



Best Practices for Veterans Voting: Examining Election Operations, Procedures and Accessibility

EAC Roundtable Discussion

September 13, 2012

EAC Offices
Suite 150
1225 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC

Participate

Live webcast at www.eac.gov

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Agenda

9:00 – 10:45 a.m. -Session 1

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. -Morning Break

11:00 – 12:30 p.m. -Session 2

Participants

Moderator: Merle King, Executive Director, Georgia's Center for Election Systems, Kennesaw State University.

- Laura B. Balun, Director, Voluntary Service Office, U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs
- Hon. Beth Chapman, Secretary of State, Alabama
- W. Bradley Fain, Ph.D., Principal Research Scientist, Georgia Tech Research Institute
- Juan E. Gilbert, Ph.D., IDEaS Professor & Chair, Clemson University
- Paul Lux, Supervisor of Elections, Okaloosa County, Florida
- Lee Page, Associate Advocacy Director, Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Deborah Seiler, Registrar of Voters, San Diego County, California
- Steve Trout, Director of Elections, Oregon Office of the Secretary of State

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These are questions (divided by discussion segment) the moderator is likely to pose to the entire panel. Depending on the direction of the discussion and time limitations, all questions may not be asked. These questions are provided to give the panelists the opportunity to further prepare for the discussion and to inform the public, including election officials, about likely topics.

1. Who is a veteran? Is there a legal definition? Can you provide demographic data regarding age, gender, race, etc.?
2. Where are veterans located in the U.S. and abroad? Do veterans aggregate into communities or are they dispersed geographically?
3. What organizations exist to serve veterans? What are examples of their services?
4. How does prior military service impact voting behavior?
5. What are some of the policy issues that must be addressed in order to improve access and procedures for veteran voting?
6. Is voting behavior of veterans different than active duty military? If so, in what ways?
7. What are the medical, social, economic and educational issues faced by veterans? Are these issues static, or are they changing?
8. How does the UOCAVA process inform potential improvements in veteran assistance programs? Is the transition from UOCAVA voter to veteran voter seamless? How could this transition be improved?
9. Casting of the ballot is one-half of the equation for expanding and improving voting access to veterans. How can the registration process be improved? What are specific registration issues facing veterans? Are there model programs addressing this challenge?
10. What are some of the traditional obstacles to voting by veterans? Give examples of procedural, usability-related and accessibility-related obstacles.
11. Can you cite programs of excellence, or other innovations in addressing the needs of veterans in regards to voting?
12. Are there emerging technologies or ongoing research projects that attempt to address special accessibility issues related to veterans and voting?
13. What advice would you give local and state election officials regarding their preparation for the November election regarding outreach and service to veterans?