



Voting Information News

May 2003 Vol. 13, No. 5

*A roundup of voting news from the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)
For voters, potential voters and those who assist voters.*

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"To Do" This Month:

✓ Encourage participation in the 2003 Voting Slogan Contest by all U.S. citizens.

Participants can enter as many times as they wish. See Page 2 for details.

✓ Ensure that citizens you assist have submitted new FPCAs to their local election officials if they have recently changed their mailing address or are residents of a state holding elections this year.

✓ Inventory and replenish your stock of voting materials that was consumed in last year's elections. FPCAs (SF-76), FWABs (SF-186) and *Guides* are available through your normal supply distribution channels.

Voting Assistance Officer Online Training

FVAP provides on-line training for VAOs at www.fvap.gov. VAOs are encouraged to visit the FVAP site to obtain the latest guidance and information for citizens voting under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).

From our home page click on the tab titled "Voting Assistance Officers Training". Visitors to the site will find two sections of the training program: one for use by VAOs in the Uniformed Services and another version for civilian VAOs at U.S. Embassies / Consulates, organizations of overseas civilian United States citizens and overseas corporations that employ U.S. citizens. Both the military and the civilian presentations are in three formats: Microsoft PowerPoint Version, Adobe Acrobat Version and Text Version. For site visitors without PowerPoint, a link allowing viewers to download a PowerPoint viewer is provided.

Although FVAP will be releasing the 2004-05 workshop presentation in the Fall, the current training on the website is valid and can be very helpful to new VAOs and as a refresher.

The slide show addresses item-by-item completion of the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) and provides an overview of the top ten resources available from the FVAP to assist VAOs in carrying out their programs. The presentation also explains the DoD Voting Information Center and the Electronic Transmission Service for transmitting (faxing) of election materials. Contact information on the Service and Department of State Voting Action Officers is also provided.

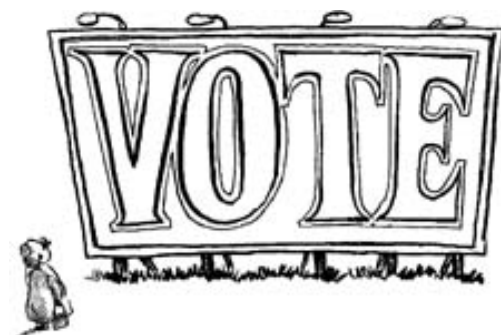
The presentations are accompanied by "speaker's notes" which explain each slide and can be used by VAOs when assisting citizens or training other VAOs.

To set up your computer screen to view the notes on each slide, click on "PowerPoint Version". Downloading will take a few seconds depending on the speed of your internet connection. Once the presentation is up on your screen, right click over the screen and click on "Edit Slides" on the down select menu. This will bring up the Edit mode and you will be able to arrange the screen to view the

notes at the bottom of each slide. You are now able to scroll through each slide and view the notes associated with each slide.

You can also localize the presentation. Download the 2 megabyte presentation to a CDR or local hard-drive, allowing you to run the presentation directly from your computer and make "hard copies" of the slides for printing to 35mm slides or overhead transparencies.

Questions or comments on the on-line training presentation can be addressed to the FVAP at vote@fvap.ncr.gov or using the contact information on page 4.



UOCAVA Absentee Voting and State Absentee Voting – What's the Difference?

The Federal government has assisted certain absentee voters since 1942. In 1986, Congress updated and consolidated the provisions of the Federal Voting Assistance Act of 1955 and the Overseas Citizens Voting Rights Act of 1975 into the *Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)*. The UOCAVA requires that the states and territories allow certain groups of citizens to register and vote absentee in elections for Federal offices. In addition, many states and territories have developed their own laws allowing citizens covered by the UOCAVA to register and vote absentee in state and local elections as well.

Many states allow non-UOCAVA citizens to vote absentee, but the procedures may be different from those for UOCAVA citizens.

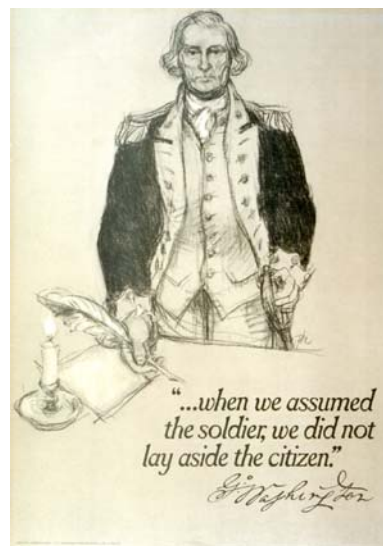
The vast amount of information and the variance of these laws is why it is very important that organization or unit Voting Assistance Officers (VAOs) know the resources and tools available to them for providing assistance. This will avoid any possible delays in voter's registering or requesting an absentee ballot.

VAOs should inform voters to use the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA, Standard Form 76) whenever possible. The VAO should promote the use of the FPCA and have these available for distribution by maintaining a sufficient number in stock. Using the FPCA will identify to the local election official (LEO) that the voter is covered under the UOCAVA and the LEO will know to respond accordingly.

To guide UOCAVA citizens and help clarify voting procedures, the VAO should:

- Know how to use *Voting Assistance Guide* provided by the FVAP
- Be familiar with the vast amount of resources available at the FVAP website (www.fvap.gov).
- Read their Service's Voting Action Plan.
- Attend and conduct voting assistance workshop/training.

If you cannot find voting assistance locally, please feel free to contact FVAP (see information on page 4).



Archive Poster from 1975

2003 Slogan Contest Submissions Still Being Accepted!

The FVAP Voting Slogan Contest is well under way.

