

#BeReady16: working together for our military and overseas voters

Federal Voting Assistance Program

New Jersey Association of Election Officials (NJAEEO)
Atlantic City, NJ
15 March 2016





Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act and FVAP



Your new FVAP state analysts are here for you.....



- Work with/for you!**
- Track State legislation**
- Attend State conferences**
- Reach out to State officials for certified ballot line-ups**
- Ensure most up-to-date contact information for your election officials**



FVAP's renewed focus



- The electronic voting demonstration project was repealed.
- FVAP returned to its focused on providing customer service for U

- F “Deciding what not to do is as important as deciding
- V what to do.”

W
th

- Steve Jobs



il voter.

nership
n serving



FVAP facing challenges in a new way

- ★ – **Look to the Data**
- **New Outreach Efforts**
- **Cooperative Solutions:**
 - **Council of State Governments**
 - **PCEA Report**
 - **Technology**
 - **Ballot Duplication**
 - **Data Standardization**
 - **Common Access Card Digital Signature**
 - **EAC/FVAP Survey**



2014 Post-Election Research



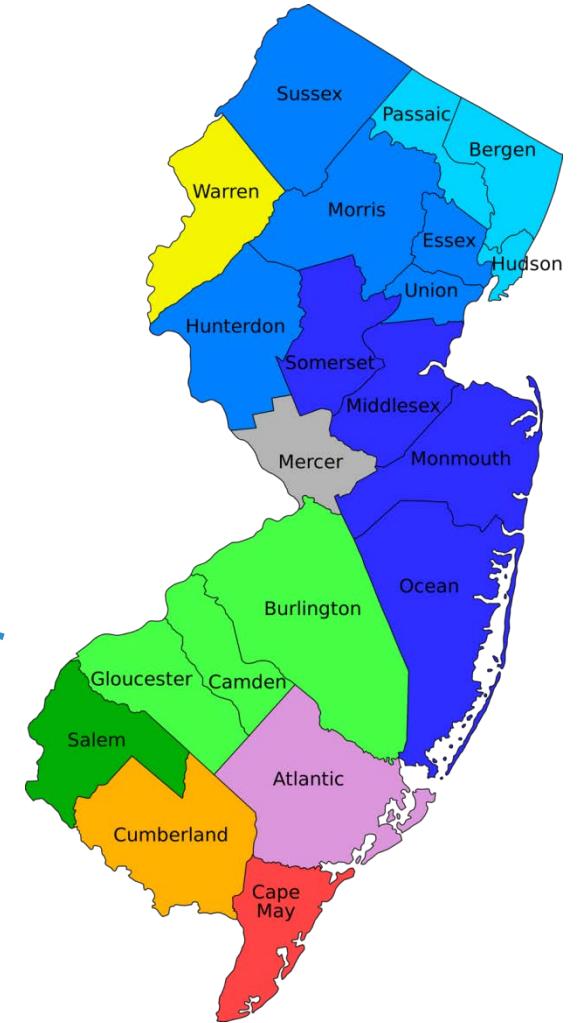
Military Voters: Absentee Voting Behavior



	Total ADM
Requested a ballot	17%
Did not request, but automatically received a ballot	10%
Did not request, but <i>expected</i> to receive a ballot	17%
Did not need a ballot	56%
[Requested ballot] Used FPCA	30%
[Requested ballot] Used a State or local form	44%
[Requested ballot] Received ballot	76%
[Requested or automatically received ballot] Completed and returned ballot	58%
[Requested ballot, did not receive ballot] Used FWAB	11%

Closer to Home: State of New Jersey

- Ranked 11th largest State in transmitting 2014 UOCAVA ballots.
- In 2014, UOCAVA Ballot Rejection rate was slightly above the national average (5.5%) at 7.1%.
- In 2014, UOCAVA Ballot undeliverable rate was slightly higher than the national average (3.7%) at 4.3%.
- In 2014, UOCAVA Return Rate was higher than the national average (35.6%) at 42.3%.



