



Voting Assistance Officer Training Military Version

2008-2009

As of August, 2008



Introduction



Welcome to the 2008-2009 Voting Assistance Officer Training. This training provides information to help you carry out your duties as a Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) and conduct a successful voting assistance program.





Introduction



- In 2008, elections will be held for:



U.S. President/Vice President



35 U.S. Senators



435 U.S. Representatives

Thousands of State/Local Offices and Questions/Referenda





Introduction



- This training program consists of five main sections:
 - UOCAVA, FVAP and You
 - The Military Assistance Officer
 - The Absentee Voting Process
 - Available Resources
 - Quick Review and Certification

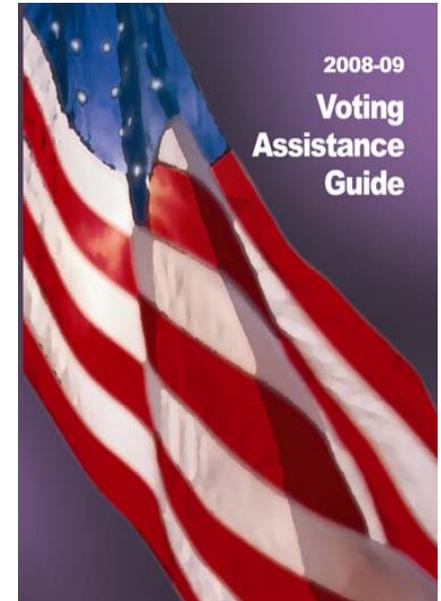


Introduction



Your primary resources as a VAO include:

- The 2008-2009 *Voting Assistance Guide* (VAG)
 - It is beneficial to have a hardcopy of the VAG, the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), and the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) with you throughout this training
 - Footnotes in the slides will refer you to specific locations in the VAG for more information
- The Federal Voting Assistance Program
 - Website: www.fvap.gov
 - Toll Free Number: 1-800-438-VOTE (8683)
 - Email: vote@fvap.ncr.gov
- Your Service Voting Action Officer





UOCAVA, FVAP, and You



This section of the VAO training program will provide you with information on:

- The *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*
- The Federal Voting Assistance Program





UOCAVA, FVAP, and You



- The Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), administers the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)* on behalf of the Secretary of Defense
- *UOCAVA* requires each federal department and agency with personnel covered by the Act to have a voting assistance program
- The FVAP biennial Voting Action Plan and Department of Defense Directive 1000.4 establish policy and guidelines for carrying out an effective voting assistance program
- Your job as a VAO is to help to ensure that citizens understand their voting rights and how to register and vote absentee under *UOCAVA*



UOCAVA, FVAP, and You



- *UOCAVA* requires states and territories to allow citizens covered under the Act to register and vote absentee for Federal offices
- States and territories have their own laws that allow *UOCAVA* citizens to vote in state and local elections
- U.S. citizens allowed to vote under *UOCAVA* include:
 - Members of the U.S. Uniformed Services (on active duty) and merchant marine;
 - Their family members
 - U.S. citizens residing outside the U.S.
- *UOCAVA* covers more than six million potential voters worldwide

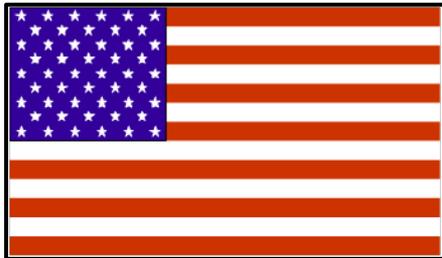




UOCAVA, FVAP, and You



- The goals of the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) and VAOs worldwide are to:
 - Inform and educate U.S. citizens worldwide of their right to vote,
 - Foster voting participation,
 - Protect the integrity of, and enhance, the electoral process at the federal, state, and local levels, and
 - Promote effectiveness and efficiency in the administration of the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*



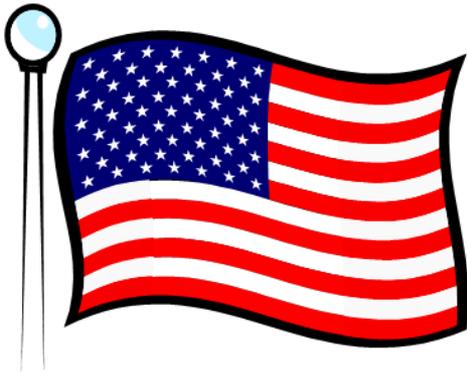


The Military Voting Assistance Officer



This section of the VAO training program will provide you with information on:

- Your Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)
- Your responsibilities as a VAO
- The voting assistance plan
- The continuity folder





The Uniformed Service Voting Assistance Officer



- Within the Uniformed Services and the Merchant Marine, individuals at varying levels of command are responsible for implementing, managing, and carrying out voting assistance operations
- The following slides provide an overview of the voting assistance “chain of command” within each branch of the Armed Services and provide contact information for your Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)





The Military Voting Assistance Officer



ARMY

Secretary of the Army: Hon. Preston "Pete" Geren

Senior Service Voting Representative: BG General Reuben D Jones

Service Voting Action Officer: Mr. Alton Perry

Phone: (703)325-4530; DSN: 221-4530

Fax:(703) 325-4532; DSN Fax: 221-4532

Email: alton.c.perry@conus.army.mil

Web: <https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/Active/TAGD/pssd/psb/votingindex.htm>



Installation Voting Officer

YOU



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



NAVY

Secretary of the Navy: Hon. Donald C. Winter

Senior Service Voting Representative: VADM Robert T. Conway, Jr.

