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#### FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

National Voter
Registration Act (NVRA)
June 2nd Session
(NVRA) One year later

JUNE 4TH SESSION

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE NEWS

#### **VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

INTERAGENCY REPORT CONTROL NUMBER

0424-DOD-QU

#### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: PL 103-31.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Information is collected to assist Department of Defense participation in the National Voter Registration Act.

ROUTINE USE: Used by Department of Defense only.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary. There will be no harm to you for not responding.

 If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to apply to register to vote here today? (X one)

YES

IF YOU DO NOT MARK EITHER BOX, YOU WILL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE DECIDED NOT TO REGISTER TO VOTE AT THIS TIME.

NO

Applying to register or declining to register to vote will not affect the amount of assistance that you will be provided by this agency.

If you would like help filling out the voter registration application form, we will help you. The decision whether to seek or accept help is yours. You may fill out the application form in private.

If you believe that someone has interfered with your right to register or to decline to register to vote, your right to privacy in deciding whether to register or in applying to register to vote, or your right to choose your own political party or other political preference, you may file a complaint with:

Federal Voting Assistance Program
Office of the Secretary of Defense
Room 1B457
Washington, DC 20301-1155

Telephone Number: 800-438-VOTE

If you decline to register to vote, that information will remain confidential and will only be used for voter registration purposes.

If you register to vote, information regarding the office in which the application was submitted will remain confidential and only be used for voter registration purposes.

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3. SIGNATURE

4. DATE

:	Vote		tration Ap		cation		read-Privacy A	Act Statement below is form.
	You can use this form to:  ■ register to vote ■ report that your name or address has chang ■ register with a party	ged ·			This sp	oace for office us	e only.	
	Please print in blue or black ink .			::.	<del></del>			·
1	Mr. Last Name	First	Name		, ····	Middle Name(s	) .	(Circle one)
•	Miss Ms,				• ••	İ		Jr Sr II III IV
2	Address (see instructions) Street (or route and	box number) ~ r	Apt. or Lot #	City	//Town		State	Zip Code
	Address Where You Get Your Mail If Different Fr	om Above (see	instructions)	City	//Town		State	Zip Code
3			,		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	*****		<b>—</b>
4		elephone Num	ber (optional)	6	ID Numbe	er (see item 6 in t	ne instructions	for your State)
7	Month Day Year   Choice of Party (see item 7 in the instructions for	your State)	<u> </u>	8	Race or E	thnic-Group (see i	tem 8 in the instr	ructions for your State)
	I swear/affirm that:			l	<u></u>	na aire full	. /a.a. m	
9	<ul> <li>I am a United States Citizen</li> <li>I meet the eligibility requirements of my state a subscribe to any oath required.</li> </ul>			_	Plea	ase sign full name	e (or put mark)	
3	<ul> <li>See item 9 in the instructions for your state before</li> <li>■ The information I have provided is true to the knowledge under penalty of perjury. If I have provided information, I may be subject to a fine or ment or both under Federal or State laws.</li> </ul>	pest of my provided imprison-	Date:	Mor		/ Year		
10	If the applicant is unable to sign, who helped the	applicant fill ou	t this application?	Give	e name, add	ress and phone r	number (phone	number optional).
ROU DIS	VACY ACT STATEMENT THORITY: PL 103-31. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Inform JTINE USE: This form will be given only to your Stat CLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to provide th ase fill out the sections below	te election officies requested infinitely applications in the second sec	cials. ormation may inva Oply to you	lidate ,		ation.		Fold here
If th	is application is for a change of name, what was y		ore you changed it Name	7		Middle Name(s		(Circle one)
Α	Mrs.	1 1130	TTGITTE			i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i i	,	` '
	Ms.				•			Jr Sr II III IV
If yo	u were registered before but this is the first time you Street (or route and box number)		Apt. or Lot #		X 2, what wa	s your address who	State	zip Code
								<u> </u>
If yo	ou live in a rural area but do not have a street numb	<del>-</del>		ase s	show on the	map where you l	ive.	
	Write in the names of the crossroads (or street  Draw an X to show where you live.  Use a dot to show any schools, churches, sto	res or other lar	·					NORTH 🕇
С	near where you live, and write the name of the  Example  R	. мициал,					L	
	l ptud	ery Store						<del></del>
	Public School Woodchud	ck Road X						

To Mail:

- Address the back of this application (see address under your state).
   Remove plastic strip below.
   Fold form at middle and seal at top.
   Put on a first-class stamp and mail.

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## FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1155

#### National Voter Registration Act - 1993

The National Voter Registration Act (NVRA) Requires Each state and the Secretary of Defense:

"...shall jointly develop and implement procedures for persons to apply to register to vote at recruitment offices of the Armed Forces of the United States."

The NVRA designates Armed Forces recruitment offices as voter registration agencies. The Director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) carries out this responsibility on behalf of the Secretary of Defense.

#### In coordination with all the States:

- FVAP Director developed Department of Defense policy and internal implementing procedures
- States accept only the national Mail Voter Registration Application form (DD 2644) from Recruitment Office personnel
- Recruitment office personnel send completed Mail Voter Registration Application forms to one state contact
- Recruitment office personnel maintains for 24 months the Mail Voter Registration Information form (DD 2645) required by law
- Recruitment office personnel maintains records
- FVAP Director compiles and reports statistics and information to the Federal Election Commission for the Congressional Report
- FVAP places all materials in recruitment offices at no cost to the State
- Ombudsman Service 1-800-438-8683 (VOTE) for recruitment personnel and state and local government officials

Editor: Richard G. Smolka

Volume 26, Number 10, May 13, 1996



Washington Focus: The Republican Party of Alaska plans to appeal to the United States Supreme Court a decision of the Alaska Supreme Court that requires the party to allow any registered voter to vote in its primary elections. (O'Callahan v. Ulmer, State of Alaska, No. S-6249, dec. March 20, 1996). Party rule restricted voting in primary elections to Republicans and Independents. Alaska law provides for a blanket primary with voters permitted to vote in any party primary for any office but not in more than one party for the same office. Other Alaskan parties defended the law in court.

## NASS COMMITTEE EXAMINES PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION PROCESS CHANGES

A committee of the National Secretaries of State (NASS) charged with examining the presidential nominating system heard comments from former presidential candidate Lamar Alexander, and seven other speakers on May 10 in Washington, D.C.

NASS created the Committee on Presidential Primaries and Caucuses, chaired by William Gardner, (N.H.) and Ronald Thornburgh, (Kan.), to examine the process and suggest what role or recommendations NASS can make to improve the system. Most Secretaries of State are the chief electoral officer of their respective States. Several Secretaries had expressed concern that the presidential primaries in their States, especially in the latter part of the primary season, are of diminishing relevance. They also reported candidates and voters increasingly are showing indifference, States incur major expenses to conduct these elections, and the presidential primaries produce negative impacts on the State electoral system.

Alexander told the Secretaries that Senator Bob Dole, R-Kan. would have been the Republican favorite under any system but did recommend that ways be found to enable more potential candidates to seek the presidency. Alexander said the current process places the real campaign (fundraising and building bases) in the year prior to the election. By the time the heavily

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frontloaded primaries and serious media coverage starts the election is over, because those who lose early primaries have little chance of raising money to continue.

Alexander also commented that "early voting" — voters casting ballots up to three weeks prior to the election date — could affect outcomes because voters who make up their minds on or near election day have access to more information. He said exit polls from New Hampshire showed many voters make up their minds in the final days before the election and that those who decided on election day gave him a much higher percentage of the vote than those who apparently made up their, minds weeks earlier. Alexander's home State, Tennessee, allows early voting.

Democratic National Committee Co-Chair Don Fowler observed that the past reforms of the Democratic Party have had unintended consequences, not all of which have been favorable. Fowler also commented that "frontloading" was not all bad. The system favors experienced candidates who command wide support and financial backing.

David Norcross, Legal Counsel, Republican National Committee reported that the RNC has created a task-force to study the presidential primary process. Norcross invited NASS to present any recommendations. Fowler and Norcross emphasized that political parties are the appropriate body to make the final decision on how their candidates are nominated.

Mark Siegel., a former assistant to President Carter and Democratic party activist who participated on many of the party commissions, said that "frontloading" produced dramatic changes in the nomination process. In a discussion paper prepared for the NASS committee, Siegel showed that a majority of all delegates to Democratic national party conventions were selected by the middle of May in 1972, by the middle of April in 1984, and by the middle of March this year.

Siegel identified ten negative effects of the current "frontloaded" system. Among them: inflexibility because delegates are frozen too early in process; candidates do not receive appropriate scrutiny -- "of ideas, ideology, background, electability or character"; too much money -- at least \$20 million -- must be raised before first primary; campaigns are limited to well known, well organized candidates; demagogues might dominate early tests; late entries into race are precluded; process discourages otherwise potentially able contenders; general election of seven months is too long; twilight zone of disinterest between nominee clinching in March and November election could chill voter participation in November; and, the national party conventions become rubber stamps.

Siegel called "intriguing" the idea of a regional primary system -- four regions with presidential primaries one month apart as proposed in the Senate by Joseph Lieberman (D-N.J.)

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and Slade Gorton (R-Wash.). The bill, S. 1589, also provides that the Federal Election Commission certify to the States the names of candidates to be placed on the ballot and prescribes that delegates elected in the process be bound for two ballots at the national convention. The bill has not yet commanded attention in the Senate, no such bill has been introduced in the House, and passage this year is very unlikely.

Others who addressed the Secretaries included Lyn Nofziger, former advisor to President Ronald Reagan; Curtis Gans, Director of the Committee for the Study of the American Electorate; Rhodes Cook, Senior Correspondent, Congressional Quarterly, and Richard Smolka, professor emeritus, American University, and Editor, Election Administration Reports.

Seventeen states were represented at the meeting, most by Secretaries of State. Following the presentations, Secretaries devoted the remainder of Friday afternoon and three and one-half hours on Saturday to searching out areas of agreement both on substance and procedures to bring about changes. The Secretaries focused attention on details States can address such as "frontloading," but recognized in some areas improving the process will require a cooperative effort with the political parties.

The committee will make a report including possible recommendations to be considered at the NASS summer meeting in July. Presentations and follow-up discussions May 10 were aired on C-Span and will be shown again on later dates.

### POSTAL SERVICE TESTING WELCOME KITS INCLUDING VOTER REGISTRATION FORMS FOR NEW RESIDENTS

Beginning this month, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) is testing a Welcome Kit for new residents that includes a voter registration form in five areas of the country. The Welcome Kit is being tested in greater Boston, Mass; Buffalo, N.Y.; Indianapolis, Ind.; San Antonio, Texas; and Sacramento, Cal.

The Welcome Kit will be among the first pieces of mail a new resident receives. The envelope, which bears a return address of the U.S. Postal Service carries a large message in bright red ink: "IMPORTANT: Official Change of Address Confirmation Enclosed."

The postal change of address confirmation notice advises the recipient that a permanent change of address has been received and that mail will be forwarded as shown. This form also advises the recipient that previously registered voters need to reregister after they move or if they change their name.

During the test, only one state or local mail voter registration form will be included. Whether more than one form may be included in future kits, has not yet been decided. The kit will include much useful information including a one-page important numbers telephone directory, motor vehicle information and requirements such as when, where and how to register motor vehicles and to obtain a driver's license.

Among other useful information is an Internal Revenue Service change of address mailer, a long distance telephone company advertising card, and a settling-in guide providing useful tips on maintaining and improving a new home.

The Welcome Kit test market has three phases - a home envelope version that will be distributed in May, an apartment envelope version in June, and a home box version in July that will include some product samples. If the tests prove successful, Welcome Kits could be provided

## 

IF VOTING PLACE MUST BE LEFT

UNATTENDED DUE TO CATASTROPHIC

EMERGENCY (tornado, fire, bomb threat.

other situations where election officers may be ordered to leave premises):

1. DON'T PANIC!

- 2. SEAL MACHINES -- Record public counter for later reference
- 3. IF THERE IS TIME, LEAVE A NOTE for die-hard voters
- 4. LEAVE -- Taking Signature Roster and Registration Book All other supplies are to be left
- 5. AS SOON AS ELECTION OFFICERS ARE IN SECURE LOCATION CALL election office to advise of situation and receive further instructions

#### IF VOTING PLACE CAN BE REOPENED:

- CUT SEAL ON MACHINES -- Double check Public Counter number
- 2. RESUME VOTING AS NORMAL
- 3. CALL ELECTION OFFICE TO ADVISE OF SITUATION
- 4. ANOTHER SEAL WILL BE SENT to be used for closing the polis at 7:00 PM

to new residents nationwide before the end of the year.

At the completion of the test mailings, the Welcome Kit developer, Targeted Marketing Solutions, Inc. (TMSI) will conduct surveys to determine reaction of recipients. As part of this research, TMSI will determine how well recipients liked and used the voter registration forms.