Working
together
is success
Henry Ford

DoD Postal Updates-Working Together

- Recommended Mailing Dates for voters have been published
- USPS/MPSA upgraded the Global Business Systems in 2015 that will improve service of absentee ballots mailed with the Label 11-DoD
- FVAP/MPSA/USPS Pilot Project focusing on transaction information on where balloting materials appear in the USPS/MPSA mail stream
- EAC and DoD working with USPS to solve election mail issues



USPS and Military Addresses

★ Military Mail Addressing:

In conjunction with the Navy and the Military Postal Service Agency, the Postal Service will revise the APO and FPO address format to more closely align with Postal and other military addressing standards – ***using the “UNIT,” “CMR,” or “PSC” designation and number, plus the box number as part of the addressing component.***

The use of the ship’s name to reach its destination will no longer be permitted.

These addressing standards are ***effective June 1, 2015***, with a full compliance date required by ***October 2015***.

USPS and Military Addresses



Examples of a UNIT and PSC designation:

SEAMAN JOHN DOE UNIT 100100 BOX 4120 FPO AP 96691	JOHN DOE PSC 5698 BOX 2002 APO AE 09400
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Emphasis on Updating Address using the MilConnect System



Military Postal Automated Redirection System



Having a Problem With Election Mail..... Guess What??

ELECTIONMAIL.ORG

[REPORT A PROBLEM](#) / [ELECTION MAIL RESOURCES](#) / [ABOUT THIS SITE](#)

REPORT A PROBLEM WITH ELECTION MAIL

Report a Problem with Election Mail

Use this form to report issues with official Election Mail processed by the United States Postal Service. This form may be used to report past or current issues.

* Required

Name *

Your contact information allows us to follow up if necessary, but will not be posted publicly.

Your answer

One Stop Shopping for Stakeholders and Voters





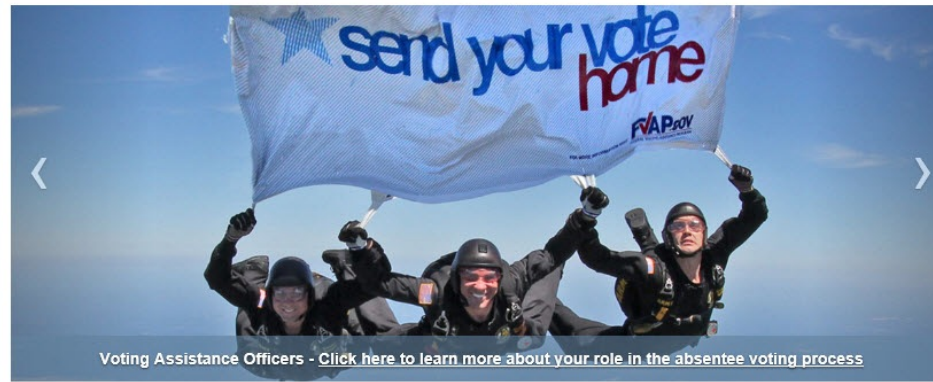
Voters Start Here

Military and Overseas Citizens
start the voting process

Select a State

Help a Voter

- ★ Voting Assistance Officers
- ☑ Election Officials



Voting Assistance Officers - [Click here to learn more about your role in the absentee voting process](#)

Upcoming Election Dates

- Jun 2** Mississippi - CD 1 Special Election Runoff
- Jul 7** Illinois - CD 18 Special Primary
- Sep 10** Illinois - CD 18 Special General

[View All Upcoming Election Dates](#)

Quick Links

- Download your FPCA Today
- Downloadable Election Materials
- Locate Your Election Official
- About the Absentee Voting Process
- Voting Assistance Guide (VAG)
- Locate a Voting Office Near You

[Contact FVAP](#)

Latest FVAP News

- May 07
[Deadlines for the Illinois Special Primary Election](#)
- April 28
[FVAP Releases Research Reports](#)
- March 26
[Deadlines for the Mississippi Special General Election](#)
- March 05
[Deadlines for the New York Special General Election](#)
- February 26
[Navy.mil Article - Democracy is a Year-Round Business](#)

[View All FVAP News](#)



Voting Absentee is easy using FVAP's online assistants. Be absent
but accounted for.