Service Voting Action Officer: LT Jason Watkins

Toll-Free Phone: 1-866-827-5672 Option 6

Commercial Phone: (901)-874-6647; DSN: 882-6647

Fax: (901) 874-6844; DSN Fax: 882-6844

Email: vote@navy.mil

Web: http://www.cni.navy.mil/cnic_hq_site/BaseSupport/



Installation Voting Officer

YOU



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



AIR FORCE

Acting Secretary of the Air Force: Mr. Michael B. Donley

Senior Service Voting Representative: Mr. Art Myers (SES), AF/AIS

Service Voting Action Officer: Mr. Gil Harrison
Commercial Phone: (210)-565-2591; DSN: 665-2591 Option 5
Fax:(210) 565-2543; DSN Fax: 665-2543
Email: dpsoof.votingfund@randolph.af.mil
Web: www.afcrossroads.com/VoteFund/Vote/default.htm



Installation Voting Officer

YOU



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



MARINE CORPS

Commandant of the Marine Corps: Gen James T. Conway

Senior Service Voting Representative: MajGen Timothy R. Larsen

Service Voting Action Officer: Mr. David James
Phone: (703)-784-9511; DSN: 278-9511
Fax:(703) 784-9828; DSN Fax: 278-9828
Email: mra.voting.officer@usmc.mil
Web: www.manpower.usmc.mil/voting



Installation Voting Officer

YOU



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



COAST GUARD

Secretary of Homeland Security: Hon. Michael Chertoff

Commandant of the Coast Guard: ADM Thad W. Allen

Senior Service Voting Representative: CAPT Anthony Gentilella

Service Voting Action Officer: LTJG Frank Marcheski

Phone: (202)-475-5382

Fax: (202) 475-5927

Email: Frank.A.Marcheski@uscg.mil

Web: www.uscg.mil/hq/g-w/g-wp/g-wpm/g-wpm-1/VotingAssistance/Voting_Assistance.htm



Installation Voting Officer

YOU



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



Your responsibility as a VAO:

- Become familiar with the *Voting Assistance Guide* (VAG) and the FVAP website (www.fvap.gov)
- Obtain a letter of designation from your Commanding Officer
- Receive VAO certification by attending an in-person FVAP workshop or through this CD Rom/web-based training
- Learn the absentee voting process
- Attend an orientation briefing with the Installation Commanding Officer (CO) prior to the start of primary elections
- Let others know that you are available as a resource and provide your contact information
- Sign up to receive the FVAP *Voting Information News* (send an email to vote@fvap.ncr.gov)



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



Your responsibility as a VAO (continued)

- Post notices in prominent locations reminding and motivating people to register and vote
- Ensure that there is an adequate supply of voting materials on hand year-round
- Armed Forces Voters Week (August 31-September 7, 2008)
 - Plan voting assistance activities such as non-partisan voter registration drives
- Absentee Voting Week (October 12-18, 2008)
 - During Absentee Voting Week, use media to notify voters to return the voted ballot immediately, and notify those who have not received their ballot to use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot





The Military Voting Assistance Officer



Your responsibility as a VAO (continued)

- Ensure delivery of the Federal Post Card Application to unit members and their dependents:
 - By January 15th of each year
 - By August 15 of each even numbered year (for citizens outside the U.S.)
 - By September 15th of each even numbered year (for citizens inside the U.S.)
- Remind members in the organization who have received the FVAP Post Election Survey to complete it and return it immediately



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



- As a VAO, you may provide only non-partisan voting procedures and information
- You may not distribute any literature from candidates, political parties, or partisan organizations
- The following resources provide more information on political activity by members of the Uniformed Services and Federal Employees:
 - Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, “Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty”
(<http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/html/134410.htm>)
 - The Hatch Act (restrictions on political activities by government employees)
(www.osc.gov/hatchact.htm)



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



The Voting Action Plan

- The FVAP provides a biennial Voting Action Plan to implement the requirements of *UOCAVA* and Department of Defense Directive 1000.4 and to ensure that *UOCAVA* voters are provided all necessary voting information
- Each of the Uniformed Services has an internal voting action plan. To get a copy of this plan, contact your Service Voting Action Officer





The Military Voting Assistance Officer



- In order to successfully carry out the duties of a VAO, it is important to have an effective voting assistance plan. To create an effective plan, consider the following activities:
 - Encourage citizens to learn about the candidates and the issues and to vote
 - Distribute all voting materials and information in a timely manner
 - Hold a non-partisan voter information briefing or registration drive
 - Attend a local FVAP workshop





The Military Voting Assistance Officer



Creating an effective voting assistance plan (continued)

- Display the 2008 Election Dates and motivational posters
- Reach out to younger citizens (18-24) who have statistically lower voter participation rates
- Include tenant organizations in your absentee voting activities, especially National Guard and Reserve Units

Election Dates

The chart lists the 2008 Presidential and State primary election dates in all 50 States, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories; primary runoff dates if applicable; states with U.S. Senate races; number of U.S. Representatives sought by the governing and gubernatorial teams.

The General Election is Tuesday, November 4.

State	Presidential Primary	State Primary	State Runoff Primary	General Election
Alabama	February 15	March 18	None	Nov 4
Alaska	None	None	None	Nov 4
Arizona	February 28	March 18	None	Nov 4
Arkansas	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
California	March 4	March 18	None	Nov 4
Colorado	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Connecticut	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Delaware	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
District of Columbia	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Florida	February 15	March 18	None	Nov 4
Georgia	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Hawaii	None	None	None	Nov 4
Idaho	None	None	None	Nov 4
Illinois	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Indiana	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Iowa	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Kansas	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Kentucky	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Louisiana	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Maine	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Maryland	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Massachusetts	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Michigan	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Minnesota	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Mississippi	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Missouri	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Montana	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Nebraska	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Nevada	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
New Hampshire	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
New Jersey	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
New Mexico	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
New York	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
North Carolina	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
North Dakota	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Ohio	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Oklahoma	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Oregon	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Rhode Island	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
South Carolina	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
South Dakota	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Tennessee	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Texas	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Utah	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Vermont	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Virginia	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Washington	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
West Virginia	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Wisconsin	March 17	None	None	Nov 4
Wyoming	March 17	None	None	Nov 4



Voting Assistance Guide p. 7; 8



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



Creating an effective voting assistance plan (continued)

- Disseminate copies of the “Frequently Asked Questions” for Uniformed Service Members” (Appendix C of the VAG)
- Utilize the motivational “Get Out The Vote” public service announcements in print, audio, and video format in local media (contact [FVAP](#) for copies)
- Send your good ideas and lessons learned to your Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)
- Contact the [FVAP](#) if you cannot find answers locally or through your SVAO



The Military Voting Assistance Officer



The Continuity Folder/File

- Create and maintain a continuity folder for your reference and to ensure that your successor understands what he or she is supposed to do
- The continuity folder will help you demonstrate to the Inspector General that you are fulfilling your duties
- The continuity folder should include the following:
 - Current *Voting Assistance Guide*
 - Absentee voting forms (FPCA, FWAB)
 - VAO designation letter
 - Election Dates Calendar
 - Voting assistance good ideas and lessons learned
 - Recent *Voting Information News* and Voting News Releases
 - VAO Training

