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VOTING INFORMATION .



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American Freedom

ST. LOUIS COUNTY

### **VOTING IN ST. LOUIS COUNTY**

We hope that this brochure will serve to increase the level of participation in the election process. The active involvement of informed voters is vitally important as we choose the officials and decide the issues that directly affect the quality of life we enjoy in St. Louis County.

# YOUR ST. LOUIS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS

#### VOTER IDENTIFICATION

The St. Louis County Board of Election Commissioners has implemented new voting procedures streamlining the voting process at all polling places. The use of the new computer generated precinct registers requires all voters to show some form of identification with a signature for comparison purposes in order to vote.

# I've just received my Voter I.D. Card in the mail. Do I have to bring it with me to vote?

- Your Election Board I.D. is the preferred form of identification because it contains your township and precinct, information we need to keep the lines moving smoothly. If you forget and leave your I.D. Card at home though, you can still vote. However, you will need to present some other form of identification with your signature.
- Voters with no identification may vote after an election judge receives permission from our Clayton office.

VOTER, JOHN Q.
41 CENTRAL AVE S
ST LOUIS MO 63105

SIGNATURE

VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARD

TAKE THIS WITH YOU TO THE POLLS

## I've lost my Voter I.D. Card. How do I apply for a new one?

- Replacement Voter I.D. Cards may be requested by writing the Election Board, giving your name and voting address.
- New cards will be mailed to all voters in each even numbered year, to new voters when they register and to anyone who changes his name or voting address.

## **ELECTION DAY INFORMATION**

## How will I know when elections are being held in my area?

 One week prior to an election the Election Board will mail you a post card giving the date of the election, the address of your polling place and the names of the registered voters in your household.

### What time do the polls open?

 Your polling place will open promptly at 6 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.

1988 REGULARLY SCHEDULED ELECTION DATES		Last day to receive absentee ballot requests by mail
March 8	Presidential Primary	March 2
April 5	Municipal Election	March 30
June 7	Supplementa Election	d June 1
August 2	August Primary	July 27
October 4	School Election	September 28
November 8	General Election	November 2

### ABSENTEE VOTING

# I don't think I can make it to the polls on election day. Can I get an absentee ballot?

- Only those who will be prevented from going to the polls on election day for one of the following reasons may vote by absentee ballot:
  - Voters who will be absent from St. Louis County on election day
  - Incapacity or confinement due to sickness or disability
  - · Religious belief or practice
  - · Employment by the Election Board
  - Imprisonment, provided all other qualifications for voting are retained
- Overseas civilians or any military, stationed inside or outside the United States, may request an absentee ballot by filling out Form 76 in lieu of a written request. In addition, they do not have to have their affidavit envelopes notarized.
- If you become hospitalized after 5 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to an election, upon your request, a bi-partisan team of election judges will come to your hospital room to allow you to vote absentee.

## How do I apply for my absentee ballot?

- If you would like to have a ballot mailed to you we will need a written request. You must reapply for a new ballot for each election. Requests can be sent to the Election Board by mail or in person by the voter no sooner than 70 days prior to the election and no later than 5 p.m. the Wednesday before the election. Your letter should contain the following information:
  - Your name
  - · Your St. Louis County voting address
  - · The address to which the ballot is to be mailed
  - Your reason for voting absentee
  - The date of the election for which you are applying
  - Your political party preference if your are applying for an August Primary or a Presidential Primary ballot
  - The signatures of everyone requesting a ballot

If you are voting absentee, your notarized affidavit envelope\* with your voted ballot inside must be returned to

- the Election Board no later than 7 p.m. the day of the election either by the voter in person or through the mail.
- \*Notary officials are required by Missouri law to perform this service free of charge for absentee voters.

## May I vote an absentee ballot in person?

 You may vote by absentee ballot at the Clayton office of the Election Board from 42 days before an election up until 5 p.m. the day before the election.

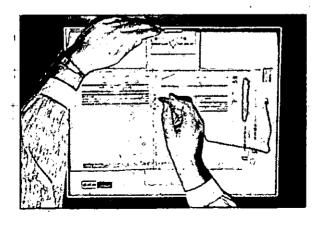
# My daughter is away at college. Can I have a ballot sent to her?

Yes. A close relative, by applying in person at the office
of the Election Board, may request a ballot to be sent to
a voter.

For additional information on Absentee Voting, call 889-2825.

## **ELECTRONIC VOTING**

When you go to the polls in St. Louis County you will exercise your voting rights using a punch card ballot. Below is a picture of a vote recorder that you will use to vote. Ask the election judge at your polling place to give you a demonstration on its use.



# SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR THE HANDICAPPED

Has the St. Louis County Election Board done anything to make voting easier for people with physical disabilities?

- We have done a number of things in recent years to address the needs of the physically disabled.
  - Over three fourths of our polling place locations are handicapped accessible and all locations have been supplied with one vote recorder seven inches below standard height to accommodate a wheelchair.
  - If your polling place is not handicapped accessible you may vote on election day at our Clayton office which is on ground level and has reserved parking.
  - If you would like to use your own polling place but are not able to leave your car, a bi-partisan team of election officials will be happy to bring a vote recorder and ballot to you.
  - If you furnish us with a letter from your doctor stating that you are Permanently Disabled, you will not be required to have your affidavit envelope notarized when you mail in your absentee ballot.
- Remember, you must be registered 27 days prior to an election in order to vote in an election.

## CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION

I am going to be traveling outside the United States. My travel agent told me I will need a Certificate of Voter Registration. How do I get one?

 You may apply for a Certificate of Registration either in writing or in person at our Clayton office. We will need your name, voting address and mailing address (if different). There will be a \$1.00 charge for this service.

#### VOTER INFORMATION

What if someone changes his or her name?

- This happens frequently because of marriage. Whenever a person obtains a *legal* name change, the Election Board must be notified either in writing or in person at any of our registration sites.
- If the name change becomes effective after the 4th Wednesday before an election, the voter may vote one time only under the former name.

What if someone moves after the 4th Wednesday before an election?

 If a registered voter moves from one address to another within St. Louis County after the 4th Wednesday prior to an election he may vote one time only from his old address in that election.

## **REGISTRATION LOCATIONS**

Speaking of registration sites, exactly where can I register or transfer my voting address?

The St. Louis County Election Board maintains over 500
registration sites. These include most city halls, public
libraries and schools in addition to Special School District facilities, local branches of the St. Louis Junior
College District, the University of Missouri-St. Louis,
Human Development Corporation offices and various
businesses, union halls, private hospitals, and churches.

For the address of the registration location nearest you, call 889-2540.



## OFFICE HOURS

What are the Election Board's office hours?

 We are open Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. In addition we are also open between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. for the four Saturdays preceding a countywide election and one Saturday before smaller elections.

For additional voter information call 889-2255.

BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY

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