



DEBRA BOWEN | SECRETARY OF STATE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA | ELECTIONS

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September 17, 2010

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #10287

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM:



Jane Howell

Associate Elections Analyst

RE: Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE)

Please find attached a copy of an official United States Postal Service alert that may help with the mailing of special absentee ballot materials to military and overseas voters. The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act requires states to transmit absentee ballots to military and overseas voters covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act no later than 45 days before a federal election. This year, **Saturday, September 18th** marks 45 days before the November 2, 2010, General Election.

If you have any questions, please contact the Federal Voting Assistance Program via phone at 1-800-438-8683, via email at vote@fvap.gov, or via chat at www.fvap.gov.



FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Department of Defense
Rosslyn Plaza North
1777 North Kent Street
14th Floor, Suite 14003
Arlington, VA 22209-2162

September 16, 2010

State Election Official:

Local election officials should be aware that if they have a problem mailing balloting materials addressed to absent uniformed services and overseas voters, FVAP stands ready to assist. They may contact FVAP by phone at 1-800-438-8683, email at vote@fvap.gov or via chat at www.fvap.gov.

There have been questions about mailings bearing the indicia "US Postage Paid 39 USC 3406." In accordance with section 103A (b) (4) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act and section 3406 of title 39 of the United States Code, absentee ballots and other balloting materials of absent uniformed service and overseas voters shall be carried free of postage.

More information on ballot envelope preparation and mailing can be found in the United States Postal Service Mail Guidelines section of the "For Election Officials" link on the FVAP homepage:

<http://www.fvap.gov/leo/usps-mail-guidelines.html>

U.S. Postal Service Headquarters sent the following notification to all Post Offices nationwide this week:

MOVE Act Notification: Do not detain APO/FPO Military Ballots

The Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment (MOVE) Act requires states to transmit absentee ballots to military and overseas voters covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act no later than 45-days before a federal election.

This year, September 18th marks 45-days before the November 2nd election and falls on a Saturday. Post Offices that are open on Saturday should expect to see mailings bearing the indicia "US Postage Paid 39 USC 3406."

Absentee ballots bearing this indicia do not require postage and are not shortpaid (DMM 703.8.0). In addition, these ballots must not be detained or held for postage payment (POM 171.3).

Please notify acceptance employees, including window personnel, to accept this mail without question.

All other absentee ballots require postage prior to mailing.