Federal Voting Assistance Program
Technology Programs and
2012 Cycle Initiatives

Technical Guidelines Development Committee
EAC-NIST
January 13, 2011
FVAP 2010 Key Initiatives

- **From an Agency to a Portal**
  - Serve as the liaison between the voter and the State
  - Make the process easy, quick, intuitive and seamless
  - Reduce the reliance on Voting Assistance Officers
  - Avoid running elections

- **Expanded Assistance for Election Officials**
  - Incubate the development of new online tools for registration, absentee ballot application, ballot delivery, marking, and tracking
  - Tools that voters will use and States will adopt
  - Greater control by States and LEOs - Grants
  - Not directly supporting electronic transmission of VOTED ballots
  - Assist States in compliance

- **Transparency and Data-Driven Operations**
  - Improve Post-Election Surveys to correct incorrect policies based on poor data
  - Post all data and methodology online
  - Combine data collection with EAC
Agency to Portal

To Vote Absentee, Start By Telling Us Who You Are

I am a uniformed service member or a family member.

For active-duty members of the Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, Public Health Service, NOAA, and their family members.

Get Started

I am a citizen living outside the U.S.

For United States citizens who are living outside the U.S. for work, school or other reasons.

Get Started

If neither of these choices apply to you, please visit www.canivote.org
Select Your State

Uniformed Services members: Pick your state of legal residence. Overseas Citizens: Select the state in which you last lived before moving outside the U.S. Check the Frequently Asked Questions for more information on legal voting residence.
Steer Voter to State Systems

Get My Ballot Now

Use Virginia’s automated assistant to get a complete State ballot.

Get Started

Use FVAP’s automated assistant to complete and print a back-up write-in ballot for Federal candidates.

Get Started

Important Dates for UOCAVA citizens

General Election: 11/02/2010
Uniformed Service members Register by: 10/26/2010
Overseas Citizens Registered by: 10/12/2010
Request ballot by: 10/28/2010
Return ballot by: 11/02/2010

Please See Important Notice to Virginia Users of Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

Resources:
Virginia Absentee Voting Guidelines
Virginia State Election website

ALERT: Deadlines for Return of Voted Ballots from APO/FPOs

Would you rather fill out the form by hand?
Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot
Instructions for Washington

Thank you for using the automated ballot request process. Review, print, sign, and submit your completed absentee ballot request form to your local election official at the address provided below.

General Election: November 2, 2010; Registration: November 2, 2010; Ballot Request: November 2, 2010; Ballot Return: Signed and Dated by: November 1, 2010; Received by: November 23, 2010; State Primary Election: August 17, 2010; Registration: August 17, 2010; Ballot Request: August 17, 2010; Ballot Return: Signed and Dated by: August 16, 2010; Received by: September 1, 2010

NOTE: Recommended Mailing Dates for Voted Ballots in 2010:

- From Iraq, Afghanistan, Deployed Naval Vessels: 4 weeks before the election
- From Other overseas Military Installations: 3 weeks before the election
- From Other overseas locations: 4 weeks before the election (depending on foreign mail service)
- From Within the United States: 1 week before the election

OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOTING MATERIAL - FIRST-CLASS MAIL

TO: King County Elections Services
   King County Elections Division
   919 SW Grady Way
   Renton, WA 98057-2906
Online FWAB Wizard
2010 FPCA and FWAB Wizard Utilization

FPCA Wizard downloads:
• National: 91,565

FWAB Wizard downloads:
• National: 20,536
2010 FWAB Wizard Utilization

**Uniformed Services FWABs Downloaded**

- SC: 427
- VA: 516
- AK: 537
- OH: 554
- PA: 572
- NC: 711
- MI: 744
- TX: 897
- CA: 1,337
- FL: 2,209

**Total Overseas Citizen FWAB Downloads**

- CO: 211
- OH: 226
- NJ: 232
- MA: 235
- TX: 267
- NY: 289
- VA: 322
- NC: 332
- FL: 440
- CA: 1,015

**Distribution of Downloads**

- Overseas Indefinitely: 4%
- Overseas Temporarily: 25%
- Uniformed Services Member: 71%
FVAP Website Utilization

