

LEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS
FOR THE NOVEMBER 4, 2008 GENERAL ELECTION

PLEASE READ AND FOLLOW CAREFULLY

Applications for absentee ballots must be filed in the office of the Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk not less than five (5) days prior to the Election. The **deadline to apply is Thursday, October 30, 2008 by 5:00 pm.** The deadline to apply for *Medical and Business emergencies* is no later than the close of business one day prior to the election.

Any qualified elector of this State may vote an Absentee ballot, provided they meet the requirements (17-11-1 et seq, Code of Alabama), as contained in the application, which is available in the office of the Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk, located in **Room 104 of the Lee County Justice Center, 2311 Gateway Drive, Opelika, AL 36801.** Applications are also available for download at www.alabamavotes.gov . Information and applications for Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voters can be obtained at www.fvap.gov .

After completing and signing the application, the voter may hand the **application** to the Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk *or* forward it by U.S. Mail. **NO ONE IS ALLOWED TO BRING IN AN APPLICATION FOR ANOTHER PERSON** (not even a family member), the only exception being a Designee for a Medical Emergency. By law, the Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk can only accept **one application per envelope** that is received by U.S. Mail. The application **must provide the Alabama residence address in Lee County where the voter is registered to vote**, even if the ballot is to be mailed to another address where the applicant/voter regularly receives mail. **If you have moved since you registered to vote, please contact the Lee County Board of Registrars to update your address prior to applying for an absentee ballot. They may be reached by phone at 334 737-3635, by mail at P.O. Box 1513, Opelika, AL 36803-1513, or in person at the Courthouse, 215 S. 9th Street, Opelika, AL**

The Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk may hand the **ballot** to the applicant/voter, *or* forward it by U.S. Mail to the applicant's/voter's residence address *or* upon written request to the address where the applicant/voter regularly receives mail. **NO ONE CAN RECEIVE OR RETURN A BALLOT FOR ANY OTHER PERSON** (not even a family member), exception being a Designee for Medical Emergency. **INSTRUCTIONS WILL ACCOMPANY EACH BALLOT AND MUST BE FOLLOWED CAREFULLY TO INSURE THAT YOUR BALLOT IS COUNTED.**

(OVER)

A **copy** of identification (Sections 17-10-1 and 17-9-30, Code of Alabama) must accompany the **ballot**. The law provides for a **Provisional Ballot** where: 1) identification is not properly provided; or 2) the voter is not identified as appearing in the precinct for which the voter seeks a ballot; or 3) an absentee precinct inspector or clerk has knowledge that the individual is not entitled to vote at the precinct applicable to the voter's ballot and challenges the voter's right to vote a particular ballot. The law provides ways for voters to correct deficiencies so that provisional ballots can be counted. Section 17-10-2, Code of Alabama.

Ballots must be returned by the voter in person to the Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk's office **no later than 5:00 pm, one day prior to the election or, if mailed, must be postmarked no later than one day prior to the election and received in the mail no later than noon on November 4, 2008.** Business emergency ballots must be voted in the office in person and handed to the Absentee Election Manager/Circuit Clerk by 5:00 pm November 3, 2008. Medical emergency ballots must be returned by the designee no later than noon on Election Day, November 4, 2008.

Any person desiring to vote Absentee may come by the Circuit Clerk's office, Room 104 at the Lee County Justice Center, 2311 Gateway Drive, Opelika, Alabama 36801. The mailing address is the same. Office hours are 8:00 – 5:00, Monday – Friday.