FVAP.gov Resources for Election Officials



A New Approach to Outreach



Direct-To-Voter Training

- ★ – New direct-to-voter training
- Video format
 - Augment existing training modules at FVAP.gov
 - Every Service member will be notified of availability



Continuing 2014 Campaign: Voting is Easy



☐ WINDOW
☐ AISLE

FOR AMERICANS, VOTING COMES EASY.
If you're military, a military family member or an American living overseas, simply go to FVAP.gov for help getting your absentee ballot so you can send your most important vote back home.

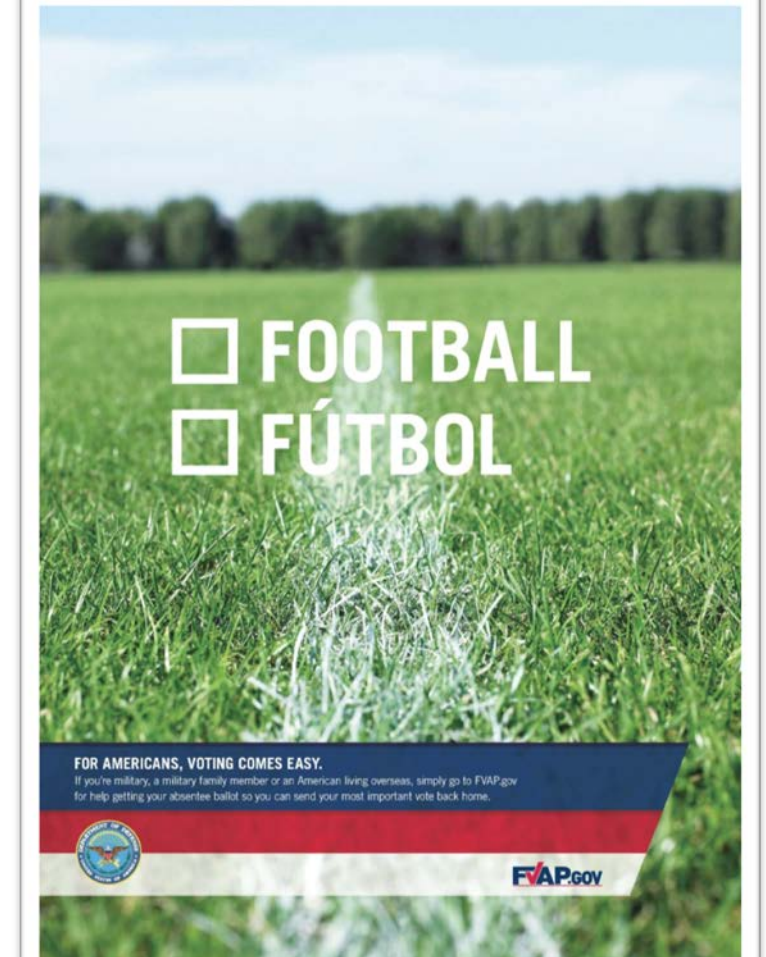
 FVAP.gov



☐ SWEET
☐ UNSWEET


FOR AMERICANS, VOTING COMES EASY.
If you're military, a military family member or an American living overseas, simply go to FVAP.gov for help getting your absentee ballot so you can send your most important vote back home.

 FVAP.gov



☐ FOOTBALL
☐ FÚTBOL

FOR AMERICANS, VOTING COMES EASY.
If you're military, a military family member or an American living overseas, simply go to FVAP.gov for help getting your absentee ballot so you can send your most important vote back home.

 FVAP.gov







Things you should know from FVAP

- ★ - Major FPCA push in January to our military members
- We are currently out training our Voting Assistance Officers
- Created special Installation Voting Officer Training
- Be diligent when sending materials electronically
 - Attachments (blank ballots)
 - HyperLinks
- Any problems, issues, challenges.... WE ARE HERE TO HELP!



