

For Immediate Release

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Contact: For more information call Binkley for Governor Campaign Headquarters
907-279-2006, 207 East Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 125, Anchorage
To schedule additional interviews with John Binkley, call Russ Kelly 907-223-3694

Binkley Expresses Support for Stryker Brigade Families

Republican candidate for governor John Binkley today expressed his concern for the soldiers and families of the 172nd Stryker Brigade after news the unit will not return home as originally scheduled.

"My thoughts and prayers are with the soldiers and their families," Binkley said. "I can only imagine how difficult it must be to hear that the homecoming has been delayed. We are proud of our soldiers and we know their skills and expertise are needed, but we were all looking forward to their return home."

Troops from the 172nd were scheduled to return within a few weeks but their tour has been extended another 120 days. Binkley said the news is hard to accept but he is confident there is a strong support network in place to help family members.

"I know the communities will do whatever it takes to help families that are affected by this sudden change," Binkley said. "Alaskans care deeply for the men and women of our military and will pull together to support them. I also know our soldiers will continue to make us proud – and when they do return we'll all be that much more excited, and grateful for their service."