

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSENTEE VOTING BY MAIL

State of Louisiana

★ ★ **IMPORTANT: Mailing your ballot can take 3-5 days for delivery.** ★ ★

**Your ballot must be delivered to the registrar of voters by 4:30 p.m. the day before the election.**

(For sequestered jurors & eligible hospitalized voters: BEFORE POLLS CLOSE @ 8 PM ON ELECTION DAY.)

**Questions or Information: 1-800-883-2805**

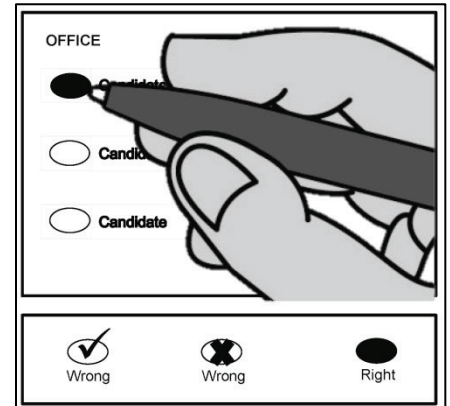
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PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY, INCLUDING FOOTNOTES, BEFORE VOTING.

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**COMPLETE.**  **SIGN.**  **MAIL.** 

- VISIT [www.GeauxVote.com](http://www.GeauxVote.com)** or the GeauxVote App on a smartphone or tablet to view your sample ballot and confirm your absentee ballot is correct.
- MARK** your ballot – all pages, front and back.
  - ★ Completely fill in the oval next to your choice.
  - ★ Pencil, black or blue pen are accepted.<sup>1</sup>
  - ★ Do not make any stray or identifying marks on the ballot.
  - ★ You **must** mark your own ballot unless you are eligible for assistance.<sup>2</sup>
  - ★ Request a replacement ballot, if necessary.<sup>1</sup>
- PLACE** voted ballot (all pages) in the ballot envelope and seal. **The ballot envelope has a perforated affidavit flap attached - Do NOT detach/remove the affidavit flap from the ballot envelope.**
- COMPLETE SECTION 1: ELECTION DATE AND VOTER INFORMATION.**
  - ★ **PRINT** the date of election.
  - ★ **PRINT** name, parish, address, city/town, and ward/precinct if not pre-populated on the ballot envelope affidavit flap. (Your ward & precinct are on the return address label of the return envelope, if needed.)
  - ★ **PRINT** your mother's maiden name or "unknown".
- COMPLETE SECTION 2: CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES.**
  - ★ **READ THE STATEMENTS** that you are attesting to in voting.
  - ★ **SIGN AND PRINT** your name on the affidavit flap in the presence of a **WITNESS**. The witness **must** sign and print their name.
- COMPLETE SECTION 3: ASSISTANCE ACKNOWLEDGMENT:** If registered for assistance, the person assisting you **must** also sign the acknowledgment at the bottom of the affidavit flap. **If you are not registered for assistance, leave blank.**<sup>2</sup>
- PLACE** the sealed ballot envelope with attached completed affidavit flap containing the voted ballot in the return envelope that is addressed to the registrar of voters.
  - ★ Add first-class mail postage, if mailing.
  - ★ Return ballot by mail, commercial courier, hand delivery, or by fax. (Contact your registrar of voters for fax information.)



**Ballots will be counted on election night by the parish board of election supervisors with a digital scanner or by hand.**<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> To **change a vote**, use pencil and erase completely or if black or blue pen were used, request a replacement ballot from your registrar of voters. Only vote for the number of candidates to be elected or only vote for or against a proposition. If you overvoted, your ballot will be **VOID** in accordance with La. R.S. 18:1309(E)(5)(b)(i).

<sup>2</sup> A voter is eligible for assistance if registered to vote as needing assistance, unable to read, or physically disabled including visual impairment. A voter may receive assistance from any person he chooses, **except from a CANDIDATE, employer, employer's agent, or union agent.** A voter registration application requesting a change for assistance in voting or proof of disability is required to be filed with the registrar of voters either by mail or in person if you become disabled after registering and need assistance in voting, unless assistance is needed because you are unable to read. The person assisting a voter **must** inform the voter that a signature or mark constitutes certification that all statements on the affidavit are true and correct and subject to fine or imprisonment, or both, for false or incorrect statements (La. R.S. 18:1310). **If voting a mail ballot under the Nursing Home Program, no owner, operator, administrator, or employee of the nursing home may assist in voting (La. R.S. 18:1333).**

<sup>3</sup> Your ballot will be counted by comparing the name on your affidavit to the list of absentee by mail ballots and determining if your ballot is valid. A ballot may be rejected if: (1) it is successfully challenged by a candidate or their representative, a member of the board, or a qualified elector on grounds that the voter is not qualified to vote in the election or precinct or is not the person whose name is shown as being registered to vote; (2) the board has cause to reject the ballot; or (3) the ballot contains a distinguishing mark or feature that allows it to be identified as the voter's ballot. **Cause may include failure to fill in any and/or all blanks on the affidavit flap of the ballot envelope.**