



U.S. ELECTION ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
1225 New York Ave. NW – Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005

For Immediate Release
March 30, 2006

Contact EAC: Jeannie Layson
(202) 566-3100
Contact BOEE: Bill O'Field
202-727-2525

Absentee Voting Applications Available for Displaced New Orleans Voters in D.C. Area

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Election Assistance Commission (EAC) and the D.C. Board of Elections and Ethics (BOEE) today announced that both offices will provide absentee ballot applications for displaced New Orleans residents currently in the D.C. area who wish to vote absentee in the Orleans Parish April 22 primary election.

Absentee applications are available at both the EAC and BOEE offices, and employees will be on hand to provide assistance and offer additional information about the process. Orleans Parish residents have until April 18, 2006 to request an absentee ballot. **For directions or more information, call EAC toll free at 1-866-747-1471 or visit www.eac.gov.**

WHERE: U.S. Election Assistance Commission, 1225 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 1100.
D.C. Board of Elections & Ethics, One Judiciary Square, 441 4th St., NW, Room 250-North

WHEN: Effective immediately through April 18
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Displaced voters who were registered to vote before September 24, 2005 must complete the Displaced Voter Request for Absentee Ballot by Mail form. For inquiries about eligibility, call the Louisiana Secretary of State's office toll-free at 1-800-883-2805. The form is also available online at www.sos.louisiana.gov.

EAC is an independent bipartisan commission created by the Help America Vote Act (HAVA). It is charged with administering payments to states and developing guidance to meet HAVA requirements, implementing election administration improvements, adopting voluntary voting system guidelines, certifying voting systems and serving as a national clearinghouse and resource of information regarding election administration. The four EAC commissioners are Paul DeGregorio, chairman; Ray Martinez III, vice chairman; Donetta Davidson and Gracia Hillman. Tom Wilkey is the EAC executive director.

The BOEE is the independent agency of the District government responsible for the administration of elections, ballot access and voter registration. BOEE board members are Wilma A. Lewis (chair), Dr. Lenora Cole and Charles Lowery. Alice Miller is the BOEE executive director.

###