

# ELECTION PROTECTION **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE**

## 1-866-OUR VOTE

### ORLEANS PARISH VOTERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ABSENTEE AND SATELLITE VOTING APRIL 22, 2006 ELECTIONS March 2, 2006

Depending on when and how you registered and whether you have previously voted in person **YOU MAY HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE** by absentee ballot and/or at satellite locations outside Orleans Parish during the early voting period.

#### Absentee by mail voting

##### **If you registered to vote before October 5, 2004:**

A. If you *registered to vote by mail and have not previously voted in person* at the precinct in which you are registered, you *must vote in person* during early voting or on Election Day.

B. If you *registered in person or previously voted in person* you may vote absentee by submitting an absentee ballot request form. Absentee ballot request forms are available on by contacting the Secretary of State's office or on their website and may be mailed, faxed, or hand delivered to the Registrar of Voters office in Orleans Parish. On the absentee ballot request form, you may request that the Registrar of Voters fax the ballot to you by writing a fax number where you can receive faxes and requesting that the ballot to be sent to that number. You may then fax your ballot back to the Registrar of Voters, but you must include the following written statement: "I understand that by faxing my voted ballot I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot." This statement must be dated and followed by your signature and Social Security number. *Please note that your absentee ballot must be signed by a notary public OR by two witnesses.* The absentee ballot request form must be received by the Registrar of Voters on or before April 18, 2006 and your absentee ballot must be received by the Registrar of Voters by Election Day, April 22, 2006. Contact information for every parish can be found on the Secretary of State's website or by calling 1-800-883-2805.

##### **If you registered on or after October 5, 2004 but prior to September 25, 2005:**

A. If you **were not** displaced by the hurricane and *registered to vote in person or have voted in person*, you can vote absentee by mail by submitting an absentee ballot request form. Absentee ballot request forms are available on by contacting the Secretary of State's office or on their website and may be mailed, faxed, or hand delivered to the Registrar of Voters office in Orleans Parish. On the absentee ballot request form, you may request that the Registrar of Voters fax the ballot to you by writing a fax number where you can receive faxes and requesting that the ballot to be sent to that number. You may then fax your ballot back to the Registrar of Voters, but you must include the following written statement: "I understand that by faxing my voted ballot I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot." This statement must be dated and followed by your signature and Social Security number. *Please note that your absentee ballot must be signed by a notary public OR by two witnesses.* The absentee ballot request form must be received by the Registrar of Voters on or before April 18, 2006 and your absentee ballot must be received by the Registrar of Voters by Election Day, April 22, 2006. Contact information for every parish can be found on the Secretary of State's website or by calling 1-800-883-2805.

B. If you **were not** displaced by the hurricane, *registered by mail, and have not voted in person*, you cannot vote absentee by mail.

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**Absentee by mail voting continued:**

**If you registered on or after October 5, 2004 but prior to September 25, 2005 continued:**

C. If you **were** displaced by the hurricane, you can vote absentee by mail if you submit along with your request for an absentee ballot an affidavit stating: (1) that you have been displaced as a result of the hurricanes, (2) that you are eligible to vote in your parish, and (3) that you expect to be out of your parish during early voting and on election day. The application to vote by mail is valid for one year. Absentee ballot request forms are available on by contacting the Secretary of State's office or on their website and may be mailed, faxed, or hand delivered to the Registrar of Voters office in Orleans Parish. On the absentee ballot request form, you may request that the Registrar of Voters fax the ballot to you by writing a fax number where you can receive faxes and requesting that the ballot to be sent to that number. You may then fax your ballot back to the Registrar of Voters, but you must include the following written statement: "I understand that by faxing my voted ballot I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot." This statement must be dated and followed by your signature and Social Security number. *Please note that your absentee ballot must be signed by a notary public OR by two witnesses.* The absentee ballot request form must be received by the Registrar of Voters on or before April 18, 2006 and your absentee ballot must be received by the Registrar of Voters by Election Day, April 22, 2006. Contact information for every parish can be found on the Secretary of State's website or by calling 1-800-883-2805.

**If you registered to vote on or after September 25, 2005:**

A. If you *registered to vote by mail and have not previously voted in person* at the precinct in which you are registered, *you must vote in person* during early voting in Orleans Parish or on Election Day.

B. If you *registered to vote in person*, you can vote absentee by mail by submitting an absentee ballot request form. Absentee ballot request forms are available on by contacting the Secretary of State's office or on their website and may be mailed, faxed, or hand delivered to the Registrar of Voters office in Orleans Parish. On the absentee ballot request form, you may request that the Registrar of Voters fax the ballot to you by writing a fax number where you can receive faxes and requesting that the ballot to be sent to that number. You may then fax your ballot back to the Registrar of Voters, but you must include the following written statement: "I understand that by faxing my voted ballot I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot." This statement must be dated and followed by your signature and Social Security number. *Please note that your absentee ballot must be signed by a notary public OR by two witnesses.* The absentee ballot request form must be received by the Registrar of Voters on or before April 18, 2006 and your absentee ballot must be received by the Registrar of Voters by Election Day, April 22, 2006. Contact information for every parish can be found on the Secretary of State's website or by calling 1-800-883-2805.

**Satellite early voting at locations outside of Orleans Parish:**

All voters who registered **before September 25, 2005** may vote during the early voting period (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday - Thursday, April 10-13, 2006; and 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2006) at satellite locations at the Registrar of Voters offices in the following parishes: Caddo, Calcasieu, East Baton Rouge, Jefferson, Lafayette, Ouachita, Rapides, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Terrebonne. More information can be found on the Secretary of State's website.

**You may still register to vote until the March 22, 2006 deadline:**

You may register in person at the Orleans Parish Registrar of Voters office or by mailing a voter registration application to the Orleans Parish Registrar of Voters office. You must be registered 30 days prior to an election to be eligible to vote in that election. *If you register to vote by mail now* (or if you registered by mail before October 4, 2004 or after September 25, 2005 and have not voted in person) *you must vote in-person* in Orleans Parish, either during early voting or on Election Day. If you register to vote in person, you may vote by mail-in absentee ballot, in-person in Orleans Parish during early voting, or at your assigned precinct on Election Day. The registration application form is available on the Secretary of State's website or by written request.

**To contact the Louisiana Secretary of State:**

[www.sos.louisiana.gov](http://www.sos.louisiana.gov)  
[elections@sos.louisiana.gov](mailto:elections@sos.louisiana.gov)  
1-800-883-2805