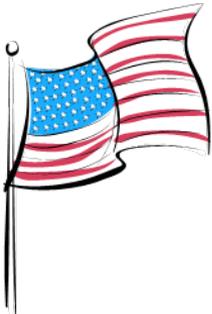




The Absentee Voting Process



- This section of the training program will provide you with information on:
 - The basic *UOCAVA* absentee voting process
 - Registering and requesting a ballot
 - The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)
 - Electronic alternatives
 - Legal voting residence
 - The State Special Write-In Absentee Ballot
 - The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot





The Absentee Voting Process



Voting Requirements

- All states and territories have two basic voter requirements:
 - A voter must be a U.S. citizen, and;
 - At least 18 years old on election day in order to vote (some states permit a 17-year old to vote in primary election if he or she will be 18 by the date of the general election)



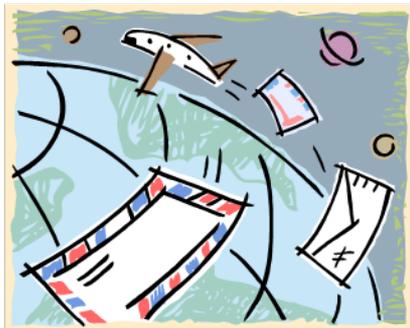


The Absentee Voting Process



The Voting Process

- The absentee voting process permits citizens covered by *UOCAVA*, who will be away from their local polling places on election day, to register, request a ballot, and vote through the mail (or an alternative method if allowed by the state)
- In order to receive a ballot in a timely manner, it is very important that citizens keep their local election officials informed of address changes





The Absentee Voting Process



The Basic UOCAVA Voting Process

Step 1: Citizen submits a voter registration/absentee ballot request form

Step 2: Local Election Official approves the request or asks for more information

Step 3: Local Election Official mails the absentee ballot

Step 4: Citizen votes and returns the ballot to the Local Election Official in time to meet state deadlines

OR

If insufficient time exists to receive, vote and return the ballot on time, he/she submits the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



- The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is a postage-paid postcard for use by absentee voters covered under UOCAVA and is available through service distribution channels
- The On-Line Version of the FPCA, (OFPCA) is an alternative to the card stock FPCA, available at www.fvap.gov
- Chapter Three of the *Voting Assistance Guide* provides voting procedures for all states and territories, including
 - Registration and ballot request deadlines
 - State ballot mail out timeframes
 - Ballot return deadlines
 - Electronic transmission alternatives



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



- In most states and territories, the FPCA serves as a valid request for absentee voter registration and/or absentee ballot request, regardless of whether the sender was registered prior to submitting the FPCA
- In all states and territories, one FPCA can be used to request both primary and general election ballots for Federal offices through two regularly scheduled general elections for Federal office
- Due to the mobility of *UOCAVA* citizens, FVAP recommends that each citizen submit an FPCA to his or her state of legal residence in January of each year and again each time there is a change in the citizen's mailing address



The Absentee Voting Process



The Federal Post Card Application

FRONT

BACK

(After completion, fold to inside and seal before mailing.)
WARNING: Knowingly presenting false information in this application could result in criminal sanctions.
 Standard Form 76 (Rev. 10-2005)

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

1. REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM (Mark only one):
 (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
 (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
 (c) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)
 a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle) _____ b. SEX (M, F) _____
 c. RACE _____ d. DATE OF BIRTH (M M D D Y Y Y Y) _____ e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER _____ f. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable) _____
 g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR ID NUMBER _____ h. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes) _____

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) (Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)
 a. HOUSE AND STREET (Apt. No. if apt.) _____
 b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE _____ c. COUNTY _____ d. STATE _____ e. ZIP CODE _____

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS
 a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Military use only) (Required) _____ b. MY FORMER RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Military use only) (Complete only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.) _____

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections): _____

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots - see instructions for Block 6, paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)

7. AFFIRMATION (Required)
 I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:
 1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
 2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
 3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated; and
 4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
 5. My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
 6. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.
 I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ M M D D Y Y Y Y _____
 (Witness/Notary and address (if required)) _____ M M D D Y Y Y Y _____

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.
 Article Designer 8.0

Standard Form 76 Back (Rev. 10-2005)

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT
 AUTHORITY: 42 USC 1975ff. Title 1 - Registration and Voting By Absentee Uniformed Services Voters and Overseas Voters in Elections for Federal Office.
 PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Serves as an application for registration and/or request for absentee ballot for all persons covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act.
 DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to provide the necessary information may keep the petitioner's jurisdiction from processing this request and may prevent you from voting absentee.

SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION.
 Please use the Voting Assistance Guide for specific state-by-state information when completing this form. Type or print legibly. Assistance and information regarding the use and completion of this form, as well as specific state information may be obtained from military Unit Voting Assistance Officers, U.S. Embassy and Consular Voting Assistance Officers, or organizations of U.S. citizens overseas and <http://www.fvap.gov>.

Block 1. Place an X only in one block. Marking Block 1(c) generally means that you were a resident of that state before departing the U.S. and your intent to return at some time in the future is uncertain. Marking Block 1(c) applies for a Federal ballot only (if one is printed by the state).

Block 2. MY INFORMATION. Block 4. RACE. This information is requested from some states for statistical purposes by the Department of Justice in their enforcement of the Voting Rights Act and the National Voter Registration Act. See Voting Assistance Guide.

Block 3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS. Enter the complete legal voting residence address (including county) where you ACTUALLY LIVED in the state or territory. 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. 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. If you have never lived in the U.S., check the Voting Assistance Guide for the states that allow you to vote using a parent's voting residence address.

Block 4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS. Block 4a is the complete mailing address where you are now living. If you have an alternate address or an address of a mail forwarding service that delivers your mail more quickly, enter that address in Block 4b. If your state allows absentee ballots to be sent via e-mail or fax, check the appropriate box in Block 4c. See Voting Assistance Guide. This form should be resubmitted every time you change your mailing address.

Block 5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE. This is an optional entry; however, this information is required by most states in order to vote in primary elections. Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for any specific state information required.

