



NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections

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KIM WESTBROOK STRACH
Executive Director

NUMBERED MEMO 2016-08

TO: County Boards of Elections
FROM: Kim Strach, Executive Director
RE: Temporary Order 2016-01
DATE: April 12, 2016

As you are aware, the General Assembly authorized the State Board to temporarily change statutory requirements for the June Primary Election. In March, the State Board issued the following temporary order, directing that all mail-in absentee ballot requests from the March Statewide Primary be carried over to June:

Temporary Order 2016-01: Regarding Mail-in Absentee Requests

Notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, county boards of election shall treat all absentee ballot requests received in connection with the March Statewide Primary as standing requests for the June Primary Election; the State Board staff shall prepare a letter of explanation that (1) informs voters of the reason they are receiving a new absentee ballot, (2) provides notice of the voter's right to change their party affiliation by the statutory deadline, and (3) indicates that unaffiliated voters have the right to request a ballot for a different political party than they selected in March; and county boards of election shall enclose the letter of explanation and a blank Absentee Ballot Request Form when mailing absentee ballots pursuant to this order.

Letter of explanation: The mandated letter to voters is attached. Please enclose it with the absentee ballot when filling carry-over requests from March.

Absentee Ballot Request form: The temporary order requires that county boards of elections enclose an absentee ballot request form when filling carry-over requests from March.

Updates to voter registration: Because registration opened back up after the March Primary, our office performed a number of audits to account for party and eligibility changes to correctly populate absentee correspondence records on April 5.

Note: The temporary order in no way limits ordinary responsibilities to process absentee ballot requests received for the June Primary. Please continue to fill those requests as you receive them.

Thank you for your work on behalf of the voters.



NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Elections

Notice to Absentee Voters

Why did I receive this ballot? You have received the enclosed ballot because you requested to vote by mail-in absentee ballot during the Statewide Primary Election on March 15. The June Primary was not originally anticipated, so the State Board of Elections has acted to apply your absentee ballot request to the June Primary.

Why is there a June Primary? In February, a federal court required the General Assembly to redraw district lines for the U.S. House of Representatives, which prompted new primary elections in many areas of the state. Additionally, a state court in March required that a primary be held for the position of Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of North Carolina (a nonpartisan contest).

How did election officials pick which partisan ballot I receive? In most cases, the June Primary ballot is the same party's ballot that you requested in March. If you have changed your party affiliation, the county board of elections office has enclosed the ballot for which you now qualify. If there is no partisan primary in your district, however, you will receive a nonpartisan ballot containing only judicial contests and any local referenda, if any.

Can an unaffiliated voter select a different party's ballot? Yes. Unaffiliated voters have the option to participate in the primary for any one of the North Carolina's three political parties (Republican, Democrat, or Libertarian). To request a different party's primary ballot, please complete and return the enclosed Absentee Ballot Request form by the deadline on Tuesday, May 31 (later deadlines apply to special request forms available to military and overseas voters).

Can I change my party affiliation and vote in the June Primary? Yes. A voter must change party affiliation by submitting a new Voter Registration Application Form by Friday, May 13 in order for that change to be effective for the June Primary.

Why isn't there a primary for U.S. House of Representatives on my ballot? Primaries are required only when two or more candidates from the same party file to run for office. Not all nomination contests required a primary this cycle. If you requested a nonpartisan ballot, no partisan primary will appear on your ballot.

Do I have to vote by mail-in absentee ballot? No. The enclosed ballot is provided for your convenience, but you may vote at one-stop early voting or at your polling place on Election Day. As always, you can only vote once. If you decide not to vote this ballot, please destroy it.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kim Westbrook Strach".

Kim Westbrook Strach
Executive Director
State Board of Elections

*Absentee ballots contain a unique identification number that allows those ballots to be traceable.



State Absentee Ballot Request Form

North Carolina

NC STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS
P. O. BOX 27255
RALEIGH, NC 27611-7255

PHONE: 1-866-522-4723 FAX: 919-715-0135
elections.sboe@ncsbe.gov

FRAUDULENTLY OR FALSELY COMPLETING THIS FORM IS A CLASS I FELONY UNDER CHAPTER 163 OF THE NC GENERAL STATUTES.

