on November 8, 2024, as well as the subsequent, properly-performed audit, which confirmed that there were 21 of 75 ballots with a discrepancy, in direct contravention to the initial post-election audit results submitted to our office. This false post-election audit occurred after we had expressed concerns about the anomalies. Our investigation came to the conclusion there are only two reasonable explanations for the false submission of this audit, absent another explanation provided by the Weston County Clerk, the Governor, or any relevant actors, which was not even discussed. Our investigation found that one possibility is that Clerk Hadlock conducted her audit, finding errors in the election and then choosing to falsely assert that no errors had been found. The investigation found that the second reasonable possibility is that no audit was conducted at all. Either one of those possibilities would suggest that she attempted to hide the problems with the conduct of the 2024 General Election. That is why we made the recommendation that we did, and the Governor's omission of discussing the false post-election audit in his decision is inherently problematic. Gordon has gotten used to the media refusing to cover these lies of omission and this is another example of those lies of omission. I'm deeply troubled that Governor Gordon refused to even acknowledge key parts of the case."