



DEBRA BOWEN | SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA | ELECTIONS

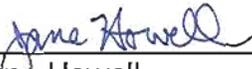
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August 20, 2010

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #10267

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM:


Jane Howell

Associate Elections Analyst

RE: Survey: Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE)

Earlier this year, we outlined the new provisions of the MOVE Act that will be in effect for the November 2010 General Election and each succeeding election for federal office (see CCROV #10042 dated January 28, 2010). Key provisions of the MOVE Act require local elections officials to offer electronic transmission options that enable military and overseas voters to request and receive voter registration applications, absentee ballot applications and blank ballots, and to develop free access systems that allow the voters to determine whether their ballots were received by the elections officials.

As we prepare for the upcoming November 2, 2010, General Election and full implementation of the MOVE Act, the Secretary of State (SOS) and the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) are working closely to ensure that military and overseas voters are afforded every possible means of requesting and receiving special absentee ballots and election materials expeditiously. To assist in this effort, the FVAP has offered to include on its website a direct link to any local electronic ballot delivery systems offered by counties. If you have such a link, please provide the website URL on the attached survey with a brief explanation of what it enables the voter to do (for example, download a sample ballot, receive a blank ballot via email) so that the SOS can compile the results for the FVAP. Our ultimate goal is to provide a complete list of the 58 counties' website URLs for military and overseas voters, letting them know about options provided by each of the counties. Any online resource available via the county website would be useful, for example, voter registration verification tools, access to sample ballots, links to the vote-by-mail tracking/free access system, so that military and overseas voters seeking to register to vote or request a ballot can directly access those websites. If your county has a special page for military and overseas voters, please identify that link, or the link to your vote-by-mail or main page as appropriate.

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The SOS has also been asked to report to the United States Department of Justice on the use of special absentee ballots. Please specify on the survey what type of ballot is sent to military and overseas voters beginning 60 days before the election (for example, a full ballot, sample ballot, vote-by-mail ballot, generic state write-in absentee ballot with accompanying list of candidates and measures).

Finally, please identify what form of electronic transmission you offer for the voter to request and receive election materials (for example, fax in/fax out special absentee ballot, email blank ballot).

If you haven't already done so, you may wish to visit the FVAP's website at www.fvap.gov to review recent upgrades, including a web page devoted to resources "For Election Officials," an Online Registration/Absentee Ballot Request Assistant, Registration/Absentee Ballot Request Form, and downloadable Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot.

Please complete and return the attached survey via fax to (916) 653-3214 or email to jane.howell@sos.ca.gov no later than **Tuesday, August 31, 2010**. If you have any questions, please contact me directly at (916) 653-2744. Thank you for your assistance.

Survey
November 2, 2010, General Election
Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act

County of: _____

1. Do special absentee voters receive the same ballot that polling place voters or vote-by-mail voters receive in your county?
 - YES
 - YES, if ballots are printed and available
 - NO

2. If voters do not receive the same ballot that polling place voters or vote-by-mail voters receive, do they receive the blank ballot provided by the Secretary of State and a list of candidates and measures to be voted on?
 - a. YES
 - b. NO, the county provides something else to the voter
 - c. If NO, please specify what is provided to the voter: _____

3. What delivery method is used to provide voter registration applications to special absentee voters?
 - Voters are emailed voter registration materials
 - Voters are faxed voter registration materials
 - Voters are mailed voter registration materials
 - Voters are provided a link to the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) online at the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) website
 - Voters are provided a link to the Secretary of State's website, which includes a link to the FPCA on the FVAP website
 - Other, please specify: _____

4. What delivery method is used to provide special absentee ballots to special absentee voters?
 - Voters are emailed a ballot (whenever an email address is available)
 - Voters are emailed a ballot only upon request
 - Voters are faxed a ballot upon request
 - Voters are mailed a ballot
 - If the method of delivery depends upon the circumstances, please specify (e.g., all voters are mailed ballots at E-60, but ballots requested after that date are emailed or faxed upon request; or the voter is referred to the county website where a sample ballot can be downloaded, printed, marked and faxed or mailed): _____

5. Can a special absentee voter verify his/her registration status online? If yes, please identify the website URL: _____

6. If your county offers an online sample ballot that may be accessed by military and overseas voters and used for voting purposes, please identify the website URL below:

7. If your county offers a special web page for military and overseas voters, please identify the website URL below:

Please provide a brief explanation of what your website or system allows the voter to do (e.g., access a voter registration form and request a ballot, request ballot via email, download a sample ballot, etc.): _____

8. Are any other resources available online to military and overseas voters via your county website? If so, please briefly explain and identify the website URL below (e.g., voter can verify receipt of voted ballot at www._____):

9. What type of ballot do you send to military and overseas voters beginning 60 days before the election (e.g., sample ballot, Secretary of State provided blank ballot and a list of candidates and measures)?

10. What form(s) of electronic transmission can military and overseas voters use to request and receive election materials from your county (e.g., fax, email, or county website)?

11. What fax number can be used by military and overseas voters to submit completed special absentee ballots to your county?: _____

County contact: _____ Phone Number: _____

Please send responses to:
Fax: (916) 653-3214 ATTN: Jane Howell
Or via email: jane.howell@sos.ca.gov