WHAT
YOU
NEED
TO
KNOW

Take-Aways for Election Officials



Tips for Election Officials

5. Better Data, Better Decisions, Better Outcomes = Better Elections



Tips for Election Officials

- 4. Reach Out to Military Installations in your area

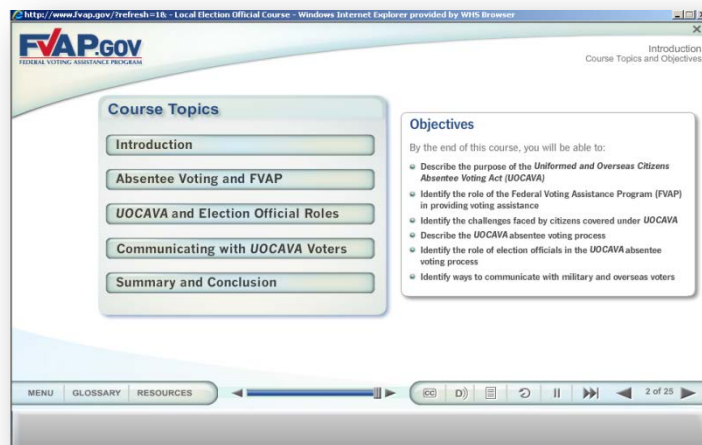


Tips for Election Officials

3. Don't Forget About FVAP Resources

Tailor Made Just for You!

- Electronic Transmission Service
- Address Lookup Service
- “UOCAVA 101” Training



FVAP can help!



An FVAP official, or the FVAP Director, may be available to visit your State to provide training on how best to assist UOCAVA voters. You could learn how to process forms, what resources FVAP has available to help you, and how best to communicate with these voters outside your jurisdiction.

To request that FVAP attend a conference in your State to provide UOCAVA training, send an email to Vote@FVAP.gov with conference details.

Additionally, FVAP suggests that you practice the following:

- ✓ Confirm receipt and acceptance of the absentee ballot via email or post card.
- ✓ Provide notification of FPCA acceptance and resolution of a FWAB submission to the voter and guidelines for re-sending or updating the forms if applicable.
- ✓ Provide an annual review of your State's contact information on FVAP.gov to ensure it's current. Create and use a UOCAVA-specific email address.
- ✓ Visit nearby military installations and build a working relationship with the Voting Assistance Officers.

**The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) requires that the 55 States and territories allow certain groups of citizens to register and vote absentee in federal elections. States and territories may have supplementary laws and requirements.

UOCAVA requires State officials to:

- ✓ permit absent Uniformed Services and overseas citizen voters to use absentee registration procedures and to vote by absentee ballot in general, special, primary, and runoff elections for federal office;
- ✓ use the official post card form (prescribed under section 20301) as a simultaneous registration and absentee ballot application;
- ✓ accept and process, with respect to any election for federal office, any otherwise valid voter registration application and absentee ballot application from an absent Uniformed Services or overseas citizen voter, if the application is received by the appropriate State election official not less than 30 days before the election; (state law may allow for a shorter period)
- ✓ provide UOCAVA voters with an option to request and receive voter registration and absentee ballot applications by electronic transmission and establish electronic transmission options for delivery of blank absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters;
- ✓ transmit requested absentee ballots to UOCAVA voters no later than 45 days before an election for a federal office, when the request has been received by that date, except where an undue hardship waiver is approved by the Department of Defense for that election;
- ✓ take steps to ensure that electronic transmission procedures to protect the security of the balloting process and that the privacy of the identity and personal data of UOCAVA voters using the procedures (in accordance with section 20302(e)(6));
- ✓ permit absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters to use Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots (in accordance with section 20303) in general, special, primary and runoff elections for federal office;
- ✓ accept otherwise valid voter registration applications, absentee ballot applications, voted ballots, or Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots without regard to State notarization requirements, or restrictions on paper type, or envelope type; and
- ✓ allow UOCAVA voters to track the receipt of their absentee ballots.