I am requesting an absentee ballot for the: _____ on _____
Election Type (Primary, General, Municipal, Special, etc.) Election Date

Voter Information

| | | | | | | |
|--|-------|------------|------------------------|---|------------------|---------------|
| Last Name | | First Name | | Middle Name | Suffix | Date of Birth |
| Home Address (NC Residential Address.) | | | | Mailing Address (If different than home address.) | | |
| City | State | Zip Code | City | State | Zip Code | |
| Have you lived at this address for more than 30 days? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | County of Residence | Previous Name (if applicable) | | |
| If "No," indicate the date of your move: ____/____/____ | | | | | | |
| You must provide at least one identification number below. (or see instructions) <small>NC License or ID Number</small> | | | Voter Registration No. | Phone (optional) | Email (optional) | |
| <small>SSN</small> X X X - X X - _____ | | | Optional | | | |

Absentee Voting Information

| | | | | |
|---|-------|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| Absentee Mailing Address (Where should the ballot be mailed?) | | City | State | Zip Code |
| If voter is registered as <i>Unaffiliated</i> and requesting a ballot for a partisan primary, choose a primary ballot preference. <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Non-partisan | | | | |
| If voter is a patient in a hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home, please indicate whether you will need assistance in marking your ballot. <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No | | | | |
| If "Yes," what is the name and address of the hospital or facility: | | | | |
| <i>If requesting an absentee ballot on behalf of a near relative, list your name, address, contact information and relationship to the voter:</i> | | | | |
| Requestor's Name | | <input type="checkbox"/> spouse <input type="checkbox"/> brother/sister <input type="checkbox"/> parent <input type="checkbox"/> grandparent <input type="checkbox"/> stepparent <input type="checkbox"/> child <input type="checkbox"/> grandchild <input type="checkbox"/> stepchild <input type="checkbox"/> mother-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> father-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> son-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> daughter-in-law <input type="checkbox"/> legal guardian | | |
| Requestor's Address | | Name of Corporation (If appointed legal guardian) | | |
| City | State | Zip Code | Requestor's Phone | Requestor's Email |

For Military/Overseas Citizens Only (may only be signed by the voter; may not be signed by a near relative/guardian)

| | |
|--|--|
| Select one of the options below to qualify as a military or overseas voter: <input type="checkbox"/> Member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine on active duty and currently <u>absent</u> from county of residence <u>or</u> an eligible spouse/dependent. <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S. temporarily or indefinitely | |
| Current Address (Address where you are currently stationed or living overseas.) | Transmit my ballot by: (Military/Overseas Voters Only) <input type="checkbox"/> Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Fax <input type="checkbox"/> Email Fax Number or Email Address |

Signature of Voter (voter only)

Signature of Near Relative/Guardian (if applicable)

X

X

Date

Date

Visit www.NCSBE.gov to check your voter registration or absentee voting status.



State Absentee Ballot Request Form

North Carolina

General Instructions

A person must be a registered voter in their North Carolina county of residence in order to request an absentee ballot. If not registered to vote in the proper county, a person must submit a voter registration application along with this form. Voter registration applications are available online at www.ncsbe.gov. The deadline to register to vote is 25 days prior to the date of the election.

Completing the Form

The voter's full name, residential address, date of birth and an identification number (see **Proof of Identification** below) must be provided on this form. This information will be used to confirm your voter registration. In addition, this form must be signed by the voter or the voter's near relative or qualified legal guardian.

Who may make a request for an absentee ballot

Either the voter or the voter's near relative or qualified legal guardian may request an absentee ballot. A "near relative" is defined as the voter's spouse, brother, sister, parent, grandparent, child, grandchild, mother-in-law, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, stepparent, or stepchild.

Who may not make a request for an absentee ballot

If a registered voter is a patient in any hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this State, it is unlawful for any owner, manager, director, employee, or other person, other than the voter's near relative or verifiable legal guardian, to request an absentee ballot on behalf of the voter. The voter's county board of elections should be contacted if a voter in a hospital, clinic, nursing home or rest home in this State needs assistance requesting or voting an absentee ballot.

Updating Voter Information

This form may also serve as a voter change form; however, changes in voter registration may only be made by the voter.

Proof of Identification

If the voter's identification number (NC driver license number, NC DMV-issued identification card number, or last four digits of social security number) is not provided, then provide with this request a copy of a document that shows the name and residential address of the voter: a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document.

Ballot Availability

Absentee balloting materials are mailed to voters once ballots for an election are available. For most elections, ballots will be available 50 days prior to the date of the election. Absentee ballots are available 60 days prior to the date of a statewide general election and 30 days prior to the date of a city or municipal election.

Submitting the form

Submit this form to the voter's county board of elections no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the date of the election. This form may be mailed, faxed, emailed, or delivered in person. Visit www.ncsbe.gov for the contact information for all county boards of elections. The status of your absentee request may also be checked on this website.