
NEWS RELEASE

**Louisiana
Department of State**



**Tom Schedler
Secretary of State**

**P.O. Box 94125
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9125
www.sos.la.gov**



**Meg Casper
Press Secretary
225.362.5086
meg.casper@sos.la.gov**

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DEADLINE FOR MILITARY/OVERSEAS BALLOTS EXTENDED

Secretary of State Tom Schedler has extended the deadline for receipt of military and overseas ballots by one day in light of the state of emergency in the Northeast. RS: 18:1308(2)(j) gives the Secretary of State authority to take all actions reasonably necessary to allow members of the military and citizens residing overseas to vote during a period of declared emergency. The Federal Voter Assistance Program officially notified Louisiana that military/overseas ballots were delayed due to the closure of JFK Airport in New York following Hurricane Sandy.

“When I went to the Middle East in September to visit with members of our armed forces, I promised them that I would make sure their vote counted,” said Secretary Schedler. “These men and women are fighting for our rights—including our right to vote. This is one simple way my office can honor that sacrifice.”

Parish board of election supervisors have been notified that military and overseas ballots will continue be accepted as long as they are received by Wednesday, November 7, 2012.

Election Day voting in Louisiana begins tomorrow morning at 6:00 a.m. and continues until 8:00 p.m. Voters can visit www.sos.la.gov or download the GEAUX VOTE smartphone app to review their ballot and find their polling location. Election night results will be posted to the Secretary of State’s website as they are received after polls close.

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