Welcome Kits distributed by the Postal Service are financed by paid advertising included in the envelopes and packages. USPS has not yet decided whether to impose a charge on State and local governments to insert the voter registration form in the kit.

## SEDGWICK COUNTY, KS OFFERS POLL WORKERS DIRECTIONS ON CATASTROPHIC EMERGENCIES

The Sedgwick County, Kansas Election Commission places an emergency advice sheet in each poll kit providing instructions to poll workers in case of extreme emergencies that may require them to leave the poll. The Sedgwick County catastrophic emergency advice sheet is printed on bright lemon-lime paper and included in all poll kits. (See example on page 4).

County Election Commissioner Marilyn Chapman told *Election Administration Reports* the notices have been given out each election since 1994. During an election in 1993, a bomb threat was reported at a school being used as a poll. Election workers were moved immediately to a church across the street but the poll books and election supplies remained at the school.

When the election commission learned of the incident some hours later, the poll was officially moved to a nearby polling location, enabling voting to continue.

After this event, and recognizing that Sedgwick County, (Wichita) is in an area susceptible to tornado damage at certain election times, Chapman decided to provide poll workers with emergency procedures before rather than after catastrophic events. Fortunately, there has been no need since 1993 to use any emergency procedure.

## MINNESOTA ENACTS MULTIPLE NOMINATION LAW, ASKS SUPREME COURT TO REVIEW DECISION

The Minnesota legislature, reacting to a recent federal Court of Appeals ruling that struck down a state law prohibiting candidates from being listed as the nominees of more than one party, passed a law specifying the conditions under which candidates may do so. The State also has asked the U.S. Supreme Court to stay the ruling and to review the Court of Appeals decision (Twin Cities Area New Party v. McKenna, No 94-3417, 8th Cir., January, 1996).

The new law permits candidates to seek a major party nomination and one or more minor party nominations simultaneously with the consent of the state chairs of the parties whose nomination is sought.

The law provides that the candidate's name appear on the ballot only once, that any party nominations be listed below the candidate's name. The law also contains what is believed to be a unique sore loser provision. Any candidate who fails to be nominated in the state major party primary automatically forfeits any minor party nominations.

Included in the law is a sunset provision making the law inoperable upon a stay or a reversal of the Court of Appeals decision.

#### VICE PRESIDENT ALBERT GORE FEATURED SPEAKER AT IACREOT 25TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Vice President Albert Gore will be the featured speaker at the 25th International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Election Officials and Treasurers (IACREOT) Annual Conference and Trade Show June 1-5 in Nashville, Tenn.

The Election Officials program this year emphasizes poll worker recruitment and training. The two and one-half hour program will include presentations by Derm Whelan, Chief Electoral Officer of Alberta, Canada; Marilyn Chapman, Election Commissioner, Sedgwick County, Kan.; Gayle Hamilton, Assistant Elections Administrator, Tarrant County, Texas; Joyce Wallace, Deputy Director of Elections, Greene County, Ohio; and Karen Hartenbower, County Clerk, Lyon County, Kansas.

"International Elections: How You Can Help," features three election officials with substantial experience assisting in foreign elections. Sharing their expertise will be Charles Lasham, Liverpool, U.K. Electoral Registration Officer, who has assisted and observed elections in many nations of Europe and Africa; Connie Kaplan, Chicago Board of Election Commissioners who helped train poll officials in South Africa and China; and Loren Wells, Elections Canada, who includes in her foreign election experience several months working on elections in Haiti. Dr. Pierre-Michel Sajous, President, Provincial Electoral Council, Haiti, and Karen Sieger of the International Foundation for Election Systems will also participate.

Other sessions include: legislation and litigation; new technology; election management; NVRA procedures including list purging and fail-safe voting management; and statewide voter registration systems. In addition, the Federal Voting Assistance Program and the International Foundation for Election Systems will describe their work and relationship with local election officials.

Election Officials are encouraged to bring for display innovative election materials, including printed matter, videos, posters, etc. The Election Officials Committee will award two prizes for items on display. For further information on the election officials booth, contact: Janis Womack, City Secretary, 630 East Hopkins, San Marcos TX 78666. Tel. 512-353-4444.

On site registration fee is \$250. For Registration Information contact: Mahalia Hughes, PO Box 549, Gallatin TN, 37066. Tel. 615-4520-4367. For hotel reservations contact Opryland Hotel and Convention Center (619) 889-1000.

## FEDERAL COURT DISMISSES SUIT AGAINST TEXAS SORE LOSER LAW

A federal court, without yet issuing a written opinion, last month dismissed a challenge brought by the U.S. Taxpayers Party to Texas' "sore loser" law. The Party wants the right to name Pat Buchanan as its candidate for President if he does not receive the Republican Party nomination.

Texas advised the U.S. Taxpayers Party that the State "sore loser" law would prevent Buchanan, who ran second to Robert Dole, R-Kan. in the Texas Republican Presidential Primary, from being listed on the ballot other than as a Republican. The Party claimed the law does not apply, but if it does, is unconstitutional. Further, the party alleges State interpretation of the law hindered the party's ballot access petition efforts.

Texas argued the challenge was premature and speculative because Buchanan has not yet been named the party's candidate, has not agreed to such a candidacy, and the party has not yet qualified for a ballot position in November.

#### **ELECTIONotes**

Calvert County, Maryland is accepting sealed bids for 85 reconditioned 40-column AVM Print-o-Matic Voting Machines, series 130,000 through 150,000. Machines are being sold "as is." Deadline for bidding is June 7, 1996. Buyer must pay cost for removal of machines and must complete removal within 30 days of purchase. For more information contact: Gail Hatfield, Elections Administrator, 150 Main St., Suite 107, PO Box 798, Prince Frederick MD 20678-0798. Tel. (410) 535-2214 or (301) 855-1376. Fax: 410-535-1600 x392.

The Electoral Board for Fairfax County, Va. is interested in acquiring additional Shouptronic 1242 Voting Machines. Persons with information about available Shoupronic 1242s are asked to contact Patricia W. Drain, Electoral Board Secretary, Fairfax County Electoral Board, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 323, Fairfax VA 22035-0081. Tel. (703) 324-4734. Fax. (703) 324-4706.

The International Foundation for Election Systems recently published an International Directory of Election Offices. The directory describes the national election administration in 144 countries and explains the legal status of the authority. The directory provides the name of the current administrative head of elections for the country, descriptions of the election authority's members and how they are named, the terms of those members, and the primary responsibilities of that authority.

The directory is now available from the F. Clifton White Resource Center at IFES for \$25. A discounted price of \$20 is available to election professionals, educational institutions and students. To purchase a copy contact: Michael Boda, IFES, 1101 15th St NW, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20006. Tel: (202) 828-8507. Fax: (202) 452-0804. Email: mboda@ifes.org

San Francisco City Attorney Louise Renne will not yet have to prepare a ballot title and summary for a proposed Immigrant Voting Rights Initiative. A judge granted her petition for a stay of these duties pending a ruling on whether the initiative is contradictory to the California constitution. California Secretary of State Bill Jones joined Renne is seeking the stay. The proposed initiative would allow noncitizens to vote in San Francisco school board elections.

If a call to the Cuyahoga County, Ohio Board of Elections is any indicator, at least one voter may be anticipating voting by telephone or by remote electronic device. A very serious newly registered voter who had completed registration two weeks earlier called the board ask what the holdup was on receiving his <u>pin</u> number. Apparently he had been told that he would be receiving a card with his ward, precinct, and voting location but did not remember exactly what he was to receive.

Jefferson County, Ky. Clerk Rebecca Jackson recently visited Bulgaria as part of a team sponsored by the International Republican Institute. Jackson provided a working group of Bulgarians with a practical summary of the way primary elections are conducted in the United States. Bulgaria has since organized and will hold a presidential primary election in June.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JURY CONVICTS ITS FIRST CANDIDATE PETITION FORGER

A District of Columbia Superior Court jury last month found a petition circulator guilty of one count of corrupt election practices. This was the first instance of prosecution for petition forgeries in the District of Columbia since municipal voting was restored to the capital in 1971.

The jury found that Gregory Mitchell falsified the affidavit of the circulator on a petition sheet of signatures that was submitted to the Board of Elections in 1994 to support the candidacy of JePhujunneh Lawrence for the office of Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia in the November, 1994 general election. The petition was challenged by an opponent. The election board found that signatures on several sheets did not appear to match those on registration records. The matter was referred to the Corporation Counsel.

At the trial a metropolitan police department handwriting expert testified that the signatures on the petition sheet all appeared to be written in the same hand. Mr. Mitchell's signature appeared in the circulator's affidavit where he affirmed that he had witnessed each individual sign the petition. Witnesses whose names were on the petition testified they did not sign the petition.

Three other petition circulators earlier had pleaded guilty to one count of corrupt election practices and will be sentenced May 16.

#### ELECTION LEGISLATION INTRODUCED AND ACTION TAKEN

TOPIC	CHIEF SPONSOR, MAJOR BILLS	CONGRESSIONAL ACTION
Repeal or delay of the National Voter Registration Act	Bob Stump, R-Ariz. H.R. 370 Paul Coverdell, R-Ga. S. 91	House Oversight Committee held hearing in July. Prospects for final passage are slim. Enacted. (1-26-96) Continuing Resolution with amendment exempting States with election day registration as of August 1, 1994 from NVRA.
Campaign Finance Reform, limits on PACs, spending, for candidates, committees, other provisions	Tom Daschle, D-S.D. S. 10 John McCain, R-Ariz. S.1219	The House Oversight Committee held several hearings on campaign finance reform. Senate hearings began February 1, 1996. Wide range of options suggested. Agreement still distant.
Amendments to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to allow Fax transmission of voting materials and absentee ballots	Bill Thomas, R-Cal. Vic Fazio, D. Cal. H.R. 3058	House Oversight Committee March 12 adopted amendments allowing federal write in ballots for primary and special elections and other procedural changes. House may pass bill but Senate prospects are uncertain.
Official Language Act of 1995 makes English the Official language; repeals Voting Rights Act bilingual mandates	Toby Roth, R- Wis. H.R. 739	Various bills prohibiting bilingual ballots have been introduced. Hearings have been held in House and Senate. Action is expected in House during 1996 but no agreements have been reached on any bill likely to pass.

Bills listed above are those most likely to be acted upon or have the greatest potential impact on state and local election administration. Election related bills not listed above do not appear to have sufficient support to be considered seriously in the near future. Information current as of date of publication. Changes from previous issue in italics.

To contact Members of Congress write: Member, House of Representatives, Washington DC 20515 Member, United States Senate, Washington DC 20510 Tel. For House and Senate Members or Committees (202) 224-3121

## NEW DOCUMENT

## FOR GENERAL ELECTIONS

#### Instructions to the Voter

Please read instructions before completion. If you have any questions, consult your Unit Voting Assistance Officer or Embassy/Consulate Voting Assistance Officer or the *Voting Assistance Guide*.

- 1. Tear perforation at left. Separate and remove the Mailing Envelope on the back of this package.
- 2. Complete, sign and date the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation on the Mailing Envelope as follows:

#### VOTER INFORMATION.

Enter information for 1.a. through 1.e. For Block 1.d., provide identification form and number of that form. For example: passport 0000, State Department 0000, driver's license 0000, birth certificate 0000.

#### **VOTING RESIDENCE.**

Block 2. Enter complete legal voting residence address, in as much detail as possible, where you ACTUALLY LIVED. Your right to vote in your state and determination of your voting precinct depend on the physical location of your residence while you were in the state. DO NOT USE A POST OFFICE BOX NUMBER. A Post Office Box number is not a residence address. In an area with street names and numbers, this information is required. In an area with no street names, indicate route name and number and box number. Also provide any additional information necessary to physically describe your residence location. This voting residence address must be the same as the voting residence on the application you previously submitted for your regular absentee ballot.

#### CURRENT COMPLETE MILITARY OR OVERSEAS ADDRESS.

Block 3. Enter information which indicates your physical location outside the United States. APO/FPO addresses are considered to be outside the United States. Some states allow you to mail this ballot from inside the United States. Consult your state pages in the Voting Assistance Guide. This address must be different from the address in Block 2.

#### WITNESS(ES).

Some states require a notary or witness(es) for absentee ballots. Consult your Voting Assistance Officer or the Voting Assistance Guide to determine the requirements of your state.

- 3. Separate the Ballot and Security Envelope and follow instructions.
- 4. Complete the Ballot as follows:

Voting Procedure: For each office for which you vote, write in either a candidate's name or political party designation. President and Vice President run as a team and your vote must be for members of the same party. For other offices, you may vote for members of different parties for each office indicated. "Senator" means U.S. Senator; "Representative" means U.S. Congressman or Congresswoman. See Voting Assistance Guide for Special Provisions implemented by your state, and possible use of "ADDENDUM" section.