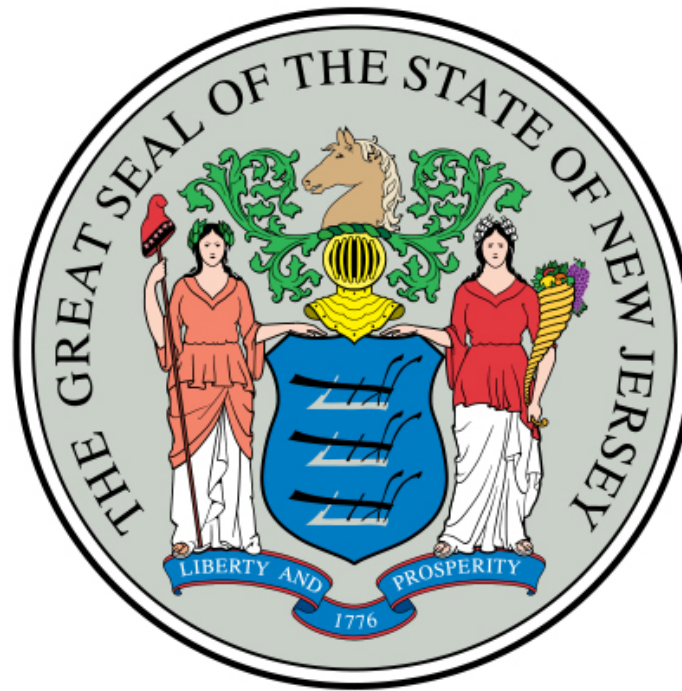
** These requirements are part of the UOCAVA and provided here only for easier reference by election officials. For more information, view the full Act at FVAP.gov.

CONTACT FVAP

Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. ET Phone: 1-800-438-VOTE (8683) | DSN: 425-1584 | Email: vote@fvap.gov
Go to FVAP.gov and click on "contact" to find where to send your election materials. Media inquiries: media@fvap.gov
Facebook.com/DoDFVAP and Twitter @FVAP

Tips for Election Officials

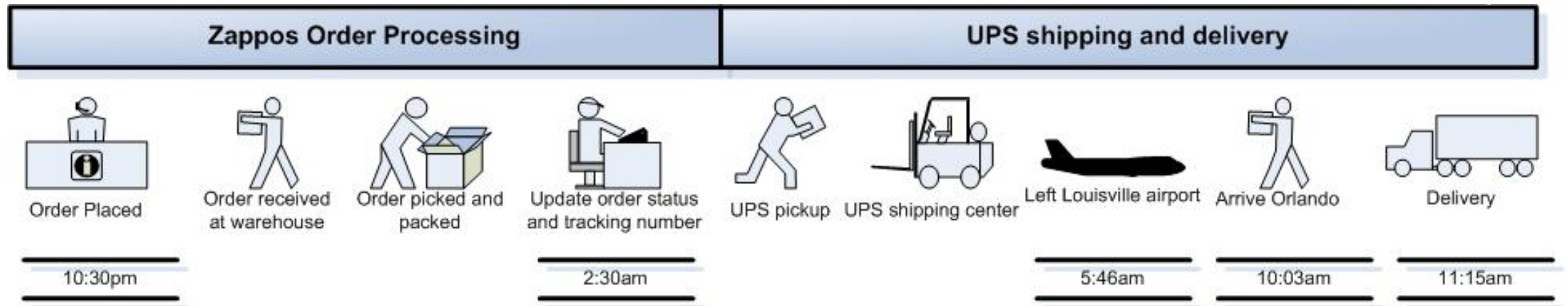
- 2. ★ Roll Up Your Sleeves and Get into the Weeds



Tips for Election Officials

1. Be a Shoe Company

http://www.eac.gov/eac_election_data_summit_%e2%80%94_how_good_data_can_help_elections_run_better/



Our Customers: Real-Life Heroes



Questions?

More information:

FVAP.gov

vote@FVAP.gov

1800-438-VOTE (8683)

Connect with us:



FVAP.gov
FEDERAL VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM