



PRESS RELEASE Office of Elections

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Absentee Voting for Military and Overseas Voters

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2010**

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The Office of Elections has entered into a memorandum of agreement with the federal government regarding compliance with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) for the November 2, 2010 Federal General Election.

Depending on the residence of the voter, and the type of UOCAVA voter, the ballot will contain the federal contest for U.S. Senator and either the contest for U.S. Representative, District 1 or District 2, in addition to applicable state and county contests and questions.

UOCAVA voters include overseas voters and members of the uniformed services or merchant marine on active duty, including eligible spouses and dependents. Such voters, fill out Federal Post Card Applications (FPCA), in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, requesting that their ballots be sent to them by mail or email.

It has been agreed that these voters, will be sent their ballots no later than September 24, 2010. Those who requested to be mailed their ballots will be sent their ballots by either United States Postal Express Mail or FedEx, and will receive a corresponding return envelope. The State will pay for the return of the ballot.

Additionally, the State will contact UOCAVA voters periodically to ensure that they received their ballots and understand this agreement. UOCAVA voters will be reminded that, pursuant to state law, if they have not received their ballot within 5 days of the election, they may request a replacement ballot be sent to them by fax or email and that only under such circumstances they will be permitted to return their ballot by fax or email, as opposed to mailing their ballot back.

In the event of a delay in the sending out of the ballots, due to an election contest of the Primary Election, further safeguards will be in place. Specifically, the State will contact the impacted voters to inform them of the situation, remind the voters of the option to request a ballot by email if the voters have not already chosen such option, and inform the voters that their ballots will be sent immediately upon resolution of the election contest. In addition, as appropriate, voters will be reminded of their ability to utilize the Federal Write-in Absentee

Ballot (FWAB), if they wish to immediately vote for the federal contests as opposed to waiting for their standard ballot with federal, state, and county contests and questions, as applicable to their residence and UOCAVA status.

The State will be keeping the federal government informed of the status of our efforts throughout this process and will report to it the final results of these efforts.

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