If you need information about voting Absentee, you may call Circuit Clerk/Absentee Election Manager CORINNE T. HURST at the Clerk's office, (334) 737-3526 **or** 737-3500 or go online to www.sos.state.al.us

APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT FORM AV-R1

Return this application to:

_____ COUNTY, ALABAMA

General Voter Information - Please provide complete information so that we may verify your eligibility to vote.

| | | | | |
|--|-------|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Last Name (Please print) | | First Name | Middle or Maiden Name | E-mail Address |
| If you have moved since registering to vote, please update your voter registration record with the county board of registrars before proceeding with this application. | | | | |
| Street Address (address where you are registered to vote; do not use PO box) | | | City | ZIP |
| Mail my ballot to the address where I regularly receive mail, if different from the street address provided above | | | | |
| Precinct where you vote (name and/or location of your polling place) | | | | |
| Date of Birth | Month | Day | Year | Driver's License Number |
| Home Telephone Number () | | Work Telephone Number () | | IF NO DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER Last 4 digits of Social Security number |
| | | | | STATE NUMBER |

For all registered voters

I hereby make application for an absentee ballot so that I may vote in the following election(s):

Absentee ballots for elections more than 30 days apart must be requested on separate applications. See note below*.

- Primary Election or Presidential Preference Primary Election
Select one:
 - Democratic Party
 - Republican Party
 - Other _____
 - Proposed Constitutional Amendments Only
- Primary Runoff Election
Select one:
 - Democratic Party
 - Republican Party
 - Other _____
 - Proposed Constitutional Amendments Only
- General Election
- Special Election _____
- Municipal Election
- Municipal Runoff Election

For Military and U.S. Citizens Residing Overseas ONLY

This section is for individuals voting pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA).

- By checking this box, I am attesting that I am a member of the United States Armed Forces or I am a United States citizen residing overseas, or a spouse or dependent of such person.

I understand that this application will be valid for all elections to be held during the next two regularly scheduled general election cycles for federal offices.

If I wish to waive this right and have this application expire earlier, I am providing an expiration date below. For example, I might choose an earlier expiration date if I expect a change of duty station effective after the next election but before the end of the next two general election cycles.

This application should expire on _____
Month / Day / Year

***Unless you are a member of the armed forces or you are a United States citizen residing overseas, or a spouse or dependent of such person, please note that for elections to be held more than thirty (30) days apart, you must submit a separate application for absentee voting for each election.**

I am applying for an absentee ballot because (check one box):

- I will be out of the county or the state, or the municipality for municipal elections, on election day.
- I have a physical illness or infirmity which prevents my attendance at the polls.
- I work a shift which has at least ten (10) hours that coincide with the polling hours at my regular polling place.
- I am enrolled as a student at an educational institution located outside the county of my personal residence, attendance at which prevents my attendance at the polls.
- I am a member of, or a spouse or dependent of a member of, the Armed Forces of the United States or am otherwise similarly qualified to vote absentee pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973ff.
- I have been appointed as an election officer at a polling place which is not my regular polling place.

When I apply for this absentee ballot, I understand that my name will be stricken from the list of qualified electors and, when I cast this absentee ballot, I understand that I will not be entitled to vote at my regular polling place.

| | | |
|-------------------|---|--------------------|
| Voter's Signature | Complete this section if voter signs by mark → | Witness Signature |
| | | Print Witness Name |

The voter may hand this application to the Absentee Election Manager. The voter may also forward this application to the Absentee Election Manager by U.S. Mail [§17-11-3 and §17-11-4, Code of Alabama, 1975].

READ PENALTIES ON BACK

PENALTIES

§17-17-24, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended

(a) Any person who willfully changes an absentee voter's ballot to the extent that it does not reflect the voter's true ballot, any person who willfully votes more than once by absentee ballot in the same election, any person who willfully votes for another voter or falsifies absentee ballot applications or verification documents so as to vote absentee, or any person who solicits, encourages, urges, or otherwise promotes illegal absentee voting, shall be guilty, upon conviction, of a Class C felony. Any person who willfully aids any person unlawfully to vote an absentee ballot, any person who knowingly and unlawfully votes an absentee ballot, and any voter who votes both an absentee and a regular ballot at any election shall be similarly punished.

(b) Upon request by the local district attorney or the Secretary of State, the Attorney General shall provide investigating assistance in instances of absentee ballot or voting violations.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to impede or inhibit organized legal efforts to encourage voter participation in the election process or to discourage a candidate from encouraging electors to lawfully vote by absentee ballot.