Block 6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.
 (1) Provide any information that may assist the local election official in approving this application. It would be helpful if you provide the date you last lived at the address in Block 3a and if you list a name and telephone number of a local contact in the event the local election official cannot contact you and has a question concerning the application.
 (2) If you were previously registered to vote in a jurisdiction other than the one in which you are applying, indicate "previously registered in (location)".
 (3) Submission of this form serves as a request to receive ballots for all Federal elections held through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If you do not wish to receive a ballot for that length of time, you may request a ballot for each election for Federal office held in the next election year OR a ballot for only the next scheduled election for Federal office by noting your choice in Block 6. (Depending on your state of residence, you may also receive ballots for State and local offices during the selected period as well.)
 (4) If your state provides a special state write-in ballot and you are requesting one, indicate the reason you are requesting a special write-in ballot or place a sticker from the Voting Assistance Guide in this section.
Block 7. AFFIRMATION. Ensure that you read the oath, sign, and enter the date you completed the form in the spaces provided. Not all states require a witness or notary, and state laws vary regarding the voting of convicted felons. Consult your state section of the Voting Assistance Guide or your Voting Assistance Officer for your state's requirements.

MAILING INSTRUCTIONS. Fold and seal using the adhesive tabs so that the local election official's address is on the outside. DO NOT STAPLE.
 (Fold to outside)

FROM: _____
 (Enter name and current complete military or overseas mailing address)

U.S. Postage Paid
 39 USC 3406

PAR AVION

INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL POSTAGE IS REQUIRED IF NOT MAILED IN THE U.S. POSTAL SYSTEM OR APO/FPO SYSTEM, OR DIPLOMATIC POUCH.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAIL - DMM 783 0.6

TO: _____



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



Electronic Alternatives

- Many states and territories allow the electronic transmission (faxing or emailing) of the FPCA, and some allow electronic transmission of the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot and other election materials
- Chapter Three of the *Voting Assistance Guide* details which electronic alternatives are available in each state and territory
- Where electronic transmission is allowed by state law, refer to Appendix B of the voting assistance guide for detailed transmittal instructions





The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



- As a VAO, citizens will come to you for assistance in filling out the forms required to register and vote absentee under *UOCAVA*
- The following slides will walk through the process of completing and submitting the FPCA and the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot
- This process will be presented from your standpoint as a VAO providing assistance to a member of the Uniformed Services, Jim, and his wife, Jane, who want to register and vote in the November general election



The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



FPCA Block 1: Registration and Absentee Ballot Request

- Because Jim is in the Uniformed Services, he will check box (a)
- Jim's wife, Jane, and any eligible family members will also check box (a)
- This information determines, in some states, whether a voter receive a partial ballot (only Federal offices) or full ballot (Federal and non-Federal)
- All states allow Uniformed Services members to vote the full ballot – thus, Jim will receive the full ballot

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)	
1. I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM <i>(Mark only one)</i> :	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	(a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
<input type="checkbox"/>	(b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
<input type="checkbox"/>	(c) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY



The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



FPCA Block 2: My Information

- Information on race is requested by some states, but Jim's application will not be rejected if he leaves it blank
- You encourage Jim to provide a telephone, fax number, and email, which will help the local election official communicate with him and resolve any questions regarding the FPCA

2. MY INFORMATION									
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)						SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., III, etc.)		b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)	
Smith, James Larry						Jr			
c. SEX		d. RACE	e. DATE OF BIRTH		f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F			05 17 1985		- 11 25 -		XY-1452571772		
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)					i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)				
23-145-14-5777 145					23-145-14-67879145				
j. EMAIL ADDRESS									
jj.pdf57@hawkstooth.com									



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



FPCA Block 3: My Voting Residence Address

- The information that Jim enters here will determine which ballot he will be sent
- Jim is pretty sure that his voting residence is in California, but since he has moved around quite a bit since joining the Uniformed Service, he has asked you for help in making sure
- Since residency questions can be complicated, the following slides will provide some general guidelines on this topic, before re-visiting the matter of Jim's voting residence

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) <i>(Military, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)</i>				
a. NUMBER AND STREET <i>(Cannot be a P.O. Box)</i>				
122 Maple Terrace				
b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE		c. COUNTY	d. STATE	e. ZIP CODE
Mayville		Somewhere	CA	95555-1111



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



Voting Residence

- Each voter must have a legal residence address in a state or territory to vote in U.S. elections
- Final determinations on issues of voting residence are made by the local election officials
- Voters should provide as much information as possible on the FPCA to help ensure successful registration and ballot request
- Always check with legal counsel if you have questions about legal residence





The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



Voting Residence: Uniformed Service Citizens

- For members of the Uniformed Services and their family members, legal voting residence (in most states) is defined as where the citizen has, or has had, physical presence at the location and where there is intent to remain or return
- A voter may only have one legal residency at a time
- Once residence is changed, a voter may not revert to the previous residence without re-establishing new physical presence and intent to remain or return
- Factors to consider in determining correct voting residence:
 - What is the address on your leave and earnings statement?
 - Where have you registered to vote?
 - Where is your vehicle registered?
 - Where was your driver's license or state I.D. card issued?



The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



Now, back to Jim. He presents the following facts to you concerning his voting residency situation:

- Jim resided in Minnesota (MN) where he joined the Military in 1998. Jim's MN address will always be his home of record.
- Jim was stationed in North Carolina (NC) after leaving MN. Jim still considered himself a MN resident, and had no intent on changing his residence to NC, even though he obtained a NC driver's license.
- For the 2000 general election, Jim used the FPCA to request a ballot and voted absentee in MN, as that was still his voting residence
- One year later, Jim rented an apartment in NC, registered his vehicle in NC, and had all of his bank accounts in NC. Also, Jim got married in NC to Jane, a NC resident.



MN



NC



The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



- In the 2002 general election, Jim, who still considered MN his state of residence, voted absentee in MN. Jane, even though she was an eligible *UOCAVA* voter as Jim's spouse, could not vote in MN since she had never established a legal residence there. Thus, she voted locally at the polls in NC.
- In 2003, Jim was transferred to California, where he and Jane purchased a home and she began working
- For the 2004 general election, Jim again voted absentee in MN, since he had not made a conscious decision to make CA his state of voting residence. Jane, although paying CA income taxes, also never made a conscious decision to make CA her state of residence. Thus, Jane sent an FPCA to NC and voted absentee there.



CA



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



- In 2005, Jim and Jane both made a conscious decision to make CA their state of legal residence, and they registered to vote there
- In the 2006 general election, they vote at the polls in CA
- In 2007, Jim is transferred to Japan. While in Japan, Jim and Jane decide that they miss NC, and will return there in 2009.
- Now, in 2007, Jim and Jane are filling out the FPCA, and they have questions about voting in 2008 – can Jane vote in NC, since she was once a resident there, and they intend to return there in 2009? Can Jim vote in MN, since he was once a resident there, and it is his home of record?





