

ELECTION OFFICIAL NEWS

Military and Overseas Voting

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2010-11 Absentee Voting Materials and LEO Online Training: Coming Soon!

Although the 2010 elections are still almost a year away, the FVAP is hard at work preparing for the next election cycle. To get ready for the upcoming primaries and general election, the FVAP is currently completing the final coordination of its *Voting Assistance Guide* with state election officials and is creating the new motivational posters and training materials for these important elections.

The *2010-11 Voting Assistance Guide* is the manual which helps Uniformed Service members, their families, and overseas citizens vote absentee. Voters will be able to determine their state's requirements and deadlines for submitting their voter registration/ballot request forms and for returning their absentee ballots. Also, voters will be able to use the *Guide* to find their election office's address. The *Guide* provides instructions to military and civilian Voting Assistance Officers for assisting these voters.

Additionally, FVAP will make available motivational posters to local election officials and Voting Assistance Officers. These posters are designed to encourage citizens to participate in the voting process.

Finally, FVAP is updating its training materials for local election officials to learn about military and overseas absentee voting. Go to www.fvap.gov and click on "For Election Officials" to find helpful information.

All the materials discussed here will be available this upcoming fall.

Honor the Past, Support the Future—Vote!

The FVAP is pleased to announce the winning slogan, "Honor the Past. . . Support the Future," of its biennial Voting Slogan Contest! This slogan, along with the other winning and honorable mention entries, will be used to promote participation in the democratic process among citizens covered under the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act* -- members of the Uniformed Services, the Merchant Marine, their families, and all U.S. citizens residing outside the United States.

This year, the Department of Defense received more than 1,600 slogans from all branches of the Uniformed Services, the State Department, local election officials and citizens living around the world. A panel of judges which included Members of the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives and Service Voting Action Officers was asked to rank their top selections based on originality and motivational value. These slogans will be a part of the FVAP's 2010-11 outreach campaign which focuses on increasing voter awareness among U.S. citizens worldwide and will be featured in the *2010-11 Voting Assistance Guide*, on motivational posters, and in other FVAP publications.

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What You Can Do!

When our *2010-11 Voting Assistance Guides* and Motivational Posters become available, get some for your office! You will be able to get these materials directly from the FVAP this upcoming fall. Beginning this September, contact us at 800-438-VOTE (8683) or vote@fvap.ncr.gov. Just let us know your name, address, and contact information, as well as the desired type and quantity of materials.

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FVAP is very pleased to announce that two of the slogans which received honorable mention were submitted by election officials. Thank you to all individuals who participated in the slogan contest!

The winning entries in the contest are:

- “Honor the past, support the future - vote!”- 1st Place by Andrea K. Bristol, Army.
- “Vote Today for Tomorrow's Future”- 2nd Place by James R. Hopkins Jr., USN.
- “Never too far away to have your say! VOTE!”- 3rd Place by Jill E. Pigo, USN.
- “Don't just protect the right to vote, use it!”- 4th Place by GySgt Michael D. Travers, USMC.

Receiving Honorable Mention were:

- “Be a part of history: Vote!”- LT Laura Reeves, USN.
- “Citizenship reaches around the world, Vote!”- John Tuteur, Napa County Registrar of Voters
- “Be Informed. Be Involved. Be a Voter!”-Rob Rock, Rhode Island’s Office Secretary of State
- “Have a say in the USA- VOTE”- James E. Kramer, USAF.

Updating Military Addresses: What You Need to Know

Still getting ballots or other voting materials returned to you as undeliverable? Need updated addresses for military voters in your jurisdiction? Please remember that the FVAP can look up active duty military members’ addresses for you as long as we are provided enough information (see below). Remember, we can *only* provide available and releasable information. We do not have access to information on addresses for overseas citizens or for voters who are dependents of military personnel.

If you would like to send a request for assistance in finding updated military addresses, please fax or email your request to: (703) 696-1352 or vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

Be sure to do the following when submitting your request:

- ◆ Remember to prominently display your name, your county or municipality, and your return fax number on your request.
- ◆ Request information *only* for active duty military voters.
- ◆ Include the following information for all citizens for whom you need updated information:
 - ◇ The citizen’s full name
 - ◇ The citizen’s Date of Birth OR full Social Security Number (SSN).

Please Note: We cannot search the database using only the last four digits of the SSN.

- ◆ To ensure timely processing and responses, send your requests *only* to the fax number or email address listed above. We are not able to accept these requests through the Electronic Transmission Service (ETS).

Following these simple guidelines will allow for a streamlined process by which we can quickly provide you with updated addresses for these military voters.

Have Military and Overseas Absentee Voting Questions?

Contact FVAP:

1-800-438-VOTE (8683)
Fax: 703-696-1352
vote@fvap.ncr.gov
www.fvap.gov

Federal Voting Assistance Program
Department of Defense
1777 N. Kent St., Suite 14003
Arlington, VA 22209-1262