Remember, there is no limit to the number of entries a participant may submit, but we request that all slogans be submitted separately (only one slogan per entry). The deadline for submission is July 11, 2003.

All submissions must include your full name, (Service, if military), mailing address, daytime telephone number, fax number and e-mail address (if applicable) so we may contact you upon winning.

Send entries via one of the following methods:

E-mail: slogan@fvap.ncr.gov Text only, one slogan per e-mail with contact information on each e-mail. (Due to security concerns any e-mail message with an attachment will be deleted)

Fax: (703) 588-0108 or DSN 425-0108 Visit the FVAP Website for toll-free fax numbers from 48 countries. Submit separate page for each slogan with contact information on each page. No cover sheet is necessary.

Mail:

Federal Voting Assistance Program
Attn.: Voting Slogan Contest
Washington Headquarters Services
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington DC 20301-1155

If submitting by mail, please type or print (legibly) on regular 8 1/2 x 11 inch paper one slogan per page with contact information on each page.

FROM THE DESK OF THE ARMY SENIOR SERVICE VOTING REPRESENTATIVE

As The Adjutant General and the Army's Senior Voting Representative, it is my pleasure to include in this newsletter my personal and professional note of encouragement for each of our eligible soldiers to get out to register and to VOTE!

As most of us remember, the last Presidential election was very close and absentee votes were critical to the outcome! During the 2004 election cycle, the President, several Senators, and numerous other federal, state, and local officials will be elected. We all know these officials have a direct impact on the quality of life of soldiers and their families. Your vote makes a difference; by not voting, you are surrendering a privilege that others have fought so hard to achieve. Voting is a privilege and a right that should not be taken for granted.

All eligible soldiers and their family members who are U.S. citizens can vote absentee in Federal, State and local elections. There have been numerous changes in the absentee registration and voting process to make it easier, but it all starts with the individual! The Federal Post Card Application Ballot (FPCA) is the key. This is the form used to register and request an absentee ballot. Every unit is required to have a Unit Voting Assistance Officer, equipped with the training and tools to help in completing this registration request.

I want all our soldiers to remain empowered and mindful that their vote counts. This is the very essence of our democracy, and I can think of no other program more deserving of our support and personal attention.

As the Army's Senior Voting Representative, my staff and I stand committed to providing accurate and timely voting information and assistance to the Army.

Please feel free to contact the Army's Voting website at: <https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/pssd/psb/voting/votingindex.htm>

DO NOT SURRENDER; REGISTER AND VOTE!!!

COL (P) Gina Farrisee



COL (P) Gina Farrisee
The Adjutant General

Voting Action Officers

Department of State: Office of American Citizen Services

Chief VAO: Mr. Jack Markey, **tel:** (202) 736-4937, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** markeyjd@state.gov
Deputy VAO: Mr. Stuart Denyer, **tel:** (202) 647-3495, **fax:** (202) 647-6201, **E-mail:** denyersr@state.gov

Service Voting Action Officers

Dept. of the Army: Mr. James Davis **tel:** (703) 325-4530 **DSN:** 221-4530; **fax:** (703) 325-4532
DSN fax: 221-4532; **E-mail:** davisj@hoffman.army.mil,
<https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/pssd/psb/voting/votingindex.htm>

Dept. of the Navy: LT Brian Campbell **tel:** 1-800-368-5056; **fax:** (901) 874-2689, **DSN fax:** 882-2689;
E-mail: MILL_navyvote@navy.mil, <https://www.persnet.navy.mil/nvap>

Dept. of the Air Force: Lt. Col. Lee Shick **tel:** (210) 565-3514, **toll free:** 1-800-558-1404, **DSN:** 665-3514 or 2572;
fax: (210) 565-2543, **DSN fax:** 665-2543; **E-mail:** Lee.Shick@randolph.af.mil
<https://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund/Programs/Voting/Default.htm>

Marine Corps: GySgt Kenneth B. Warford **tel:** (703) 784-9511, **DSN:** 278-9511;
fax: (703) 784-9828, **DSN fax:** 278-9828; **E-mail:** warfordkb@manpower.usmc.mil
https://lnweb1.manpower.usmc.mil/manpower/mi/mra_ofct.nsf/mrp/Voting+Home

U.S. Coast Guard: Ensign Steve Rodanhisler **tel:** (202)-267-2005, **fax:** (202) 267-4823, attn: Lt. Luna;
E-mail: srodanhisler@comdt.uscg.mil

All of the above can also be reached through the DoD Voting Information Center and the FVAP Website.

Federal Voting Assistance Program

Department of Defense
Washington
Headquarters Services
1155 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC
20301-1155

PHONE:
(703) 588-1584
DSN 425-1584

FAX:
(703) 588-0108
DSN 425-0108

VOTING INFORMATION
CENTER:
(703) 588-1343
DSN 425-1343

TOLL FREE:
1-800-438-VOTE (8683)

E-MAIL:
vote@fvap.ncr.gov

Website:
www.fvap.gov

Vote!

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Address Change:

Please make the following changes to your *2002-03 Voting Assistance Guide*:

Boulder County, Colorado - Zip Code is: 80301-2546 (Page 60, Section III.E. "Where To Send It")

Bay County, Florida – New address is: 205 Mosley Drive, Lynn Haven, FL 32444 (Page 84, Section III.G. "Where To Send It")

The online version of the VAG state pages reflects these changes.

Share Your Voting Assistance Ideas!

E-mail us at:
vote@fvap.ncr.gov

"Voting is Victory!"

By 1LT Nate G. Hummel, US Army
Ft. Jackson, South Carolina 2000

About Our Organization...

Voting Information News provides information for citizens and Voting Assistance Officers and is published monthly by the FVAP.

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Federal Voting Assistance Program
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Washington, DC 20301-1155



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