The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



- Even though Jim once had legal residence in MN and Jane in NC, they cannot vote in those states because they both established legal residence in CA. For Jane to vote in NC, and Jim in MN, they would have to re-establish residence there, which would require at minimum their physical presence
- Thus, since CA is still Jim and Jane's state of legal residence, they fill out block 3 of the FPCA with the address they had in that state
- Key points to remember:
 - You may only have one legal residence at a time, but you may change it each time you are transferred to a new location
 - The address on your leave and earnings statement is often your legal residence address





The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



FPCA Block 4: Where to send my voting materials

- Since Jim is currently stationed overseas at an APO, he enters his mailing address at that location
- You remind Jim to notify his local election official ASAP if/when he has an address change
- Jim can check Chapter Three of the VAG to see if his state permits faxing or emailing of the ballot

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS	
a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Where I live now) (Required)	b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (NOTE: Complete 4b. only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4a.)
Smith Larry Jones	
Company FVAP	
APO AP 54321	
c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAIL <input type="checkbox"/> FAX <input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL	



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



FPCA Block 5: Political Party Preference

- Political party preference is required in most states to participate in partisan primary elections
- In a partisan primary election, candidates from a political party are chosen to represent that party in a subsequent general election
- After checking his state's requirements in Chapter Three of the VAG, Jim decides to enter his political party preference
- Note that even if Jim did not enter party preference, he would still receive the November general election ballot

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE *(Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):*

Abcdef Party



The Absentee Voting Process Registration and Ballot Request



FPCA Block 6: Additional Information

- Here Jim can specify the time period in which he wants to receive ballots for Federal elections, otherwise, he will receive ballots through the next two regularly scheduled general elections
- So, if Jim submits his FPCA in September of 2007, he will receive ballots through the 2008 and 2010 general elections – however, Jim is encouraged to submit the FPCA in January of each year, and whenever he has a change of address
- This is also where Jim could request a State Special Write-in Absentee Ballot (see next slide) if his state provides this option

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION *(Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots - see instructions for Block 6, paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)*



The Absentee Voting Process

State Special Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Before moving on, it is important to note that some states offer a state special write-in absentee ballot to assist *UOCAVA* citizens who know before the election that they will be unable to use their state's regular absentee voting procedures due to lack of regular mail service
 - For example, if Jim knows that he will be stationed in a location where mail service is limited or unavailable, he can refer to Chapter Three of the VAG to see if his state offers the state special write-in absentee ballot
 - If it does, he can request to receive this ballot in block 6 of the FPCA
 - The state special write in absentee ballot generally includes local, state, and Federal offices



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



Jim is now ready to mail his FPCA:

- First, he checks his state's requirements in Chapter Three of the VAG to make sure he complies with any/all state deadlines
- Next, he looks in his state's section of the VAG for the mailing address of his local election official
- He enters the complete address for the local election official on the FPCA mailing envelope
 - You notify Jim that if he mails his FPCA through the U.S. Post Office (including APO/FPO) or diplomatic pouch, he should not write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope, as this could cause delay
 - Note that if Jim was using a foreign country's postal service, he would have to apply local postage, and he should write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



- Next, Jim enters his current mailing address in the upper left corner of the envelope – not his legal voting residence address
- Finally, Jim folds the FPCA, seals it, and places it in the mail

FROM:
(Voter name and current complete military or overseas mailing address)

James Larry Smith
Company FVAP
APO AP 54321

MAILING ENVELOPE:
International airmail postage is required if not mailed in the U.S. Postal System or APO/FPO System, or Diplomatic Post.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IN THE U.S. MAIL - DMM 703.8.0

TO: Somewhere County Board of Elections
Mayville Office Building
100 Corner Street
Mayville, CA 95555-2222

FPCA, SF 76, Rev. 2005 — Mailing Side

U.S. Postage Paid
39 USC 3106

PAR AVION

OFFICIAL ELECTION MAIL





The Absentee Voting Process



The Basic UOCAVA Voting Process

Step 1: Citizen submits a voter registration/absentee ballot request form

Step 2: Local Election Official approves the request or asks for more information

Step 3: Local Election Official mails the absentee ballot

Step 4: Citizen votes and returns the ballot to the Local Election Official in time to meet state deadlines

OR

If insufficient time exists to receive, vote and return the ballot on time, he/she submits the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



The Absentee Voting Process

Registration and Ballot Request



- When the local election official receives Jim's FPCA he/she will process the form and send the ballot to Jim's mailing address, provided that Jim meets the state residency requirements and his FPCA was fully completed
- Jim should receive his regular state absentee ballot from the local election official in time for him to vote and return the ballot by the state's deadline for counting





The Absentee Voting Process



The Basic UOCAVA Voting Process

Step 1: Citizen submits a voter registration/absentee ballot request form

Step 2: Local Election Official approves the request or asks for more information

Step 3: Local Election Official mails the absentee ballot

Step 4: Citizen votes and returns the ballot to the Local Election Official in time to meet state deadlines

OR

If insufficient time exists to receive, vote and return the ballot on time, he/she submits the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Occasionally, even though a *UOCAVA* voter has submitted a complete and timely FPCA, he/she may not receive the ballot in time to return it by the state's deadline
- In situations like this, *UOCAVA* citizens may use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)
- The FWAB is a back-up or "emergency" ballot that can be used by *UOCAVA* citizens in general elections for Federal offices
- The FWAB is pre-positioned at Uniformed Service bases throughout the world and available online at www.fvap.gov





The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



To be eligible to use the FWAB, citizens must meet three specific requirements:

- (1) Be a Uniformed Service member (or eligible family member), or a U.S. Citizen overseas (including APO/FPO)
- (2) The citizen's request for a regular ballot was received by the local election official at least 30 days before the election or before the state's ballot request deadline, whichever is later
- (3) The citizen did not receive the requested regular absentee ballot from the state



The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



Voter's Declaration/Affirmation

WARNING: Knowingly presenting false information in this application could result in criminal sanctions. Standard Form 186A (Rev. 10-2005)

VOTER'S DECLARATION/AFFIRMATION - FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT (FWAB)

1. I AM (Mark only one):
 A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
 A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
 A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

1.B. I ALSO REQUEST VOTER REGISTRATION (where permitted by state law)

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)
 2.A. PRINTED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)
 2.B. SEX M F
 2.C. RACE
 2.D. DATE OF BIRTH (MM/DD/YYYY)
 2.E. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER
 2.F. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR ID. NUMBER
 2.G. TELEPHONE NUMBER (IN HOME/WORK/RESIDE AT OTHER/WORK/PHONE)
 2.H. FAX NUMBER (NO POSTOFFICE/RESIDE AT OTHER/WORK/PHONE)
 2.I. BOBBY CARP, D. M. ET AL.
 2.J. PREVIOUS NAME (IF APPLICABLE)
 2.K. STATE OF RESIDENCE (Required)
 2.L. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE
 2.M. COUNTY
 2.N. STATE | ZIP CODE

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (Required) (Always, use legal residence. Overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.)
 3.A. NUMBER OF OTHER VOTERS IN FAMILY
 3.B. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Required) (If you do not have your current address marked in the address in block 4A)
 3.C. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (If you do not have your current address marked in the address in block 4A)
 3.D. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections)

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive future ballots. See instructions. Consult your state pages of the Voting Assistance Guide for additional information requested)

7. AFFIRMATION (Required)
 I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:
 1. I am a member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
 2. I am a U.S. citizen, at least 17 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
 3. I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been restored; and
 4. I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
 5. My application for a regular absentee ballot was marked in time to be received by the local election official 30 days prior to this election, or the state deadline, whichever is later, and
 6. I have not received the requested ballot, and
 7. I understand that if my regular absentee ballot is received by the local election official in time to be counted, that ballot will be counted and this write-in ballot will be voided; and
 8. I have voted and sealed this ballot in private and have not allowed any person to observe the marking of this ballot, except for those authorized to assist voters under state or Federal law and I have not been influenced, and
 9. I am a Uniformed Services member, or dependent, who is absent from my voting jurisdiction, or I am an overseas citizen and have submitted this ballot from outside the U.S., or my state has made special provisions to allow me to mail this ballot outside the U.S., and
 10. My signature and state postal indicia are complete on this document; and
 11. The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.
 I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Sign: _____ Date: _____ Sign: _____ Date: _____
 (MM/DD/YYYY) (MM/DD/YYYY) (MM/DD/YYYY) (MM/DD/YYYY)

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Write-In Ballot/Security Envelope

OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT

PRESIDENT/VICE PRESIDENT

U.S. SENATOR

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

**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 U.S. Virgin Islands may vote only for Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the Congress

ADDITIONAL

Some states allow the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to be used by military and overseas citizen voters in elections other than general elections or for offices other than Federal offices. Consult your state section in the Voting Assistance Guide to determine your state policy. If you are eligible to use this ballot to vote for other candidates other than those listed above, please indicate in the space provided below the office for which you wish to vote for: Candidate, Congress, 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: _____

Standard Form 186 (Rev. 2005) (Separate sheet) (Use reverse side for additional space)

OFFICIAL FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT

SECURITY ENVELOPE

(ONLY PUT VOTED BALLOT INSIDE THIS ENVELOPE)

Standard Form 186 (Rev. 2005)

Mailing Envelope

FROM: _____
 (Use state and correct recipient address or mailing agency address)

PAR AVON

U.S. Postage Paid 39 DEC 1998

MAILING ENVELOPE
 International postal postage is covered if you request in the U.S. Postal Service or AFOPO System, or Diplomatic Post.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF THE U.S. MAIL - 0MM 703.8.0

TO: _____



The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- It is 24 days before the general election, and Jim has returned to you for additional assistance
- Jim has not received his absentee ballot and he is concerned that there is not enough time to return it in a timely manner if/when he does get it
- As a VAO, you know that FVAP recommends that a *UOCAVA* voter who has not received his/her ballot by the 25th day before the election should complete and submit the FWAB





The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- First, you tell Jim to read all instructions carefully before completing the Declaration/Affirmation, which is very similar to the FPCA
- Next, you notify Jim that, as with the FPCA, some states require that a notary/witness sign the FWAB, so he should check Chapter Three of the VAG to find out what is required in his state
- Jim signs and dates at the bottom of Declaration/Affirmation





The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Jim is now ready to complete the write-in ballot, but before he does so, you explain to him that:
 - The FWAB is used for Federal offices in general elections, so he can write in his preferred candidates for the Office of President and Vice President, U.S. Senator, and U.S. Representative
 - For each office, he may write in either a candidate's name or a political party designation
 - Some states have expanded the use of the FWAB for state and local offices as well, so he should check Chapter Three of the VAG to see if his state allows him to write-in these offices





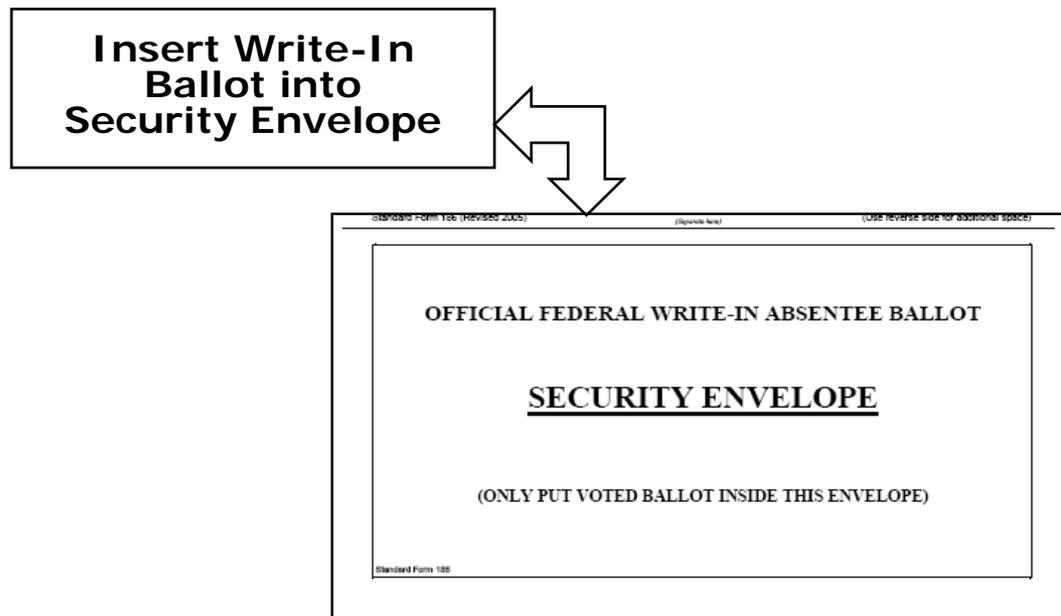
The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



Jim is now ready to mail the FWAB after writing in his choices

- First, Jim detaches the write-in ballot from the security envelope, folds it, then inserts it into the security envelope and seals it



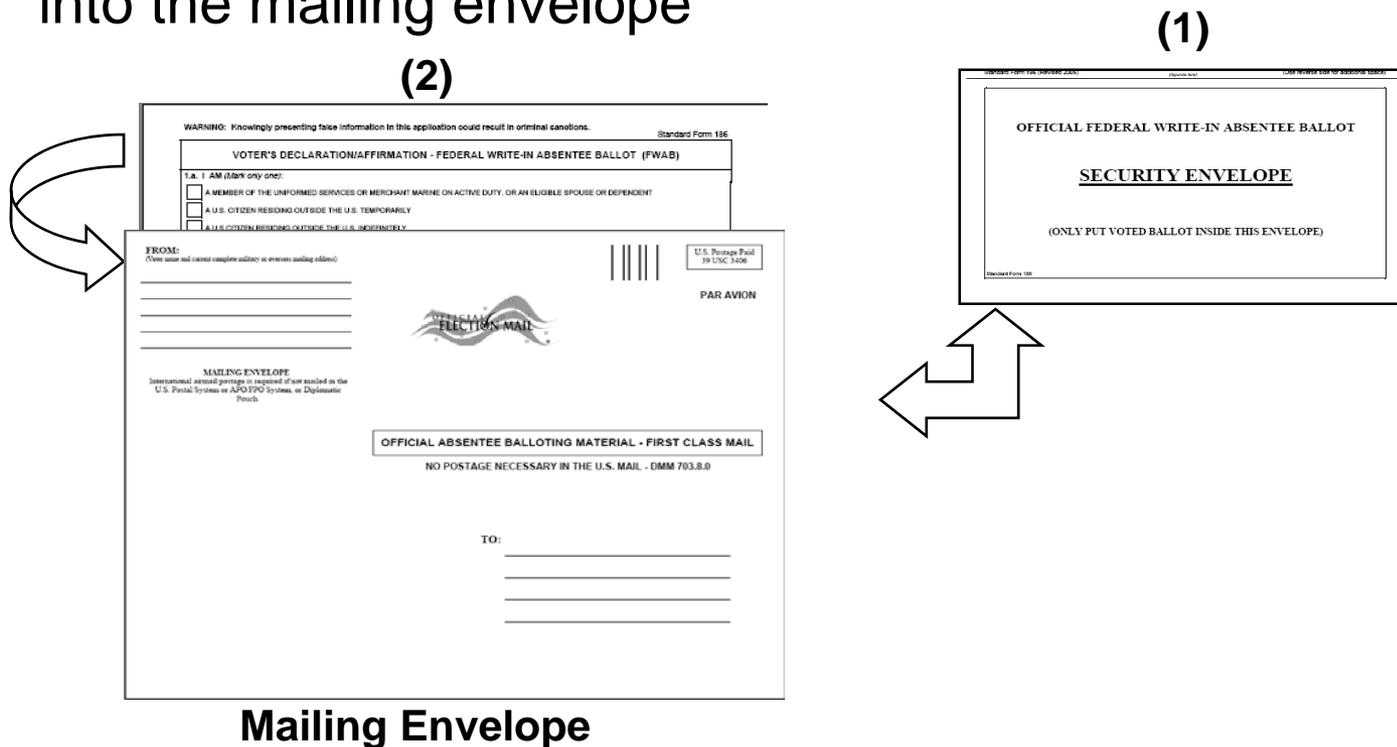


The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Next, Jim inserts (1) the sealed security envelope (containing the voted write-in ballot) and (2) the Declaration/Affirmation into the mailing envelope





The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Jim looks in his state's section of the VAG for the mailing address of his local election official
- He enters the complete address for the local election official on the FWAB mailing envelope
 - You notify Jim that if he is mailing his FWAB through the U.S. Post Office (including APO/FPO), he should not write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope, as this could cause delay
 - Note that if Jim was using a foreign country's postal service, he would have to apply local postage, and he should write "USA" in the address line of the mailing envelope



The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Next, Jim enters his mailing address in the upper left corner of the envelope – not his legal voting residence address
- You remind Jim that before mailing, he needs to review the voter checklist that is provided on the mailing envelope
- Notify Jim that, if possible, he should ask the mail clerk to hand stamp the FWAB envelope for proof of timely mailing
- Finally, Jim places the FWAB in the mail

FROM: James Larry Smith
Company FVAP
APO AP 54321

U.S. Postal Field
DU 23C-340

PAR AVION

FEDERAL MAIL

MAILING ENVELOPE
International airmail privileges in required if sent outside the U.S.
U.S. Postal Service or APO/FPO System, or Diplomatic Post.

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST CLASS MAIL

NO POSTAGE NECESSARY IF THE U.S. MAIL - DMM 703.8.D

To: Somewhere County Board of Elections
Mayville Office Building
100 Corner Street
Mayville, CA 95555-2222





The Absentee Voting Process

Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot



- Two days after mailing the FWAB, Jim receives his regular state absentee ballot. You advise Jim that he should vote and return the ballot immediately.
- The regular ballot must be signed, dated, and postmarked by the day of the election
- If the regular ballot arrives by the deadline for receipt of absentee ballots, the state will count the regular ballot instead of the FWAB.
- Jim should return his regular ballot regardless of its receipt date because his state may allow late counting of these ballots from overseas citizens



Available Resources



- This section provides information on resources available to you as a VAO, including:
 - The FVAP website, FVAP contact information, and FVAP workshops
 - Your Service Voting Action Officer
 - Voting Information Center (VIC)
 - Voting News Releases
 - Voting Information News (VIN)
 - Election Dates and motivational posters
 - Get Out the Vote Campaign
 - State Voter Registration Verification Websites
 - Frequently asked questions



Available Resources



www.fvap.gov

- The FVAP website provides:
 - All of the FVAP's informational materials
 - Election information
 - The online *Voting Assistance Guide*
 - The online Federal Post Card Application (OFPCA)
 - The online Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (OFWAB)
 - Links to state election sites, Federal government sites and overseas U.S. citizen organizations
 - Additional information and resources for VAOs