- 5. Detach, fold and insert the ballot into the Security Envelope. Remove tape from the Security Envelope and seal. NOTE: ONLY THE BALLOT SHOULD BE PLACED IN THE SECURITY ENVELOPE.
- 6. Insert the sealed Security Envelope into the Mailing Envelope. Remove the tape from the Mailing Envelope and seal.
- 7. If mailed in a foreign postal system, international airmail postage must be affixed. Enter your name and current complete military or overseas mailing address in the "FROM" section on the Mailing Envelope. Enter the name and mailing address of the proper city, township, village, county or state election official in the "TO" section on the Mailing Envelope. Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for correct address. This must be the same election official where you sent your application for an absentee ballot. No postage is necessary if mailed within APO/FPO or U.S. postal system.

#### PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

**AUTHORITY:** 42 USC 1973ff, "Title 1 - Registration and Voting By

Absent Uniformed Services Voters and Overseas Voters in

Elections for Federal Office."

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Serves as a Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot for general

elections or other elections provided by law or special provisions for all persons covered by the Uniformed and

Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).

**DISCLOSURE:** Voluntary; however failure to furnish requested personal

information may result in the Federal Write-In Absentee

Ballot not being recognized and therefore not counted.





## OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT

## SECURITY ENVELOPE

## (ONLY PUT VOTED BALLOT INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE)

Standard Form 186 (OCT 95)

U.S. SENATOR(S)\*



DETACH HERE, FOLD AND INSERT INTO SECURITY ENVELOPE



OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT
PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

THEODERTY VIOL THEODERT

U.S. REPRESENTATIVE/DELEGATE\*\*/ RESIDENT COMMISSIONER\*\*

non-voting Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress.

- \* Legal residents of the District of Columbia may vote only for President/Vice President and Delegate
- \*\*Legal residents of American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands may vote only for

ADDENDUM

Some states allow the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot to be used by military and overseas civilian voters in elections other than general elections or for offices other than Federal offices. Consult your state section in the Voting Assistence Guide to determine your state's policy. If you are eligible to use this ballot to vote for offices/ candidates other than those listed above, please indicate in the spaces provided below, the office for which you wish to vote (for example: Governor, Attorney General, Mayor, State Senator, etc.), and the name and/or party affiliation of the candidate for whom you wish to vote.

OFFICE

CANDIDATE NAME or PARTY AFFILIATION

CANDIDATE NAME or PARTY AFFILIATION

FROM:  Voter name and current complete military or overseas mailing address)	U.S. Postage Paid 39 USC 3406
	PAR AVION
	OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL
Standard Form 186 (OCT 95) Issued under Public Law 99-410 186-102 1988 edition may be used.	NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAILS - DMM E080
MAILING ENVELOPE	
VOTER	
EFORE YOU SEAL THIS MAILING ENVELOPE, CHECK THE FOLLOWING:	
1. Complete the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation (on back of this envelope). 2. Sign and date the Voter's Declaration/Affirmation. 3. Vote your Ballot. 4. Put your voted Ballot in the Security Envelope, remove tape and seal Security Envelope. 5. Put the sealed Security Envelope in the Mailing Envelope.	то:
6. Remove tape and seal the Mailing Envelope. 7. Put your name and current complete military or overseas mailing address in the "FROM" section.	
8. Put address of proper election official in the "TO" section of this envelope.  This address must be the same local election official address where you previously submitted your regular absentee ballot application.	
International airmail postage is required if not mailed in the U.S. Postal system or APO/FPO System, or Diplomatic Pouch.	
NOW, YOU ARE READY TO MAIL THIS ENVELOPE!	

#### VOTER'S DECLARATION/AFFIRMATION

County of

General Information Enter state, county, city/township/village where you are eligible to vote.

City/Township/Village of

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME				
(Lest)	(First)	(Mldd	le Initial)   b. SEX   c. SOCIAL SECURI	TY NUMBER
				_
d. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IPassport or other ID	Card)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		DATE OF BIRTH
2. VOTING RESIDENCE (For military, legal residence. For	overseas civiliens, lest residence in count	v/Jurisdiction in U.S.)	<del>1                                    </del>	<u> </u>
a. NUMBER & STREET III rural route, include specific locate	ion of residence. Do not use Post Office	bax.) lb.	CITY, TOWNSHIP OR VILLAGE	
c. COUNTY OR PARISH		d. STATE e.	ZIP CODE (9-digit, if known)	f. LAST DATE OF RESIDENCY
				RESIDENCY
			1 1 1 1 1-1 1 1 1	MMDDYY
3. CURRENT COMPLETE MILITARY OR OVERSEAS ADDR	E88	<del></del>		<u> </u>
		1 1 1 1 1 1		
	<u>                                     </u>	<u> </u>		<u>                                     </u>
	! ! ! ! ! ! ! ! !		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1 1 1
4. I awear or affirm, under the penalty of pe	eriury, that:			<del></del>
a. I am a United States citizen, and eligible	d. My application for a regular ab	sentee ballot was	g. I have voted and sealed this	
to vote in the above jurisdiction (Item 2).	mailed in time to be received by the official 30 days prior to this election	ne local election	have not allowed any person to of this ballot, except for those	
	has been waived by appropriate a		voters under state or Federal k	
other disqualifying offense or been adjudica-		,.	influenced.	
ted mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting	e. I have not received the request	ted ballot.		
rights have been reinstated, if required by	E demonstration of the Add	-b4 b-N-4 !-	h. I have mailed this ballot from	
state law.	<ol> <li>I understand that if my regular received by the local election office</li> </ol>	absentee pallot is	States, or my state has made a allow me to mail this ballot from	special provisions to
	counted, that ballot will be counte		and with to mail this ballot from	II IIISIUE UIE U.S.
	ballot will be voided.	d and the white-in	i. The information on this form	n is true and complete.
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
WITNESS(ES) SIGNATURE AND ADDRESS	(If required by law)	APPLICANT SIGNAT	URE (Sign here)	DATE SIGNED
	İ			
		¥		

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO ELECTION OFFICIALS**

This is an official Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB) authorized by 42 USC 1973 ff-2.

- 1. Upon receipt of this ballot, examine the voter's declarations. If it appears that the voter is eligible to vote in your jurisdiction and has applied in a timely fashion for a regular absentee ballot, or this requirement has been waived by appropriate authority, then this ballot is valid unless you receive the voted regular absentee ballot in time for it to be counted. This ballot should be handled in the same manner as required by state law for other absentee ballots. If this ballot is to be counted, deposit the voted ballot in the ballot
- The oath on this ballot is self-executing and need not be notarized or witnessed, unless required by state law.

box without examining the voter's choices.

- Unless provided by law, or special provisions have been made, this ballot should not be counted if:
- a. It was submitted from within the United States (an APO/FPO address is considered outside the U.S.); or
- b. This voter's application for a regular absentee ballot was received by you less than 30 days prior to the election; or
- This voter's completed regular absentee ballot was received by you by the state deadline for receipt of absentee ballots; or
- d. This ballot is not received by the state deadline for receipt of voted absentee ballots.

Ballot for the State of

#### SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION (Continued)

6. YOUR FAX NUMBER, (Continued) INFORMATION), you must fax this form ONLY to one of the following numbers: (800) 388-8683 or (703) 693-6627 or DSN (military) 223-5527. If your state does NOT allow you to submit this form by fax, DO NOT transmit this form by fax, so it will not be process

6. POUTICAL PARTY AFFILIATION. This Information is required by most states in order to vote in primary elections. In most states, If you do not complete this section, you will not be sent a ballot for primary elections. Consult your individual state section in the Voting Assistance\_Guide\_for\_more.specific information. regarding your state's policy. Political party affiliation is not required if you live in Alseka funices you are voting n a Republican party primary), American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, North Dekota, Vermont, Washington or Wisconsin, in order to vote in a primary election. You need not complete this ection if your voting residence is in those states. If you want to indicate no affiliation or enrollment in a political party, write "unaffiliated. 7. REMARKS. Provide any information which may

et local election officials in approving this application, such as maiden name, name and telephone number of a local contact person, etc. If you are requesting the special state write-in ballot, indicate here the resear you are requesting the special state write-in bellot, i.e. you are in an isolated area with sporadic mail service, submarine duty, etc. In Colorado, you must indicate if you are a native born or naturalized citizen of the United States.

8. AFFIRMATION BY APPLICANT, Place on X in only one block: Ba., b., c., or d. In most states, marking a., b. or c. will get you a full ballot. Marking b. or c. generally means that at some future time you intend to 1 reside egain in that state. Marking block d. generally means that you were a resident of the state before departing the U.S., and your intent to return at some time in the future is uncertain. Marking block d. applies for a Federal ballot only (If one is printed by the state). Federal law provides that no tax liability may be ed based on exercising your right to yote in Federal elections. If you are a civilian citizen residing outside the U.S. and wish to avoid classifying yourself as a state resident for tax purposes, you should mark block Bd. If the state sends a full ballot because it does not print a separate Federal ballot, you may vote the full bàllot.

(fold to outside)

Block 9.f. In some states, a criminal conviction for a felony or certain misdemeanors, or an adjudication of mental incompetency disqualifies a person from voting, unless there has been a reinstatement of voting rights if required by state law. Block 8,i. Sign at the X. Provide the date you completed the form.

9. WITNESS/NOTARY. Not all states require completion of this item. Consult your state section of the Voting Assistance Guido or your Voting Assistance Officer for your state's requirements. If you require more space to complete this item, use Item 7, Remarks.

#### SOURCES OF ASSISTANCE

sistance and information regarding the use and completion of this form, se well so specific state information may be obtained from military Unit Voting Assistance Officers, U.S. Embessy and Consular Voting Assistance Officers, or organizations of U.S. citizens oversees.

The Voting Assistance Guide contains voting information on a state-bystate basis for those eligible to use this form. The Guide is also available for purchase from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402-1575.

#### NOTE TO ELECTION OFFICIAL

This is a return post card for your use. Please mark and fill in applicable items, sign your name, add your return address on reverse side, and return to the applicant.

THIS ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF YOUR POST CARD REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST.

	You will be sent an absentee t	pallot for the	election(s).
	Your ballot(s) will be mailed ap	pproximately	
	Your application is incomplete application:	. Please provide the following infor	mation to complete your
	Your application could not be Please resubmit a new applica	processed. Item(s) tion with all required items complet	must be completed.
	A separate application must be	submitted for each election.	
	Other Comments		
Sig	nature	Title	Date Signed

Applicant name and complete address	
	U.S. Postage Paid 39 USC 3406

PAR AVION

Standard Form 76 (Rev. 10-95) Issued under 42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seg. 76-114

1988 edition may be used.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST-CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAILS - DMM E080

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## **VOTING INFORMATION NEWS**

June 1996

Vol. 6 No. 6

A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) 🗸 🗸 For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.

Help the FVAP help you

## Why Should Overseas Citizens Register with their Embassy or Consulate?

One of the answers is because the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) conducts a post-election survey during the week of November 5, 1996 and the statistically random survey sample is derived from Embassy and Consulate registration rolls. Your chances of receiving a survey instrument from the FVAP depend on your having registered with your Embassy or Consulate. This means you may receive a survey instrument and, by completing the form, the FVAP will have a better understanding of your experience in voting or attempting to vote this election year.

#### It is easy to register with an Embassy or Consulate

Registration with your local Embassy/Consulate usually takes little time; some Embassy/Consulate personnel will mail you a registration form usually by placing a phone call. Registering with your Embassy/Consulate should help the FVAP ensure a broader spectrum of overseas U.S. citizens receive a survey instrument. In addition, it ensures the accuracy of the registration rolls. This means you can comment on your experience in voting this election year.

## Is registering with an Embassy/Consulate the same as completing an FPCA?

No, registration with an Embassy/Consulate is not to be confused with registering to vote absentee. Registration with an Embassy/Consulate usually entails providing the Embassy/Consulate with your name and local in-country address and phone number. This information is then added to the Embassy/Consulate's registration rolls.

On the other hand, registration to vote absentee requires completion of a Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and submission to your county or city of voting residence in the U.S. as per the guidelines of the 1996-97 Voting Assistance Guide.

## Why should I complete a Post-Election Survey Instrument?

The survey results are used by the FVAP to report to the President and Congress on overseas citizen participation in the 1996 election year. The FVAP also analyses the results to determine how they can better serve you in voting absentee.



For example, the Voting Information Center was provided to citizens based on the survey results reflecting citizens needed more information on elections, candidates and issues. The Voting Information News newsletter exists due to the survey results reflecting

that citizens needed a regular monthly voting publication to ensure timely voting information and continuity of voting information were received throughout the world.

In addition, the FVAP, in working with state and local governments, uses the survey results to encourage these officials and state legislators to change election laws to make it easier for you to vote. The FVAP has accomplished significant legislative reforms with the states and the territories in this regard. For example, previous survey results reflected that the notary requirement was a barrier to voting for many overseas citizens. The FVAP worked with the states to remove this barrier and today only 8 states and territories have some notarial requirements. Also, the FVAP uses the survey results in testifying before Congress on your behalf to help make sure you are not disenfranchised and can participate in your democratic process. So help the FVAP help you! Register with your Embassy/Consulate today and increase your opportunity of participation in the 1996 Post-Election Survey.

#### Ensure adequate supplies now

#### The FWAB Can Save Your Vote!

The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF-186) plays a critical role in ensuring your vote counts in the November 5 election. As a result, Embassy/Consulate and military Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) as well as VAOs in organizations of overseas citizens should ensure they distribute one FWAB to each voter they assist.

#### How can the FWAB help my vote count?

The FWAB is pre-positioned overseas for citizens to use if they determine that their regular ballot will not be received in time for them to vote the regular ballot and return it to the state by the general election deadline. While some states have expanded use of the FWAB, in most cases, you must meet all three of the following conditions before using the FWAB:

- the ballot must be submitted from outside the U.S. or have a foreign mailing address or APO/FPO postmark;
- the application from the overseas voter for a regular state absentee ballot must be received by the local election official at least 30 days before the general election; and
- the voted FWAB must be received by the local election official by the state deadline for receipt of the regular state absentee ballot.

The FWAB is only valid when all the above conditions apply and the regular ballot has not been received. (see FWAB, pg. 2)

#### Ombudsman Service

The following numbers for Ombudsman assistance may be dialed directly from the individual countries to reach the FVAP. No cost is incurred by the caller. They should be dialed exactly as they appear here, without affixing prefixes or international calls.

If you cannot resolve your concern locally, it's good to know the FVAP is just a phone call away!

Toll-free in the U.S. 1-800-438-8683 1-800-326-0220 **Antigua** 



Australia 0014-800-128509 Bahamas 180-995-09-20 Bahrain 800-621 Barbados 800-534-2104 Belgium 078-111-455 Bermuda 800-623-0077 000-800-926-5585 Brazil

Canada 800-995-0920 Chile 00-020-3071 Colombia 980-12-0896 Costa Rica 001-800-892-5446 800-10-169 Denmark 800-751-7131 Dominican Rep. 9800-156-284 Finland 059-00-156 France 013-081-9277 Germany Greece 008-001-22-586 Hong Kong 800-6984 00-800-11-158 Hungary 1-800-557-083 Ireland 177-102-4012 Israel 1-678-72-444 Italy Indonesia 00-800-1-923-3685 Japan 0031-11-2429 1-155-4514 Liechtenstein

Luxembourg 0-800-2499 800-2170 Malaysia 95-800-010-1438 Mexico 0-59-00-156 Monaco 06-022-2499 Netherlands 001-800-753-0767 Neth. Antilles 0-800-44-0799 New Zealand 800-12093 ° Norway 0083-28027-4197 Panama

0501-8-13-035 Portugal 1-678-72-444 San Marino Singapore 800-1300-210 0078-14-800-0203 South Korea 900-93-1108 Spain

Philippines

1-800-116-0009

Sweden 020-793-503 Switzerland 155-4514 Taiwan 0080-10-3153 001-800-1-1-923-6685 Thailand Trinidad & Tobago 1-800-934-7340

United Kingdom 0-800-895-7403 000-411-923-7985 Uruguay

1678-72-4444 Vatican City

(FWAB, from pg. 1)

#### Why does the '95 version of the FWAB have an Addendum portion?

The revised 1995 FWAB ballot portion includes an Addendum because some states now allow the FWAB to be used by military and overseas civilian voters in elections other than the general election, or for offices other than federal offices. Since its adoption in 1988, Iowa, Montana, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia have expanded its use. Established state-by-state guidelines for use of the FWAB are outlined in Chapter 3 of the 1996/97 Voling Assistance Guide (VAG).

Also, states, on an ad hoc basis, may allow expanded use of the FWAB when unique circumstances exist that may require use of this ballot to help ensure a person may vote. Should a state expand the use of the FWAB, VAOs and eligible citizens will be notified by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) through voting news releases, electronic voting messages and the Voting Information Center (VIC). The DoD VIC may be accessed by calling Commercial (703) 693-6500 or DSN 223-6500.

#### Where can a voter obtain a FWAB?

The FWAB is available through normal military and Department of State distribution channels. Information on how to obtain the FWAB, and other materials, may be obtained from Service Voting Action Officers (SVAOs) in the Armed Forces and through the Department of State VAO. Organizations of overseas citizens not affiliated with the Federal government and overseas corporations that employ U.S. citizens also maintain a stock of the FWAB. Overseas citizens may also obtain their stock of the FWAB by contacting the FVAP directly. All contact numbers can be found on the bottom of pages 2 and 3.

#### Should a voter also vote the regular ballot?

Citizens using the FWAB should always vote the regular ballot from the state regardless of when the citizen receives it, because there are cases where the Federal Voting Assistance Program may take legal action with a state and require late counting of ballots from overseas citizens. Of course, local election officials (LEOs) will count only one ballot per voter. whichever meets the state deadline for receipt of ballots. If both ballots arrive by the state deadline, LEOs will discard the FWAB and count the regular ballot only.

#### Votina Assistance Officers (VAOs)

#### "To Do" this Month

Ensure adequate quantities of the FWAB (SF 186) one for each voter you assist. Submit your order now through your normal distribution channels to allow for sufficient delivery time. If you are overseas, plan for Overseas Citizens Voters Week (June 30 to July 6), Ensure the support of the U.S. Ambassador/Embassy staff, local U.S. corporations, and other U.S. citizen groups personnel in your voter outreach efforts.

Request a copy of the VAO Training tape if you were unable to attend any of the on-site workshops or video teleconferences sponsored by the FVAP. Copies of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) for the 1996 Get-Out-The-Vote Campaign are also available, through normal distribution channels.

#### Federal Voting Assistance Program

Voting Information News provides information for voters and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the staff of the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

Director: Phyllis J. Taylor Deputy Director: John G. Uschold VIN Editor: Ricardo Rovira Program Analyst: Pauline Brunelli Program Analyst: Vanessa Wiggins

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Executive Assistant: Debra Lufkin Administrative Assistant: Cheri Thurston College Interns: Rehecca Martin, David Reiter Write to:

Federal Voting Assistance Program Rm. 1B457, The Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20301-1155

Phone (703) 695-0663 (800) 438-8683

Voting Information Center (703) 693-6500 **DSN 225-0663 DSN 223-6500** 

Fax

(703) 693-5507 DSN 223-5507

E-mail fvap@ (vo.osd.mil

#### Submit your FPCA at least 60 days before the election

### **Primary Calendar: June to September**

A total of four Presidential and 39 State primaries remain between June and the general election on November 5, 1996. Primaries are used by the parties to nominate the candidates that will appear on the ballot in the November 5 general election. It is important to participate in the entire process. For example, in Louisiana, if any candidate receives more than 50% of the vote, that candidate is declared the winner and that office is not voted upon in the general election. Those who participate in the primaries ultimately decide who will take the oath of office in January.

Always consult the 1996-97 Voting Assistance Guide when requesting registration and/or a ballot for primary elections. Laws relating to the conduct of elections vary from state to state and the Guide is your best reference for insuring proper processing of your request. For instance, in most states you must declare your party affiliation in order to receive a ballot for the primary election while in others, party affiliation is secret. Check the Guide for details!

Presidential Primary Calendar	
State	Date
AL	JUN 4
MT	JUN 4
NJ	JUN 4
NM	JUN 4

State Primary Calendar		
State	Date	
AL	JUN 4	
AK	AUG 27	
AZ	SEP 10	
со	AUG 13	
CT	SEP 10	
DE	SEP 7	
DC	SEP 10	
FL	SEP 3	
GA	JUL 16	
GU	SEP 7	
ні	SEP 21	
IA	JUN 4	
KS	AUG 6	
LA	SEP 21	
ME	JUN 11	
MA	SEP 17	
MI	AUG 6	
MN	SEP 10	
МО	AUG 6	
MT	JUN 4	
NV	SEP 3	

State Primary Calendar		
State	Date	
NH	SEP 10	
NJ	JUN 4	
NM	JUN 4	
NY	SEP 10	
ND	JUN 11	
ОК	AUG 27	
PA	APR 23	
RI	SEP 10	
sc	JUN 11	
SD	JUN 4	
TN	AUG 1	
UT	JUN 25	
VT	SEP 10	
VI	SEP 10	
VA	JUN 11	
WA	SEP 17	
WI	SEP 10	
WY	AUG 20	

State Department: Office of American Citizens Services

Voting Action Officer: Ms. Ruth Boettcher tel: (202) 647-9100 (FTS) 8-647-9100, fax: (202) 647-6201

Service Voting Action Officers

Dept. of the Army: Mr. Tom Feazell tel:(703) 325-4530 (DSN) 221-4530, fax: (703) 325-4532, fax DSN: 221-4532

Dept. of the Navy: Ms. Thelma Jones tel: (703) 614-3248, (DSN) 224-3248, fax: (703) 693-6471

Dept. of the Air Force: Mr. John Lowrance tel:(210) 652-4369 (DSN) 487-4369, fax: (210) 652-5982, fax DSN: 487-5982

Marine Corps GySgt Elijah Kinton tel:(703) 696-2026 (DSN) 426-2026, fax: (703) 696-2068, fax DSN: 426-2068

GySgt Elijah Kinton tel: (703) 696-2026 (DSN) 426-2026, fax: (703) 696-2068, fax DSN: 426-2068 ELMS [GMHP03:HQIHQMC]; Internet: kinton\_jre@mqg-smtp3.usmc.mil; E-mail kinton@mhp@hqmc

U.S. Coast Guard: CDR John Murray tel: (202) 267-2248 or PO Adonis Belt (202) 267-2239, fax: (202) 267-4600

#### '96 Tentative On-Site Workshops



The following is a tentative list of remaining On-Site Workshops for Voting Assistance Officers at Embassies/Consulates and military installations worldwide. The workshops are geared at familiarizing

VAOs with their duties and resources as VAOs. Questions about these workshops which cannot be answered locally should be addressed to the FVAP (see numbers on page 2).

Date & Time	Location
JUN 18	US Emb- Toronto, Canada &
1	US citizen organizations
JUN 21	US Con- Montreal, Canada
JUN 30-JUL 6	Overseas Citizens Voters Week
JUL 1-5	US Embs- Paris & London &
ļi I	US citizen organizations
JUL 19-24	US Mission- Geneva &
	US citizen orgs. in Lugano
JUL 25&26	US Emb- Prague (Czech Rep.) &
	US Emb- Budapest & US citizen
}	organizations
AUG 25-31	Armed Forces Voters Week
	Registration Drives

#### Video training for VAOs

#### **Training Tape Now Available**

If you were unable to attend any of the on-site workshops or the video teleconferences this year, the 1996 Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) Orientation training video tape is currently available through military and Department of State distribution channels. There are two versions of the tape: one directed to VAOs in the Armed Forces and the other version directed at civilian Voting Assistance Officers in U.S. Embassies/Consulates. organizations of overseas civilian citizens and overseas corporations that employ U.S. citizens. It addresses many specific questions that may arise in performing VAO responsibilities.

The tape addresses item-byitem completion of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and provides an overview of the top ten resources available from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) to assist VAOs. It also explains the DoD Voting Information Center and the Electronic Transmission Service for transmitting (faxing) of election materials. Contact information on the Service and Department of State Voting Action Officers is also provided.

Distribution of the training tape has been made to military installations, Embassies and Consulates worldwide, overseas civilian organizations and overseas corporations that employ U.S. citizens. If you have any questions regarding receipt of the tape contact your Service Voting Action Officer (see pg. 3 for a list of telephone numbers).

## YOUR VOTE IS THE ONE THAT MATTERS

June 30 to July 6. 1996

#### Reminder: Overseas Citizens Voters Week!

In the May issue of Voting Information News (VIN) we featured suggested guidelines for a successful Overseas Citizens Voters Week (OCVW). Remember: the objective of OCVW is to create awareness and motivation to participate in the November 5 general election. During this week, Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) at Embassies/Consulates and overseas citizen organizations and corporations should make a concerted effort to promote worldwide participation in the electoral process by U.S. citizens. Activities during this week should emphasize the importance of requesting registration and a ballot in sufficient time to receive, vote and return the ballot in time to meet the state deadline for receipt of ballots for the November 5 general election. Participation in the remaining Fall primaries should be encouraged as well (see Calendars on pages 3).

For further details, consult the May issue of VIN or contact the FVAP on the numbers on page 2 of this newsletter.

Federal Voting Assistance Program Washington, D.C. 20301-1155



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Par Avion

OFFICIAL VOTING INFORMATION MATERIAL-FIRST-CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAILS-DMM 137.3

MAX

Height 6 1/8 inches Length 11 1/2 inches

MIN

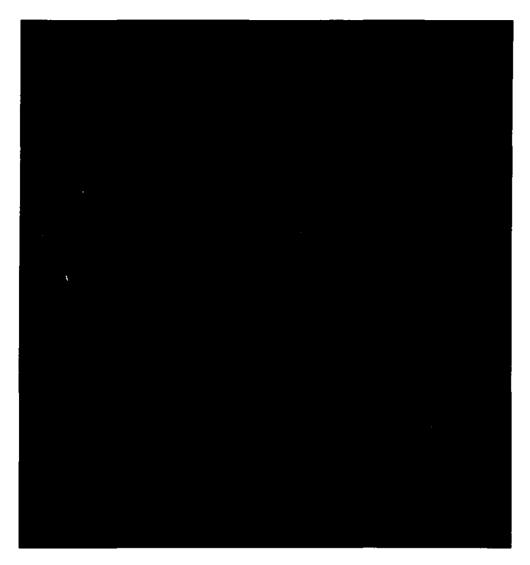
BALLOT TRANSMISSION ENVELOPE (Sample)

Height 3 1/2 inches Length 5 1/2 inches

(Use red ink

Pantone 194U) or darker

Name and complete address			U.S. Postage Paid 39 USC 3406
	<del></del>		PAR AVION
[1	OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALL	OTING MATERIAL—FIRST CLASS MAIL	
	NO POSTAGE NECES	SSARY IN THE U.S. MAILS-DMM E080	
	TO: •	•	
	•	•	



**Priority Red** 

In lieu of Priority Red, you may use PANTONE®\* 194U, the standard for which is as shown in the current edition of the PANTONE COLOR FORMULA GUIDE 1000

The color shown here is not intended to match the PANTONE Color Standard

\*PANTONE® is a registered trademark of Pantone, Inc.

### CLASSIFICATION SYMBOLS FOR REGISTERED VOTERS



Full ballot, Federal, State, and local registered on 3 part form, no restrictions.



Federal ballot only, registered by marestriction requires first time in-perabsentee voting, or first time in-precipations.



Full ballot, registered on 3 part form, same address, restriction requires an affidavit, 2 forms of identification. An inactive voter within two year (94-96) time period.



Voter is in need of assistance.



Federal ballot only, President and Vice President, U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives, restriction resides at different address, registered on 3 part form. Inactive voter for three years (93-96) eligible to vote in two Federal general elections.



Voter is unable to sign name



Federal ballot only, registered on 1 part form.



Split representative and/or county board districts.

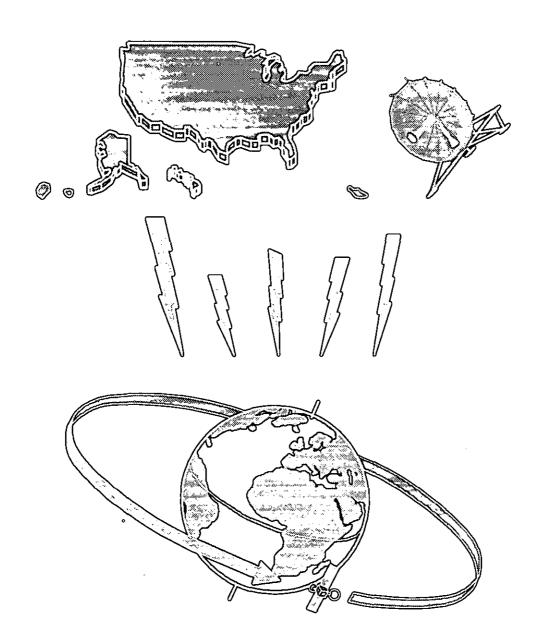
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East St. Louis Board of Election Commissioners

## NEW DOCUMENT



## Electronic Transmission of Election Materials Mammal for Local Election Officials



Federal Voting Assistance Program

We wish to acknowledge the advice and assistance received from Secretaries of State, Directors of Elections, their staffs, and the local election officials.

Questions or comments concerning any aspect of this manual may be directed to:

Director

Federal Voting Assistance Program
Office of the Secretary of Defense, Pentagon, Room 1B457
Washington, DC 20301-1155
Telephone: 1-800-438-8683 or 703-695-0663

Fax: 703-693-5507

E-Mail Address fvap@fvo.osd.mil

### **The Federal Voting Assistance Program**

# **Electronic Transmission of Election Materials Manual for Local Election Officials**

This Manual has been prepared by
The Federal Voting Assistance Program
Office of the Secretary of Defense
Washington, DC

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#### **Electronic Transmission of Election Materials**

## A. THE FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SERVICE

This service enables local election officials to transmit to, and receive election materials from, military and overseas voters through the electronic transmission system provided by the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP). Local election officials may use the service at no cost in order to serve military personnel & U.S. Citizens overseas covered by the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*.

#### B. WHEN TO USE THIS ALTERNATIVE

A local election official or the voter should use this service any time he/she believes the regular absentee ballot cannot be received, voted and returned by mail in time to be counted, providing the materials sent or received are not prohibited by State law. Some State or local procedures require the regular absentee ballot be sent by mail as a backup measure, and many State and local laws do not permit the return of voted ballots to election officials by fax. It is important that the local election officials understand the policy in their State. If local election officials are not certain whether their State law allows the use of this service for a particular item, they should refer to their State's section in Chapter Three of the Voting Assistance Guide, contact the Federal Voting Assistance Program or their State Election Office.

Using this fax alternative, local election officials may, depending on State and local policy:

Receive: • A general information request

• Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) / registration and ballot request

• State Registration materials

• A voted ballot

Send: • Request for additional information to enable voter to vote

(i.e., an incomplete FPCA is received)

• Responses to voter request for information

• Other election materials necessary for the voting process

Blank ballots to the voter

#### C. HOW IT WORKS

Election officials send election materials to military and overseas voters via the FVAP electronic transmission service's toll-free number. This system transmits the materials directly to the voter. Military and overseas voters may use the same number to send election materials to their local election official. The FVAP service transmits materials in a read-only mode just as they are received, regardless of completion, legibility or accuracy.

This manual describes the procedures for preparing election materials for transmission by fax.

Numbers to use when sending a Fax:

703-693-5527

1-800-368-8683

DSN 223-5527

#### DO NOT USE ANY OTHER FAX NUMBER(S) INDICATED BY THE VOTER.

The use of these numbers protects the security of the materials transmitted and provides an audit trail for all documents. If a fax transmission is interrupted before completion, the entire package should be resent.

Number to call for technical assistance:

800-966-8683

Number to call with questions concerning

policy for use of the system:

800-438-8683 703-695-0663 DSN 225-0663

The Federal Voting Assistance Program Office of the Secretary of Defense The Pentagon, Room 1B457 Washington, DC 20301-1155

Fax Number 703-693-5507

E-Mail Address [fvap@fvo.osd.mil]

### **How to Fax Election Materials**

### A. HOW TO FAX A BALLOT

When faxing an absentee ballot, the following materials should be sent in the order listed. Instructions for preparing these materials are provided in this chapter.

- ① Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet
- ② Voting Instructions to the Voter
- 3 Ballot Pages

Numbers to use when sending a Fax:

703-693-5527

1-800-368-8683

DSN 223-5527

### DO NOT USE ANY OTHER FAX NUMBER(S) INDICATED BY THE VOTER.

The use of these numbers protects the security of the materials transmitted and provides an audit trail for all documents. If a fax transmission is interrupted before completion, the entire package should be resent.

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Office of the Secretary of Defense The Pentagon, Room 1B457

Washington, DC 20301-1155

Fax Number 703-693-5507

E-Mail Address [fvap@fvo.osd.mil]

### ① Preparing the Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet for Ballots

The Official Election Materials - Electronic Transmission Sheet is always the first item in a packet and serves as the cover sheet. Appendix C of this manual is the Official Transmission Sheet. It should be reproduced as needed for transmissions.

When a ballot is faxed, the Transmission Sheet must be completed as follows:

- a. Complete the "To" and "From" sections legibly and as completely as possible. Check "Ballot" in the contents area.
- b. Show the voter's fax number and full address <u>and</u> Social Security Number, in the "To" section. If the fax number is not available, the voter's full address <u>and</u> Social Security Number must be shown for the ballot to be properly routed.
- c. Be sure to include the number of pages being transmitted so the receiver will know when the transmission is complete.
- d. Type or print in dark ink all information so it is fully legible and easy to read.

### ② Preparing Voting Instructions to the Voter

The second item in a faxed absentee ballot packet are the instructions for voting the absentee ballot. It is important that the instructions are concise and clear so that the procedures will be followed correctly and the voting will go smoothly. A sample page format for organizing the instructions is provided on page 7 of this chapter. The format provides space for the instructions to include:

- How to vote the ballot
- How to return the ballot, where to send it, and by when it must be received
- The secrecy waiver to be signed if the ballot is returned by fax (see box on page 6)

### **Paper Ballots**

If paper ballots are used for absentee voting they can be adapted for the fax ballot. The fax voting instructions should describe how to identify races and mark candidate and issue choices in the same way a regular in-person voter marks their ballot or a mail-in absentee voter marks the absentee ballot. Previously prepared ballot marking directions for mail-in absentee voters may be useful for this adaptation.

#### **Mechanical Lever Machine Ballots**

If the actual lever machine ballot is used for absentee voting, the races must be described for identification as well as how the absentee voters should mark the faxed ballot to indicate a vote. If other methods of voting such as paper ballots, punch card ballots, or optical scan ballots are used for absentee voting, provide fax ballots for that method of voting and include instructions for that type of ballot marking.

### **Optical Scan Paper Ballot**

If optical scan paper ballots are used for fax ballots, the instructions must be prepared for marking the optical scan ballot which has been faxed with the ballot selections. Tell the voter how to identify the different races and how to indicate which candidate(s) and issues he or she wishes to select. The fax ballot may be marked in the same way it is marked for use with the scanning ballot counter. However, if the ballot is sent/received by fax, it cannot be counted by the ballot scanner and must be counted by hand, or used to make a replacement ballot that can be read by the scanner.

#### **Direct Recording Electronic System Ballots**

If a paper ballot is being created from a Direct Recording Electronic System ballot, instruct the voters how to identify the races and how to mark an "X", or other indicator, beside their choice for candidate or issue. If another system is being used, such as optical scan or punch card ballots for absentee voting, the instructions for voting that type of ballot should be sent.

#### **Prescored Punch Card Ballots**

If the faxed absentee ballot is adapted from a punch card with booklet, first describe how to identify a race to vote. Then clearly tell how to determine the number of votes that are valid for each race. Next describe how to mark the voted choice on the ballot. A diagram of a marked sample ballot, such as the sample illustrations shown below, may be included.

### Example:

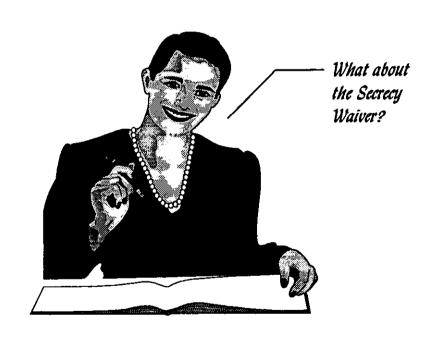
1. Make your choice from the enclosed sample ballot. Each Sample Ballot candidate has a number listed by their name. President of the United States 2. Clearly circle the number of Vote for One your choice on the copy of the **George Washington** official ballot card as shown Incumbent in the diagram on the right. Abraham Lincoln Only circle the number of votes allowed for that race. Theodore Roosevelt e Commissioner Voter Stub Official Ballot A

### **Mechanically Punched Punch Card Ballots**

If the faxed absentee ballot is based on a punch card with the choices presented on a card, first instruct voters how to identify the races. Then provide the instructions to vote by marking an "X" in the square to the left (or right, depending on the ballot) of the name of the candidate(s) or the issue. To write in the name of a candidate who is not listed on the ballot instruct voters to use the blank line appearing under the list of named candidates for the office. Write the candidate's name on the line, and mark an "X" in the square by the candidate's name.

### Example:

UNITED STATES SENATOR	(Vote for One)
R. Smith	
J. Doe	
B. Jones	



### **SECRECY WAIVER**

The wording for the secrecy waiver appearing on the instruction sheet may vary from state to state. Be sure to check the wording of the secrecy waiver against the state's law or administrative instructions.

### SAMPLE INSTRUCTION SHEET

Attached is your absentee ballot which is available by fax only to military personnel and overseas citizens.

#### HOW TO VOTE YOUR BALLOT

(Insert instructions for your type of ballot in this part of the instruction form) Follow the above procedure for each candidate for whom you wish to vote. Vote for only one candidate in each office.

DO NOT mark the ballot except as instructed: such marks may void the entire ballot.

#### HOW TO RETURN YOUR BALLOT

To be counted, your ballot must be received in the office of the (your locality name) Board of Elections before (time) on (date).

Fax only to one of these numbers: 1-800-368-8683, 703-695-0663, or DSN 223-5527

Your ballot must be mailed as well as faxed. If both arrive in time for the election, only the mailed ballot will be counted.

Voters may obtain the security envelope and ballot transmittal envelope from the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (SF-186), which are available from your Voting Action Officer (VAO) at military installations, embassies, or consulates. Detach the envelope from the rest of the form and place the voted ballot in the security envelope and immediately mail it back to this election office.

If a Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot is not available, use two (2) plain envelopes and mark one as the "security envelope". Place your faxed ballot in the security envelope, and seal. Place this envelope inside the second envelope. Print your residence address, sign your name and date the envelope across the sealed envelope flap. Address the envelope to:

### Your Locality name

### Your Locality address

(The following section is not to be included in the instructions if a voted ballot is not allowed to be returned by fax.)

The following statement MUST be signed if returning a ballot by fax (see box on

page o).		
'I hereby voluntarily waive my right to a secret ball	lot if necessary to have my vote counted	•
Signed	Date	
Return this sheet signed and dated with you	r ballot.	

#### SAMPLE INSTRUCTION SHEET

### 3 Preparing Ballot Pages

Before a ballot can be faxed, it must be prepared properly for fax transmission. This section provides instructions for preparing each different ballot type for fax transmission. In jurisdictions where it is applicable and allowed, replacement ballots can be made by the Board of Elections from the faxed ballot. These ballots can then be counted in the same manner as regular absentee ballots.

### **Paper Ballots**

Follow the steps listed below to prepare paper ballots for fax transmission:

- 1. Make a photocopy of the original ballot and use the copy to cut and paste.
- 2. Cut and paste the ballot if necessary so it fits on one or more 8 ½" by 11" pieces of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 3. If the paper ballot is smaller than 8 ½" by 11", copy it onto 8 ½" by 11" paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides. This will ensure a smooth feed through the fax machine reader mechanism.
- 4. If the ballot is a long or an otherwise oversized ballot and/or it is printed on both sides of the paper, make a copy of each ballot page and cut and paste the ballot onto one or more 8 ½" by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 5. Do not change the order of the races or split a race among two or more pieces of paper.
- 6. If the ballot is two-sided and is 8 1/2" by 11", do not try to fax the actual ballot. It will not be possible to turn the ballot over and fax the second side before the fax machine ends the transmission. Make a copy of the second side so it can be transmitted in sequence.

#### **Example Ballot (shown reduced):**

_		(0110 // 11 - 0 - 0 0 // 1
	FOR T	HAL BALLOT THE GENERAL ELECTION MBER 5, 1998
	INSTR	LUCTIONS TO THE VOTER
	"""	e mark an "X" in the box next to the candidate of your choice.
	For Go	vernor (Vote for One)
		William A. (Bill) Allain
		Billy M. Davis
	5	Evelyn Candy
	=	Lonnie C. Johnson
	-	Mike P. Sturdivant
	-	<del></del>
	For Un	ited States Senator (Vote for one)
		Troy Majure, Jr.
	ا ا	Jim Buck Ross
	ا م	Vivian J.D. Tillman
	۱ - ۱	
	For Ur	nited States House of Representatives. District One (Vote for One)
		Elizabeth Verterano
-		Nick DeRosa
j	a	Thomas P. Costa
	0	Eugene DeCarpo
	<b>-</b>	<u> </u>
		_

#### **Mechanical Lever Machine Ballots**

Systems in this category include:

AVM

Shoup Mechanical Lever Machine

Refer to the ballot preparation section for the system normally used for absentee voting. If paper ballots are used, refer to the section on paper ballots. If optical scan is used, refer to the section on optical scan. For punch cards, refer to the section for the type of punch card used.

### **Optical Scan Paper Ballots**

Systems in this category include: • AIS

• Accu-Vote ES-2000

• BRC Optech

• Airmac

• EPI

Follow the steps listed below to prepare optical scan paper ballots for fax transmission:

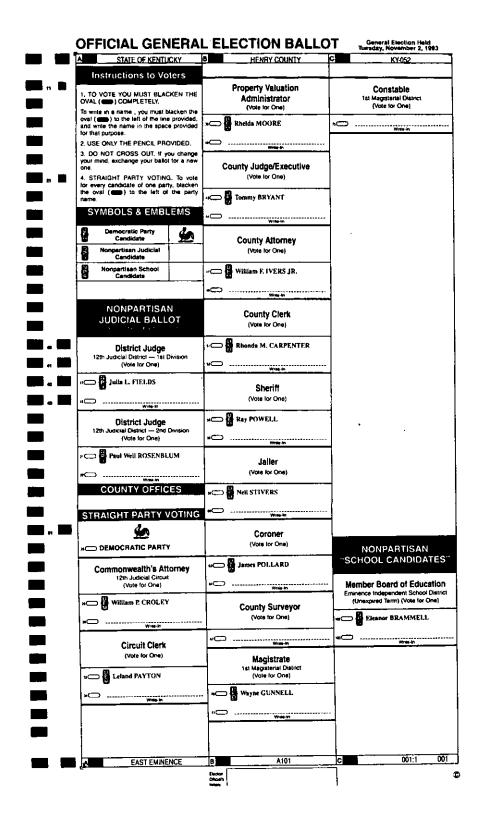
- 1. Make a photocopy of the original ballot and use the copy to cut and paste.
- 2. If necessary, cut and paste the ballot so it fits on one or more 8 1/2" by 11" pieces of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 3. If the paper ballot is smaller than 8 1/2" by 11", copy it onto 8 1/2" by 11" paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides. This will ensure a smooth feed through the fax machine reader mechanism.
- 4. If the ballot is a long or otherwise oversized ballot and/or it is printed on both sides of the paper, make a copy of each ballot page and cut and paste the ballot onto one or more 8 ½" by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 5. Do not change the order of the races. Do not split a race among two or more pieces of paper. For ballots with two or more columns, a column may be placed on a separate page as shown in the example below.
- 6. If the ballot is two-sided and is 8 ½" by 11", do not try to fax the actual ballot. It will not be possible to turn the ballot over and fax the second side before the fax machine ends the transmission. Make a copy of the second side of the ballot so it can be transmitted in sequence.

ţ

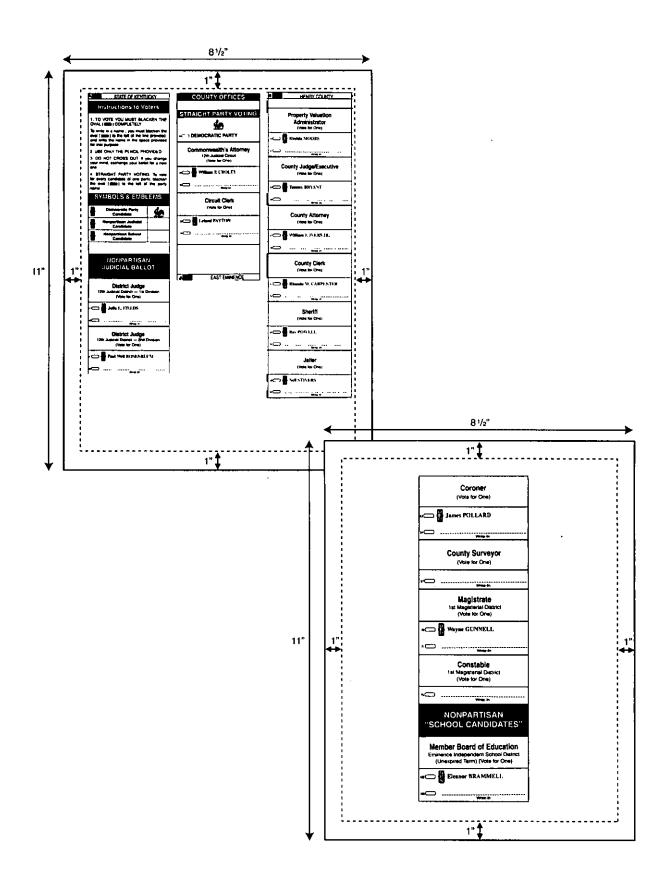
See example on following pages:

### **Example of Optical Scan Paper Ballot**

Original Ballot (larger than 8 1/2 x 11 inches)



## Example (cut and pasted on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper)



### **Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) Systems**

Systems in this category include:

- Shouptronic
- MicroVote
- Sequoia Pacific

If another method of voting for absentee voters is normally used, refer to the ballot preparation instructions for that system. If paper ballots are used, refer to the section on paper ballots. If optical scan ballots are used, refer to the section on optical scan. If punch cards for absentee voting are used, refer to the section on punch card ballots for the type of punch card used.

Otherwise, a paper ballot can be made from the DRE ballots. Follow the steps listed below to prepare paper ballots for fax transmission from DRE ballots:

- 1. Make a photocopy of the original ballot and use the copy to cut and paste.
- 2 If necessary, cut and paste the ballot so it fits on one or more 8 1/2" by 11" pieces of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 3 If the paper ballot is smaller than 8 ½" by 11", copy it onto 8 ½" by 11" paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides. This will ensure a smooth feed through the fax machine reader mechanism.
- 4 If the ballot is a long or otherwise oversized ballot and/or it is printed on both sides on the paper, make a copy of each ballot page and cut and paste the ballot onto one or more 8 1/2" by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 5 Do not change the order of the races or split a race among two or more pieces of paper.
- 6 A place must be provided for the voter to indicate his/her choice. Place a box or blank beside each voting position, and instruct the voter on how to indicate his/her choice. In the example below, boxes have been added to the original ballot. The voter will indicate a vote by placing an "X" in the box beside the candidate of his/her choice. If the ballot includes write-ins, a line should also be added for write-ins to the original ballot.

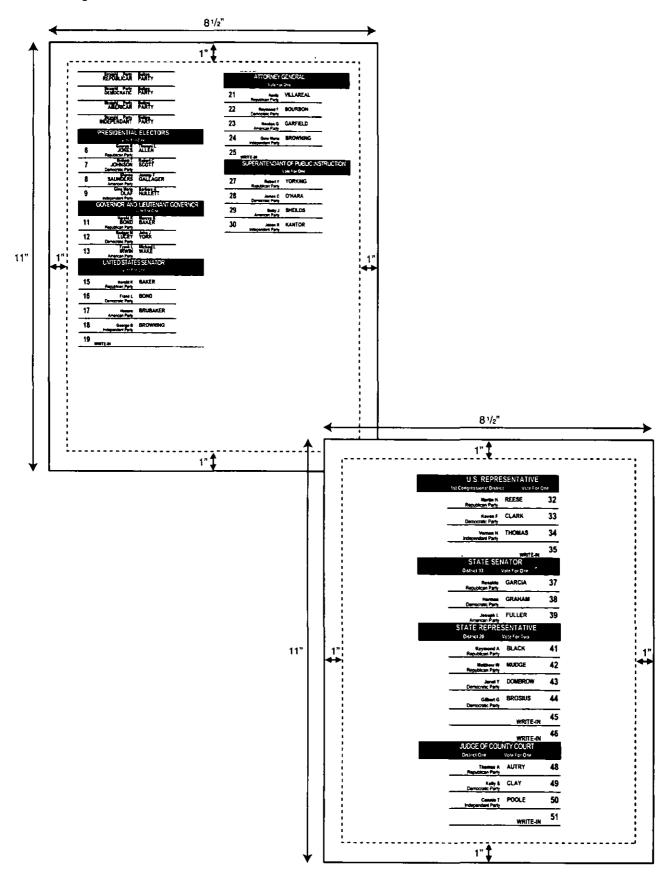
See example on following pages:

## **Example of Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) System**

Original Ballot (larger than 8 1/2 x 11 inches)

	REPOBLICAN	Button PARTY			U.S. REPRE	SENTATIVE	ne
	Streight Party DEMOCRATIC	PARTY			Martin H Republican Party	REESE	32
	Straight Party AMERICAN	Button PARTY		'	Keven F Democratic Party	CLARK	33
	INDEPENDANT	PARTY		,	Vernon H Independent Party	THOMAS	34
	PRESIDENTIAL Vote For			,		WRITE⊲N	35
6	George R JONES Republican Party	Thomas L. ALLEN			STATE SET	NATOR Vote For One	
7	William T JOHNSON Democratic P≊ty	Robert C SCOTT			Renaldo Republican Party	GARCIA	37
8	SAUNDERS American Party	Jeremy F GALLAGER	•		Herman Democratic Party	GRAHAM	38
9	Gina Maria OLAF Independant Party	Barbara A HULLETT	•		Joseph L American Party	FULLER	39
	GOVERNOR AND	D LIEUTENANT GO Vote Fat One	OVERNOR		STATÉ REPRE	SENTATIVE Vote for Two	
11	Harold K BOND Republican Party	Marcus S BAKER			Raymond A Republican Party	BLACK	41
12	Rodger M LUCEY Democratic Party	John J YORK	-		Matthew W Republican Party	MUDGE	42
13	Frank L IRWIN American Party	Michael L. WAKE	·		Janet Y Democratic Party	DOMBROW	43
	UNITED STATE Vote Fo				Gilbert G Democratic Party	BROSIUS	44
15	Harold K Republican Party	BAKER				WRITE-IN	4
16	Frank L Democratic Party	BOND	•			WRITE-IN	46
17	Honore American Party	BRUBAKER	-		JUDGE OF COU District One	NTY COURT Vate For One	
18	George B Independent Party	BROWNING	_	<u> </u>	Thomas A Republican Parly	AUTRY	41
19	WRITE-IN				Kelly S Democratic Party	CLAY	49
	ATTORNEY Vote Fo				Connie T Independant Party	POOLE	50
21	Amity Republican Party	VILLAREAL	_			WRITE-IN	5
22	Raymond F Democratic Party	BOURBON	-				
23	Newton G American Party	GARFIELD	_				
24	Gina Maria Independant Party	BROWNING	-				
25	WRITE-IN		_				
	SUPERINTENDA	NT OF PUBLIC INS	TRUCTION				
27	Robert F Republican Party	YORKING	···	•			
28	James C Democratic Party	O'HARA	_				
29	Betty J American Party	SHEILDS	<del>-</del>				
30	Jason R Independant Party	KANTOR	_				
			_				

## Example (Ballot cut and placed on 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper)



#### Prescored Punch Card Ballots

Systems in this category include:

- BRC Punch Ballot Card (CES Votomatic)
- Fidler & Chambers

These systems use a booklet and the voter circles a number on the ballot card.

