Heidi Drygas Commissioner P.O. Box 111149 Juneau, AK 99811-1149

www.labor.alaska.gov

## **Press Release**

## COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

No. 16-02

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 21, 2016

For more information:

Lisa Mielke, Employment and Training Services 907-465-6275, Lisa.Mielke@alaska.gov

STATE OF /

DEP

LASKA

FLABOR

## Juneau Jobs Office Coordinates "Rapid Response" for Laid Off Walmart Employees

"Rapid Response" assistance available to Walmart employees

JUNEAU: The Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Juneau Job Center is providing Rapid Response assistance for approximately 168 Walmart employees who are being laid off after the store closes on February 4th. The Job Center is holding a job fair for Walmart employees on January 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and they also can come by any other time the office is open to receive one-on-one assistance with finding a new job. Juneau's Walmart is one of more than 269 Walmarts closing around the globe in 2016.

"Our Job Center staff are doing everything they can to help laid off Walmart employees find new jobs," said Heidi Drygas, Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development. "These are our friends and neighbors, and I encourage Walmart employees to come by the Job Center and find out what resources can help with their job search."

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development offers Rapid Response services in response to mass layoffs. Rapid Response services for laid off Walmart employees include:

- Unemployment insurance
- Career counseling and job search assistance
- Resume preparation and interviewing skills workshops
- Local labor market facts and figures
- Education and training opportunities
- Health benefits

For more information about Rapid Response services for laid off Walmart employees, contact the Juneau Job Center at 465-4562.

###