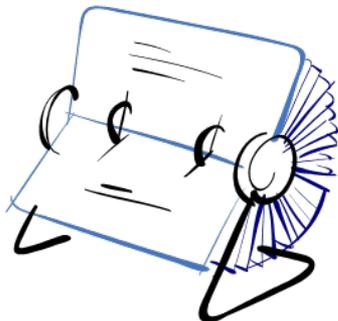


Available Resources



Contact your Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)

- The SVAO is responsible for Service voting assistance operations and is your primary link to information about the voting program in your Service
- See slides 12-16 to find your SVAOs contact information





Available Resources



Contact the FVAP

- VAOs and UOCAVA citizens may contact the FVAP directly via email, telephone or fax
 - FVAP Email: vote@fvap.ncr.gov
 - Toll-free in the U.S: 1-800-438-VOTE (8683)
 - DSN (Uniformed Service): 425-1584
 - Commercial: 703-588-1584
 - Fax: 703-696-1352
 - Toll-free international numbers are available at www.fvap.gov and on the back cover of the VAG





Available Resources



Voting News Releases

- Voting News Releases provide time-sensitive periodic news releases that inform and educate VAOs and UOCAVA citizens about the latest critical information on election dates, absentee registration, ballot request, and voting procedures
- Voting News Releases are available online at www.fvap.gov and sent directly via email to VAOs
- Sign up to receive the Voting News Releases by sending an email to vote@fvap.ncr.gov





Available Resources



Voting Information News (VIN)

- The VIN is a monthly newsletter published by the FVAP which contains up-to-date articles and information on elections, absentee registration and voting procedures, a “To Do” list for VAOs, and other voting related matters that may affect UOCAVA citizens
- The VIN is sent to all Uniformed Service VAOs by email or regular mail
- Sign up to receive the VIN by sending an email to vote@fvap.ncr.gov
- Current and back issues are available at www.fvap.gov



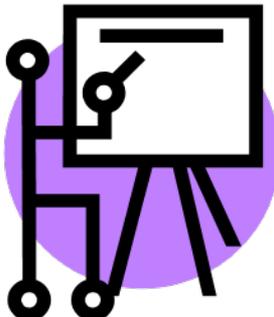


Available Resources



FVAP Training

- The FVAP conducts in-person workshops for training VAOs at various locations around the globe and at FVAP headquarters in Washington D.C.
- Training highlights instructions for completing the forms, responsibilities of the VAO and the resources available to conduct a successful voting assistance program
- This VAO training workshop presentation is available online





Available Resources



Election Dates and Motivational Posters

- The 2008 Election Dates poster provides Federal and state election dates and contains space at the bottom for the VAOs contact information
- The motivational poster helps promote awareness and stimulate interest in voting with a message obtained through the FVAP Slogan Contest
- VAOs receive the posters through normal distribution channels or by contacting their SVAO
 - The posters can also be downloaded at www.fvap.gov

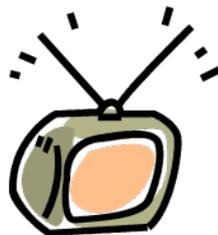


Available Resources



Get Out the Vote Campaign (GOTV)

- The GOTV campaign consists of motivational public service announcements encouraging U.S. citizens worldwide to register and vote
- Announcements are available in print, audio, and video formats for use by state and local officials, as well as by VAOs in local media worldwide
- Call the FVAP or visit www.fvap.gov for more information





Available Resources



Voter Registration Verification

- Voters can verify their registration status online in 27 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- Links to these “State Voter Registration Verification Websites” are provided at www.fvap.gov





Available Resources



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

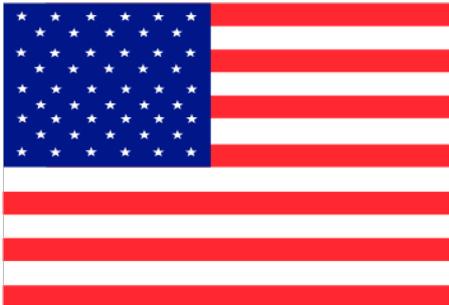
- FAQs for Uniformed Service Members are available online and in *Appendix C of the Voting Assistance Guide*
- The FAQs provides answers on a variety of *UOCAVA* and election topics, including:
 - Qualifying to Vote Absentee & Determining Where to Vote
 - Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot
 - Casting Your Vote
 - Problems Receiving a Ballot
 - Other Election Information
 - United States Election Overview



Quick Review



The following is a quick review of the main points to remember from this training program. After you finish the review, you may complete the Certificate of Training.





Quick Review



- Individuals covered under UOCAVA include:
 - Active duty members of the Uniformed Services
 - Uniformed Service family members
 - Members of the Merchant Marine
 - Merchant Marine family members
 - Civilians residing outside the United States
- VAOs help to ensure that U.S. citizens understand their voting rights and how to register and vote absentee under *UOCAVA*
- The FVAP biennial Voting Action Plan and DOD Directive 1000.4 establish policy and guidelines for an effective voting assistance program



Quick Review



- The primary resources for a VAO include:
 - The *Voting Assistance Guide*
 - The FVAP website
 - The Service Voting Action Officer (SVAO)
- An effective voting assistance plan includes:
 - Distributing voting materials in a timely manner
 - Displaying the Election Dates and motivational posters
 - Planning voting assistance activities
- All states have two basic voting requirements
 - A voter must be a citizen of the U.S
 - At least 18 years old (17 in some states if 18 by the general election)



Quick Review



- The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) can be used by *UOCAVA* voters to register and request a ballot
 - The FPCA is available online
 - Voters should send in a new FPCA in January of each year or if/when there is a change of address
- The Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) is a backup or emergency ballot that *UOCAVA* citizens can use in general elections for Federal office
 - The FWAB is available online
 - Citizens must meet the three specific criteria to use the FWAB
- The FVAP conducts in-person workshops in Washington D.C. and around the world



Certification



Congratulations on completing the 2008-2009 Voting Assistance Officer Training! The following slide contains the Certificate of Completion. Please fill in your name, organization, command, or activity, and date at the bottom.

Thank you for your participation and for your service as a Voting Assistance Officer.



Department of Defense
Federal Voting Assistance Program



Certificate of Training

On-Line/CD Rom Workshop for Voting Assistance Officers

Presented To

Command, Activity or Organization, Location

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. H. Brunell".

Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program

Date