Follow the steps below to prepare prescored punch card ballots for fax transmission:

- 1. Make a photocopy of the original ballot and use the copy to cut and paste.
- 2. If necessary, cut and paste the ballot so it fits on one or more 8 1/2" by 11" pieces of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 3. If the paper ballot is smaller than 8 1/2" by 11", copy it onto 8 1/2" by 11" paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides. This will ensure a smooth feed through the fax machine reader mechanism.
- 4. If the ballot is a long or otherwise oversized ballot, make a copy of each ballot page and cut and paste the ballot onto one or more 8 ½" by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 5. Also fit the booklet pages onto 8 1/2" by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 6. Do not change the order of the races or split a race among two or more pieces of paper.

### **Mechanically Punched Punch Card Ballots**

Systems in this category include:

DataVote

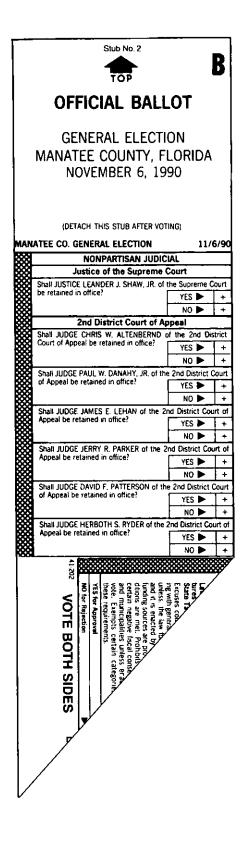
The ballot for this system is on the punch card.

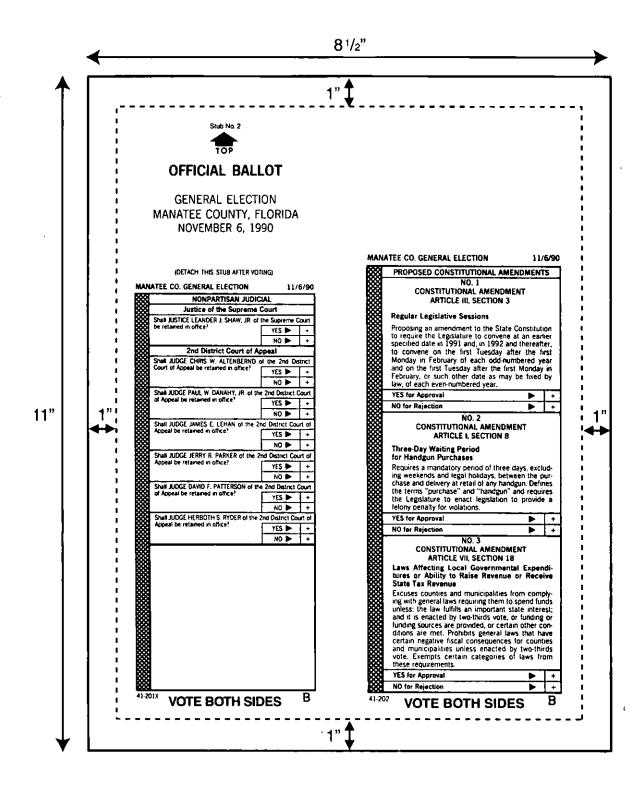
Follow the steps listed below to prepare mechanically punched punch card ballots for fax transmission:

- 1. If necessary, cut and paste the ballot so it fits on one or more 8 1/2" by 11" pieces of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 2. If the paper ballot is smaller than 8 ½" by 11", copy it onto 8 ½" by 11" paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides to ensure that it will feed smoothly through the fax machine reader mechanism.
- 3. If the ballot is a long or otherwise oversized ballot and/or it is printed on both sides on the paper, make a copy of each ballot page and cut and paste the ballot onto one or more 8 1/2" by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides.
- 4. Do not change the order of the races. Do not split a race among two or more pieces of paper.

See example on following pages:

### **Example of Mechanically Punched Punch Card Ballot**





#### **B. HOW TO FAX OTHER ELECTION MATERIALS**

When faxing election materials other than absentee ballots, the following materials must be sent in the order listed. Instructions for preparing these materials are provided on the pages shown.

- ① Official Election Material Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet
- 2 Election materials for the voter

The materials being sent must fit on  $8 \frac{1}{2}$ " by 11" sheets of paper leaving a one inch margin on all sides. If they do not, the materials must be cut and pasted on a  $8 \frac{1}{2}$ " by 11" sheet of paper.

Numbers to use when sending a Fax:

703-693-5527

1-800-368-8683

DSN 223-5527

### DO NOT USE ANY OTHER FAX NUMBER(S) INDICATED BY THE VOTER.

The use of these numbers protects the security of the materials transmitted and provides an audit trail for all documents. If a fax transmission is interrupted before completion, the entire package should be resent.

Number to call for technical assistance:

800-966-8683

Number to call with questions concerning

policy for use of the system:

800-438-8683 703-695-0663

DSN 225-0663

The Federal Voting Assistance Program

Office of the Secretary of Defense The Pentagon, Room 1B457 Washington, DC 20301-1155

Fax Number 703-693-5507

E-Mail Address [fvap@fvo.osd.mil]

Preparing the Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet For Other Election Materials

The Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission Sheet is always the first item in a packet and serves as the cover sheet. Appendix C of this manual is the Official Transmission Sheet. It should be reproduced as needed for transmissions.

When other election materials are faxed, the Transmission Sheet must be completed as follows:

- a. Complete the "To" and "From" sections legibly and completely. Check "Other Election Material" in the contents area, and briefly describe material being faxed in the space provided.
- b. Show the voter's fax number and full address and Social Security Number, in the "To" section. If the fax number is not available, the voter's full address and Social Security Number must be given for the ballot to be properly routed.
- c. Be sure to include the number of pages being transmitted so the receiver will know when the transmission is complete.
- d. Type or print all information so it is fully legible and easy to read.

#### C. HOW TO FAX A STORED BALLOT

When faxing a stored ballot, only the Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet must be sent. Chapter 5 explains how to store ballots.

Numbers to use when sending a Fax:

703-693-5527

1-800-368-8683

DSN 223-5527

### DO NOT USE ANY OTHER FAX NUMBER(S) INDICATED BY THE VOTER.

The use of these numbers protects the security of the materials transmitted and provides an audit trail for all documents. If a fax transmission is interrupted before completion, the entire package should be resent.

Number to call for technical assistance:

800-966-8683

Number to call with questions concerning

policy for use of the system:

800-438-8683 703-695-0663

DSN 225-0663

The Federal Voting Assistance Program

Office of the Secretary of Defense The Pentagon, Room 1B457 Washington, DC 20301-1155

Fax Number 703-693-5507

E-Mail Address [fvap@fvo.osd.mil]

### ① Preparing the Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet for Stored Ballots

The Official Election Materials - Electronic Transmission Sheet is always the first item in a packet and serves as the cover sheet. Appendix C of this manual is the Official Transmission Sheet. It should be reproduced as needed for transmissions.

When a pre-stored ballot is faxed, the Transmission Sheet must be completed as follows:

- a. Complete the "To" and "From" sections legibly and completely. Check "Send Stored Ballot" in the contents area and indicate the ballot number of the ballot being sent. The Election Official authorizing transmission must sign the sheet if required by state law in order for a ballot to be transmitted.
- b. Show the voter's fax number and full address and Social Security Number, in the "To" section. If the fax number is not available, the voter's full address and Social Security Number must be included for the ballot to be properly routed.
- c. Be sure to include the number of pages being transmitted so the receiver will know when the transmission is complete.
- d. Type or print all information so it is fully legible and easy to read.

## **Handling Election Materials Received by Fax**

#### A. HANDLING CONSIDERATIONS

Each locality should establish a policy regarding the handling of election materials received by fax. Each State may have established its own set of guidelines for local election officials to follow. These procedures should ensure the maximum possible privacy of the voted ballot. Likewise, the access to the facsimile machine should be as limited as possible. Preferably, it should be located in the Election Administrator's office. A log should be maintained of all fax transmissions sent and received.

Immediately upon receipt of materials by fax, the transmission should be checked to be sure it is complete and of sufficient quality to determine the voter's intent. If it is not, call for technical assistance at 1-800-966-8683. Also the applications should be checked for acceptability. If information is missing or illegible, a return message should be faxed to the sender using 1-703-693-5527 or 1-800-368-8683 as soon as possible so that corrections may be made. If additional forms are required by the State, they should be included in the return message to the voter.

Local election officials should also be familiar with the policies of their State for the handling of fax materials. For example, States may have a set of administrative rules for fax balloting that covers facsimile machine access, handling of facsimile ballots, ballot transmission, receiving ballots, ballot log, elector affirmation, ballot acceptance, transcription of ballots, election judges and ballot secrecy.

#### B. RECEIVING FPCAS BY FAX

As the Federal Voting Assistance Program electronic transmission system receives Federal Post Card Applications (FPCAs) and general inquiries from military and overseas voters, the materials are forwarded directly to the proper locality. If the locality does not have a fax number on record with the FVAP system, the local election official will be contacted to arrange delivery of the election materials.

Should any difficulty be experienced, or if the number of pages indicated on the cover sheet were not received, the FVAP electronic transmission system technical number should be contacted immediately at 1-800-966-8683.

#### C. RECEIVING VOTED BALLOTS BY FAX

Voters receiving their blank absentee ballots by fax should return the voted ballot as described in the local election official's instructions sent with the blank ballot. If State and local law allows a voted ballot to be returned by fax, the voter should be told to return the ballot to 703-693-5527, 800-368-8683 or DSN (military) 223-5527 in the instructions provided with the ballot. The use of only these numbers protects the security of the materials transmitted and provides an audit trail for all documents. If a fax transmission is interrupted before completion, the entire package should be resent. THE LOCAL ELECTION OFFICIAL SHOULD NOT GIVE HIS/HER FAX NUMBER AS A RETURN NUMBER. When a voted ballot is faxed as well as mailed, and the mailed absentee ballot is received in sufficient time to be counted, the faxed ballot is not to be counted.

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## **Preparing the Transmission (Cover) Sheet**

The Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission Sheet is always the first item in a packet and serves as the cover sheet. Instructions for completing it are provided below and in the diagram on the next page. Appendix C of this manual is the Official Transmission Sheet. It should be reproduced as needed for transmissions.

#### A. HOW TO PREPARE THE TRANSMISSION SHEET FOR A BALLOT

- 1. Complete the "To" and "From" sections legibly and completely. Check "Ballot" in the contents area.
- 2. Show the voter's fax number and full address and Social Security Number, in the "To" section. If the voter's fax number is not provided, the voter's full address and Social Security Number must be shown for the ballot to be properly routed.
- 3. Type or print all information so it is fully legible and easy to read.

### B. HOW TO PREPARE THE TRANSMISSION SHEET FOR OTHER ELECTION **MATERIALS**

- 1. Complete the "To" and "From" sections legibly and completely. Check "Other Election Material" in the contents area, and briefly describe material being faxed in the space provided.
- 2. Show the voter's fax number and full address and Social Security Number, in the "To" section. If the voter's fax number is not provided, the voter's full address and Social Security Number must be shown for the ballot to be properly routed.
- 3. Type or print all information so it is fully legible and easy to read.

