

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Absentee Voting Guide

FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES AND U.S. CITIZENS OVERSEAS

Website: www.vivote.gov

Link to state election website is also available through FVAP website at www.fvap.gov

Presidential Primary Date: Not Applicable*

State Primary Date: September 3, 2008

General Election Date: November 4, 2008

DEADLINES FOR UNIFORMED SERVICES**	Presidential Primary* (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	Not Applicable	August 14, 2008	October 5, 2008
Ballot Request	Not Applicable	August 30, 2008	October 14, 2008
Ballot Return	Not Applicable	September 13, 2008	November 14, 2008

DEADLINES FOR CIVILIANS OUTSIDE THE U.S.**	Presidential Primary* (or preference)	State Primary	General Election
Registration	Not Applicable	August 14, 2008	October 5, 2008
Ballot Request	Not Applicable	August 30, 2008	October 14, 2008
Ballot Return	Not Applicable	September 13, 2008	November 14, 2008

Note: Election dates and information are current as of July 2007. Check the state election website above, the FVAP Website at www.fvap.gov, or contact your Voting Assistance Officer for updates.

*Virgin Islands does not have a Presidential Primary.

**Special conditions may apply; check the following pages for details.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Circled letters on the form below correspond to the instructions on the following page. You must complete all shaded areas.

FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION

REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)

1. I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE AND I AM (mark only one):

- (a) A MEMBER OF THE UNIFORMED SERVICES OR MERCHANT MARINE ON ACTIVE DUTY, OR AN ELIGIBLE SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT
- (b) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. TEMPORARILY
- (c) A U.S. CITIZEN RESIDING OUTSIDE THE U.S. INDEFINITELY

2. MY INFORMATION (Required)

a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle)				SUFFIX (Jr., Sr., III, etc.)		b. PREVIOUS NAME (if applicable)	
c. SEX <input type="checkbox"/> M <input type="checkbox"/> F		d. RACE	e. DATE OF BIRTH M M D D Y Y Y Y		f. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER		
g. STATE DRIVER'S LICENSE OR I.D. NUMBER				A			
h. TELEPHONE NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)				i. FAX NUMBER (No DSN number; include all international prefixes)			
j. EMAIL ADDRESS							

3. MY VOTING RESIDENCE ADDRESS (For military, use legal residence. For overseas citizens, use last legal residence in U.S.) (Required)

a. NUMBER AND STREET (Cannot be a P.O. Box)							
b. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE			c. COUNTY		d. STATE		e. ZIP CODE
B							

4. WHERE TO SEND MY VOTING MATERIALS

a. MY CURRENT ADDRESS (Where I live now) (Required)				b. MY FORWARDING ADDRESS (Complete 4.b. only if you do not want your ballot mailed to the address in Block 4.a.)					
C									
c. I PREFER TO RECEIVE MY ABSENTEE BALLOT, AS PERMITTED BY MY STATE, BY:									
D				<input type="checkbox"/> MAIL		<input type="checkbox"/> FAX		<input type="checkbox"/> EMAIL	

5. MY POLITICAL PARTY PREFERENCE (Optional, but may be required by states to register to vote in primary elections):

E

6. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Designate the period for which you want to receive ballots — see instructions for Block 6 paragraph (3). Consult the Voting Assistance Guide for other specific state instructions.)

F

7. AFFIRMATION (required)

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

- I am a member of the Uniformed Services or merchant marine on active duty or an eligible spouse or dependent of such a member, or a U.S. citizen temporarily residing outside the U.S., or other U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S., and
- I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
- I have not been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense or been adjudicated mentally incompetent, or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated, and
- I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the U.S., and
- My signature and date below indicate when I completed this document, and
- The information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.

Signed: _____ Date: _____ M M D D Y Y Y Y Signed: _____ Date: _____ M M D D Y Y Y Y
(Witness/Notary and address (if required))

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I. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR FPCA

The Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) is the primary form for requesting registration and/or an absentee ballot from your local election official. **Read all instructions printed below and on the FPCA before completing and signing your application.** Circled letters correspond to the circled letters on the sample form on the preceding page.

