

#BEREADY2016 AN FVAP UPDATE

AUGUST 2016

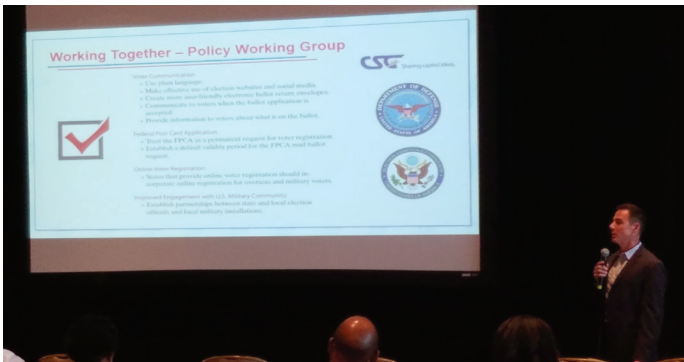


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REAL VOTING. REAL PROGRESS.

ELECTION CENTER ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Election officials from across the Nation gathered in Philadelphia August 16th to share best practices and discuss problems and their solutions as we head into this busy election cycle. Speakers included Election Assistance Commission (EAC) Chair Tom Hicks, EAC Vice-Chair Matt Masterson, United States Postal Service experts Dan Bentley and Tammy Patrick, Dan Diorio from the National Conference of State Legislators who provided legislative updates, and, of course, our very own Director Matt Boehmer.



“I VOTED FROM...” UOCAVA STICKERS

Just because our UOCAVA voters are voting by absentee ballot doesn't mean they can't get those famous "I Voted" stickers we all love so much! FVAP has created a customizable "I Voted from..." sticker that UOCAVA voters can share on Facebook and Twitter to let their friends and families know they've voted. Election Officials can send this sticker link directly to voters

or voters can visit <http://www.fvaptraining.com/FVAPIVoted/> and select the country they've voted from to get their very own sticker!



CONTINUED CONFIDENCE



UOCAVA voters may hear myths associated with absentee voting, which can rattle their confidence in the process. To help dispel these myths, FVAP reminds you to communicate with your voters. By communicating voters' progress throughout the absentee voting process, you can help build their confidence and trust in the system. For more information on myths often associated with absentee voting, visit https://www.fvap.gov/uploads/FVAP/Outreach-Materials/FVAP_MythReality.pdf.

UOCAVA ADDRESS MAINTENANCE



In preparation for the November 2016 General Election, it is not too late to review your address file for voters covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).

In partnership with the USPS and the MPSA, the Federal Voting Assistance Program recommends the following address maintenance efforts which can be found in the Mailing Guidelines section of our Local Election Officials web page, visit <https://www.fvap.gov/eo/overview/sending-ballots/mailing>.

JUST A REMINDER... EMBASSY & CONSULATE ADDRESSES

There are many UOCAVA voters who work at American embassies and consulates around the world; whose mail is routed through Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C. This particular group of overseas citizens uses a diplomatic pouch or diplomatic post office (DPO) to transmit personal items aboard, and while the address is not an overseas address or postmark, these U.S. citizens are in fact working and living overseas. The addresses will often look like a normal US address as guidelines dictate that there should be no mention of office, title, or Department of State; respectively they will simply read:

JOHN DOE
2010 ABIDJAN PL APT 5
DULLES, VA 20189-2010

OR

JOHN ADAMS
UNIT 8400 BOX 0000
DPO AE 09498-0048

We ask that you please be mindful to treat these U.S. citizens as UOCAVA eligible because they are working and residing overseas. For more information on U.S. State Department employee mailing addresses, please visit <https://fam.state.gov/fam/14fah04/14fah040110.html>.

POSTAL CORNER

The 2016 Official Election Mail Program Kit is now available for local election officials nationwide. The kit, coordinated and produced by the United States Postal Service, is a one stop resource for election officials. The Program Kit includes valuable resources such as the State and Local Election Mail Users Guide, Official Election Mail Graphic Guidelines and Logos, sample 191 tags with tips for their best usage, and fact sheets on everything from Intelligent Mail barcodes to special procedures for APO/FPO addresses. To obtain a softcopy of the kit please visit: <http://about.usps.com/election-mail/election-mail-resources.htm> to obtain a kit by mail, please contact Mr. Daniel Bentley with the United States Postal Service at: Daniel.M.Bentley@usps.gov.



DEDICATED TO CUSTOMER SERVICE



Providing excellent customer service to Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) voters and election officials is our top goal – especially during a busy election cycle. In an effort to further strengthen our customer service model, FVAP staff recently came together for a refresher on the importance of providing first-class assistance to those who reach out to us with their questions and concerns.