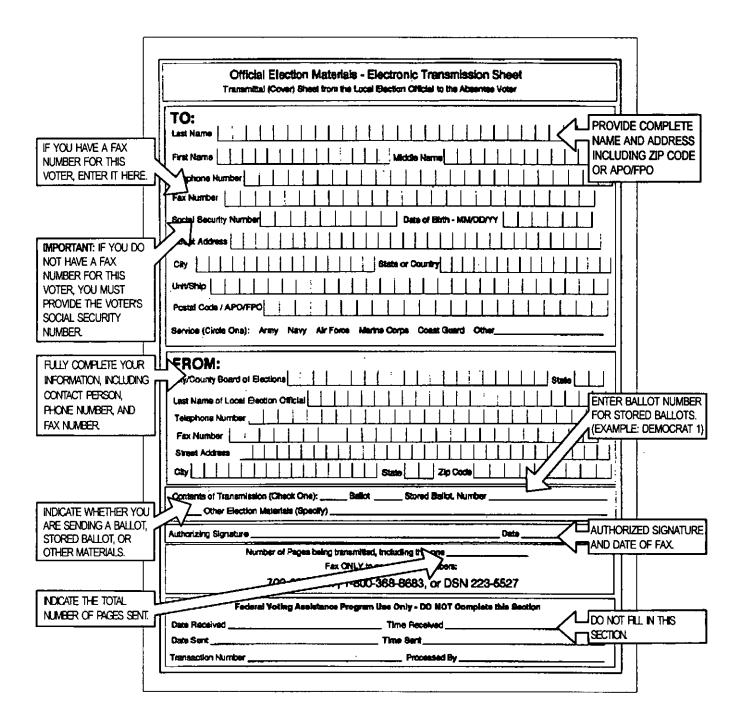
#### C. HOW TO PREPARE THE TRANSMISSION SHEET FOR A STORED BALLOT

- 1. Complete the "To" and "From" sections legibly and completely. Check "Send Stored Ballot" in the contents area and indicate the ballot number of the ballot to be sent. The Election Official authorizing transmission must sign the sheet in order for a ballot to be transmitted.
- 2. Show the voter's fax number and full address and Social Security Number, in the "To" section. If the voter's fax number is not provided, the voter's full address and Social Security Number must be shown for the ballot to be properly routed.
- 3. Type or print all information so it is fully legible and easy to read.

See example on following pages.

#### Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission Sheet

### Sample Transmission Sheet



### **Stored Ballots**

Stored ballots are an additional service provided by the Federal Voting Assistance Program Electronic Transmission Service. By storing the ballots (one of each ballot style) and instructions with the service, ballots can be faxed to voters by simply completing and faxing a cover sheet. This saves time which would normally be spent individually preparing and faxing ballots to voters, and is especially recommended when the ballot is several pages in length or if large quantities of ballots will be sent to voters by fax.

#### A. HOW TO STORE BALLOTS

To have ballots electronically stored, send by mail:

- ① One copy of each of the voter instructions for each type of ballot.
- ② One copy of each ballot being stored electronically. These ballots MUST be prepared in the proper format for faxing before being submitted to the FVAP electronic transmission system. (If assistance in preparing ballots is needed, please refer to Chapter 2 of this manual which describes how to prepare instructions and ballots, or call 1 (800) 966-8683 for technical assistance).
- Number each ballot using a simple numbering system. Separate the ballots by party if necessary. Keep a list for referral to the ballot by number when faxing to the voter.
- Include complete information including locality, address, phone, fax, and contact person should the FVAP need to contact the local election official.
- The name(s) and title(s) of the person(s) on the staff authorized to approve transmission of stored ballots.

A typical submission for ballot storage might include:

- Cover letter giving locality information and contact person
- Voter Instruction Sheet(s)
- Republican Primary Ballots 1996-P001
- Democratic Primary Ballots 1996-P002
- Non-Partisan Primary Ballots 1996-P003

Before mailing, please call 1-800-966-8683 so that the materials will be expected and the process expedited. Mail the package to:

> **Election Technology Company** P.O. Box 31525 Raleigh, NC 27622

#### B. TO FAX A STORED BALLOT TO A VOTER

When faxing a stored ballot only the Election Materials Electronic Transmission Sheet needs to be sent to the processing center at 1-800-368-8683. Be certain that the Ballot Number has been indicated and the voter information is completed, including Social Security Number, his/her fax number, and the signature of the authorizing election official approving the electronic transmission of the ballot.

Upon receipt of the transmission cover sheet, the processing center will attach the proper instructions to the corresponding ballot, log the transaction and transmit the entire packet of materials to the voter. Once the ballot has been transmitted, the local election official will receive confirmation including voter name, date and time ballot was sent, and the number of the ballot sent.

### C. STORAGE OF BALLOTS

Stored ballots and instructions will be retained for 30 days following the election and then deleted from the system, unless otherwise specified in writing by the locality.

## **Frequently Asked Questions and Answers**

QUESTION: I received an APO/FPO list during Operation Desert Shield. Do I still only fax to voters on that list?

ANSWER: That list was only used during Operation Desert Shield/Storm. Any military person for whom sufficient information is supplied, may be faxed to, regardless of APO/FPO.

### QUESTION: When can I fax?

ANSWER: The fax system accepts faxes 24-hours a day 7 days a week. Technical assistance is available 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. EST, and at extended hours during crucial periods.

#### **OUESTION:** What if my fax doesn't go through the first time?

ANSWER: All the pages must be re-faxed to the voter, being certain to include the Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission Sheet. Since there is more than one routing station for the fax to be received by, and people all around the world fax to this system, it is essential that any interrupted transmission be faxed again in its entirety. If difficulties are experienced in transmitting a fax, call 1-800-966-8683.

#### **QUESTION:** Do I have to make a separate transmission for each ballot?

ANSWER: Yes. For security purposes faxes sent cannot be altered. This means that several ballots sent in one transmission cannot be separated to be routed to different voters. This is why it is very important that each transmission be comprised of the completed Election Materials Electronic Transmission Sheet for the voter, the instructions, and the ballot, in that order. Election materials for the same destination, such as a husband and wife, may be sent together.

### QUESTION: I have a special oath on the envelope, what should I do?

ANSWER: If there is any information, such as a special oath on the envelope, the oath should be copied and included in the fax transmission. The instructions should explain how this oath is to be signed and returned.

### QUESTION: If I have the voter's fax number, why shouldn't I just fax it myself?

ANSWER: By using the 800 number there is no cost to the locality faxing the materials (no long distance phone charges). Additionally, the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Electronic Transmission Service should always be used for security and to ensure the integrity of the election process and to provide an audit trail if needed. It is important to the success of the program, which has taken the steps to make election material faxing possible, that controlled and accurate records on the use of faxing to enable military and overseas voters to vote be maintained.

If there are technical questions, such as how to prepare the ballot for faxing, or if difficulty is experienced in sending or receiving election materials, please call 1-800-966-8683 for technical assistance. All policy questions or legal questions, such as whether a voted ballot may be accepted by fax in the State, should be directed to the Director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program at 1-800-438-8683, (703) 695-0663, or DSN 225-0663.

Numbers to use when sending a Fax:

703-693-5527

1-800-368-8683 DSN 223-5527

### DO NOT USE ANY OTHER FAX NUMBER(S) INDICATED BY THE VOTER.

The use of these numbers protects the security of the materials transmitted and provides an audit trail for all documents. If a fax transmission is interrupted before completion, the entire package should be resent.

Number to call for technical assistance:

800-966-8683

Number to call with questions concerning

policy for use of the system:

800-438-8683 703-695-0663 DSN 225-0663

The Federal Voting Assistance Program Office of the Secretary of Defense The Pentagon, Room 1B457 Washington, DC 20301-1155

Fax Number 703-693-5507

E-Mail Address [fvap@fvo.osd.mil]

# **APPENDICES**

$\mathbf{A}$	<b>DEFINITIONS</b>

- B ABSENTEE BALLOT FACSIMILE LOG
- C TRANSMITTAL (COVER) SHEET

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#### APPENDIX A

#### **DEFINITIONS**

**APO/FPO** - Essentially a military "zip-code", this portion of the address must be included on the transmission sheet to ensure delivery to the proper location.

Ballot ID Number - Used when storing ballots, the number used by local election officials to identify a ballot and its instructions that have been stored at the DoD Processing Center.

Ballot Pages - The 8½" by 11" page with a one inch margin format in which the ballot is faxed.

Ballot Transmittal Envelope - Envelope used for returning by mail, a voted ballot that is sent by fax. This envelope is provided with the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) and is available from Voting Assistance Officers.

Contact Person - The election official in locality who is responsible for the participation in the electronic transmission program, and who may be contacted regarding the transmissions sent to, or received from, the locality.

Federal Voting Assistance Program Electronic Transmission Service - The processing and customer service center where transmissions are routed between absentee voters and state and local government officials.

Federal Post Card Application (FPCA, SF 76) - Form used by military and overseas voters to register to vote and request a ballot.

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB, SF 186) - Form available to military and overseas voters through their Voting Assistance Officers which allows them to cast their vote in federal elections. State laws differ in the extent of use for the FWAB. The envelopes which are part of the form may be used to return, by mail a ballot received by fax.

Other Election Materials - Materials to be transmitted to voters other than ballots, such as voter information, or requests for additional information when an application is incomplete.

Oversized Ballot - Any ballot larger than 8½" by 11" is considered oversize for this program and must be prepared in the proper format as described in Chapter 2.

**Read-Only -** Documents that may only be seen on a computer display but not altered in any way. All transmissions routed through the FVAP Electronic Transmission Service are handled in this manner.

**Secrecy Waiver** - Statement that must be signed by a voter who returns a voted ballot by fax. (See box on page 6.)

Security Envelope - Inner envelope that protects the secrecy of the ballot that is being returned by mail. The secrecy envelope from the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB).

**Simple Numbering System** - A simple scheme used to identify stored election materials. For example, a ballot might be identified as DEM-001 for a primary election, or 001 for a general election.

**Split Races** - A race whose candidates are split between two pages of a ballot when it is formatted for faxing. DO NOT ALLOW SPLIT RACES WHEN PREPARING BALLOTS FOR FAXING.

**Stored Ballot** - A ballot (or set of ballots) that is (are) marked with ID numbers and sent to the processing center prior to an election so that the absentee ballot does not have to be transmitted with each transmission cover sheet. See Chapter 5 for information and instructions on stored ballots.

Official Election Materials Electronic Transmission (Cover) Sheet - Cover sheet that must be used as the first page of any transmission sent to the voter. See Chapter 4 for information on preparing the cover sheet for various types of election materials.

**Voter Instructions** - Instruction sheet provided by the local election official that instruct the voter on how to vote and return the ballot. See Chapter 2, Section A.

### APPENDIX B - ABSENTEE BALLOT FACSIMILE LOG

Name of Voter	MATERIALS TRANSMITTED	DATE	Тіме	TRANSMISSION SUCCESSFUL
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			-	
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	-			

### APPENDIX C:

### OFFICIAL ELECTION MATERIALS

### **ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION SHEET**

Copies should be made of the transmission sheet for actual use.

Always be sure to have a few blank copies on hand, and do not write on the original.

## Official Election Materials - Electronic Transmission Sheet

Transmittal (Cover) Sheet from the Local Election Official to the Absentee Voter

TO:				
Last Name				
First Name Middle Name				
Telephone Number				
Fax Number				
Social Security Number Date of Birth - MM/DD/YY				
Street Address				
City State or Country				
Unit/Ship				
Postal Code / APO/FPO				
Service (Circle One): Army Navy Air Force Marine Corps Coast Guard Other				
FROM:				
City/County Board of Elections State State				
Last Name of Local Election Official				
Telephone Number				
Fax Number				
Street Address				
City Zip Code Zip Code				
Contents of Transmission (Check Those Applicable): Ballot Stored Ballot (Number)  Other Election Materials (Specify)				
Authorizing Signature (if required) Date				
Number of pages being transmitted, including this sheet				
Fax ONLY to one of these numbers:				
703-693-5527, 1-800-368-8683, or DSN 223-5527				
Federal Voting Assistance Program Use Only - DO NOT Complete this Section				
Date Received Time Received				
Date Sent Time Sent				
Transaction Number Processed By				

# Official Election Materials - Electronic Transmission Sheet

Transmittal (Cover) Sheet from the Local Election Official to the Absentee Voter

TO:				
Last Name				
First Name Middle Name				
Telephone Number				
Fax Number				
Social Security Number Date of Birth - MM/DD/YY				
Street Address				
City				
Unit/Ship				
Postal Code / APO/FPO				
Service (Circle One): Army Navy Air Force Marine Corps Coast Guard Other				
Service (Circle One). Army Navy Air Force Marine Corps Coast Galard Circle				
FROM:				
City/County Board of Elections State				
Last Name of Local Election Official				
Telephone Number				
Fax Number				
Street Address				
City Zip Code Zip Code				
Contents of Transmission (Check Those Applicable): Ballot Stored Ballot (Number)				
Other Election Materials (Specify)				
Authorizing Signature (if required) Date				
Number of pages being transmitted, including this sheet				
Fax ONLY to one of these numbers:				
703-693-5527, 1-800-368-8683, or DSN 223-5527				
Federal Voting Assistance Program Use Only - DO NOT Complete this Section				
Date Received Time Received				
Date Sent Time Sent				
Transaction Number Processed By				

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