- A Block 2.f and 2.g:** Your Social Security number is required. If you do not have a Social Security number, your Virgin Islands Driver's License number is required for voter registration. If you do not possess either of these identifications, the Territory shall assign a number that will serve to identify you for voter registration purposes.
- B Block 3.a through 3.e:** Provide the complete street address of your Virgin Islands voting residence. A post office box is not sufficient. If your address includes a rural route, describe its location in Block 6. For example: "on Highway _____, 2 miles past Highway _____, across the street from the _____ gas station." This address must be different from the one provided in Block 4 and must be within the Virgin Islands.
- C Block 4.a:** Print the complete address where you want your ballot sent — usually your current mailing address. Your current mailing address must be different from the address provided in Block 3.
- D Block 4.c:** See Section II.D. or III.D.
- E Block 5: If you do not list a party affiliation, you cannot vote in primary elections.** You must indicate your political party affiliation when applying for a primary ballot (Example: Democrat, ICM, Republican) or write "none" in Block 5 of the FPCA. Political party affiliation is not required if only requesting absentee ballots for general elections. If you are currently registered and want to change your political party affiliation, you must submit a completed FPCA which indicates your new political party choice so that the local election official receives it not later than 30 days before the election in which you wish to vote.
- F Block 6:** Submission of this form serves as a request to receive ballots for all Federal elections held through the next two regularly scheduled general elections. If you do not wish to receive ballots for that length of time, you may request a ballot for each election for Federal office held in the next election year OR a ballot for only the next scheduled election for Federal office by noting your choice here.
- G Block 7:** You must sign and date the FPCA. When signing, you are swearing or affirming that the information is true and correct.

II. UNIFORMED SERVICES

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of the Virgin Islands and members of the Uniformed Services and their family members. Uniformed Services are defined as the U.S. Armed Forces, merchant marine, commissioned corps of the Public Health Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. They also apply to members of religious, welfare or service agencies assisting or attached to the Armed Forces.

A. Registering and Requesting an Absentee Ballot

You should send an FPCA to your local election official early every year and whenever you change your mailing address (see Chapter Two).

To register and/or request an absentee ballot, the Supervisor of Elections must receive your FPCA not later than 14 working days before the election.

B. Casting Your Vote

Ballot Return Deadline: Mail your voted ballot by the day of the election. Voted ballot must arrive not later than **10 days after the election.**

Local election officials shall prepare ballots not later than 30 days before the election.

Due to its territorial status, the Virgin Islands does not send representatives to the U.S. Senate or directly participate in the election of the President and Vice President of the U.S. At the Federal level, only a Delegate to the House of Representatives is elected.

If you have not received your Virgin Islands ballot in a timely manner, use the **Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot.** See instructions in Chapter Two.

C. Notary/Witness Requirements

No registration or voting materials are notarized or witnessed.

D. Electronic Transmission of FPCAs and Ballots

- The Virgin Islands allows you to send the FPCA for registration and ballot request by fax. After faxing, submit the FPCA by mail.
- The Virgin Islands allows you to receive the blank ballot by fax.
- The Virgin Islands allows you to return the voted ballot by fax.

Please refer to Appendix B for specific instructions when transmitting election materials electronically. **Use the following numbers:**

DSN 223-5527
(703) 693-5527

1-800-368-8683

(from U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands only)

International toll-free fax numbers

(See inside back cover)

E. Ballot Application By Proxy

If you are currently registered, anyone may apply for an absentee ballot on your behalf if that person can satisfactorily provide the required information about you.

F. Bars to Registration and Voting

Persons convicted of a felony or of a crime involving moral turpitude or declared mentally incompetent may not register or vote.

G. Cancellation of Registration

Registration can be canceled if the elector changes domicile, registers in another state, or does not vote in two consecutive general elections.

H. Action If Registration is Cancelled

The elector can register after cancellation if he or she meets residency requirements.

I. Action Upon Denial of Registration or Absentee Ballot Request

Upon denial of your voter registration application or absentee ballot request, the Virgin Islands shall provide you with the reason(s) for the rejection.

J. Action If Registration Is Denied

Persons denied registration may appeal to the District Court. Persons seeking to appeal should consult a legal assistance officer or civilian counsel.

K. Late Registration

Members of the Armed Forces or merchant marine who have been discharged within sixty days of an election may register and vote in that election by presenting the local election official with his or her discharge papers.

III. CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

These procedures apply to persons who are U.S. citizens, residents of the Virgin Islands and overseas electors. The term "overseas elector" means a U.S. citizen who resides outside the U.S. and (but for such residence) would be qualified to vote in the Virgin Islands.

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IV. UNIFORMED SERVICES & CIVILIANS OUTSIDE U.S.

Where to Send it

Mail the FPCA to:

Supervisor of Elections
P.O. Box 6038, Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00804-6038

Or to:

Supervisor of Elections
P.O. Box 1499, Kingshill
St. Croix, Virgin Islands 00851-1499

Out of Country, but not out of touch. Vote!

by Marianne Cadle, Peace Corps, Paraguay

