



February 9, 2017

State of Alaska
Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development
Office of the Commissioner
Mr. Chris Hladick, Commissioner
PO Box 110800
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0800
Email: chris.hladick@alaska.gov

**RE: FY18 POPULATION FIGURE FOR PROPERTY TAX REVENUE LIMITATION PURPOSES –
REQUEST FOR APPEAL**

Commissioner Hladick,

The City of Valdez is in receipt of your letter dated January 13, 2017 outlining the FY18 population figure for Valdez as 3,939. This represents a decline of 72 people from the FY17 count, and nearly 100 people from the FY16 determination.

The City of Valdez wishes to retain the right to appeal the population figure as presented. City staff spoke by phone with Marty McGee, State Assessor, to confirm this letter is not required to contain a complete compilation of evidence to substantiate a different population count. Thirty days is not sufficient time to gather this information. Rather, Mr. McGee confirmed the department would work with the City to approve a suitable population count methodology. The City of Valdez has previously appealed the population determination and is prepared to undertake the effort necessary to confirm a greater population number.

In anticipation of this effort, the City collected surveys in November and December from nearly three quarters of the households in the community. This survey instrument was previously approved by DCCED staff and includes data regarding the type of household, the number of persons per household, and status and dates of residency. This data is currently being compiled and will be used as the basis of the appeal, if necessary.

The City of Valdez respectfully requests to appeal the FY18 population figure as presented. Please have staff contact Lisa Von Barga, Community & Economic Development Director to confirm receipt of the appeal request, and to determine what methodology may be used in the appeal process. Thank you for your attention to this matter. Ms. Von Barga may be reached by phone at (907) 834-3425 or by email at lvonbarga@ci.valdez.ak.us. As required, the letter is being sent by mail within 30 days of the notice. It is also being sent by email as a means of early notification.

Sincerely,



Ruth E. Knight
Mayor, City of Valdez

Cc: Fred Parady, Deputy Commissioner, DCCED
Katherine Eldemar, Director, DCRA
Marty McGee, State Assessor, DCRA