- **Total Accesses: Up 86%**
- **Military Accesses: Up 95%**

**FVAP.gov Website Use 2010 vs 2006**

- YTD total accesses
- YTD Total Military Accesses

**Online Form Usage at FVAP.gov 2010 vs 2006**

- FPCAs: Up 40%
- FWABs: Up 207%
Steer Voter to State Systems

Get My Ballot Now

Use Virginia's automated assistant to get a complete State ballot.
Get Started

Use FVAP's automated assistant to complete and print a back-up write-in ballot for Federal candidates.
Get Started

Important Dates for UOCAVA citizens
- General Election: 11/02/2010
- Uniformed Service members Register by: 10/26/2010
- Overseas Citizens Registered: 10/12/2010
- Request ballot by: 10/26/2010
- Return ballot by: 11/02/2010

Please See Important Notice to Virginia Users of Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB)

Resources:
- Virginia Absentee Voting Guidelines
- Virginia State Election website

ALERT: Deadlines for Return of Voted Ballots from APO/FPOs

Would you rather fill out the form by hand?
Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot
Integration of State Systems

Future:

Planning a federal grant structured program for states and localities
Online Ballot Wizards

- DE sent out \( \frac{1}{2} \) of all ballots using online wizard

- WV also has 5 Counties with full internet voting

- WA, CO also had additional, non-FVAP, systems
EVSW Metrics

Correlation of Initial Contract Award Cost to Total # of Participating Jurisdictions in State

\[ y = 27.248x + 62911 \]
\[ R^2 = 0.0073 \]

Correlation of Total # of Ballot Styles to Initial Contract Award Cost

\[ y = 0.404x + 62627 \]
\[ R^2 = 0.0438 \]

Correlation of Total Estimated UOCAVA Voters in State to Initial Award Cost

\[ y = 0.0094x + 63324 \]
\[ R^2 = 0.0069 \]

Correlation of Initial Contract Award Cost per UOCAVA Voter to Initial Contract Award Cost

\[ y = 1075.9x + 62364 \]
\[ R^2 = 0.014 \]
EVSW Lessons

- No correlation between contract cost and:
  - # of ballot styles
  - # of election jurisdictions
  - # of voters

- Average baseline cost about $65,000

- Marginal cost of additional ballot style is almost zero.

- Ballot data acquisition was difficult

- Federal Contracting Process was cumbersome
2012 Technology Grant Plan

• 2010 cycle used federal contracting to purchase systems used in States
  – Attempted to incorporate State requirements and input as much as possible
  – But ultimately, it’s a federal contract and a federal system

• Instead, 2012 cycle plan is grants to States and localities to incubate technological efforts to serve UOCAVA voters

• Focus Programs:
  – Online Registration
  – Online Absentee Ballot Request
  – Online and Expedited Blank Ballot Delivery
  – Online Voted Ballot Tracking

• Key Grant Considerations:
  – # of Voters Assisted
  – Projected Improvement in UOCAVA Voting Success
  – ROI and length of system availability

• More details of the grant program at pre-NASED meeting on 2/9/11
## Wounded Warriors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
<th>Testing &amp; Evaluation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive assessment of combat-related disabilities and associated voting challenges in Wounded Warriors</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• EAC grant with ITIC/OBF</td>
<td>Independent VSTL testing of the <em>EAC Requirements</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• FVAP contract with CALIBRE</td>
<td>• Full test on one manned kiosk system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Surveys of WII</td>
<td>• Security section testing for all five Electronic Voting Support Wizards (EVSW) systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Process &amp; Procedures Guide for VAO Wounded Warrior assistance</td>
<td>• VSTL result comparison</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redesign of voting forms (FPCA/FWAB) for greater usability and accessibility</td>
<td>FVAP direct assistance in care facilities: revisions and additions to FVAP.gov tools and forms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Level Cyber-Threat Gap Analysis</td>
<td>Focus groups on form design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Voting systems vulnerabilities</td>
<td>Mock election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Cyber security measures</td>
<td>• Assess usability, accessibility, and privacy of electronic voting systems for Wounded Warriors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Strategies for threat awareness, mitigation and continual monitoring strategies</td>
<td>• National level penetration testing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Demonstration & Pilot Projects

➢ DoD required by law to conduct electronic absentee voting demonstration project
  ▪ 42 USC 1073ff note; 2002 and 2005 NDAAAs
  ▪ Mandates
    ▪ Cast Ballots through electronic voting system
    ▪ Only Uniformed services voters specified
    ▪ States must agree to participate
    ▪ Report afterwards

➢ DoD allowed to wait for EAC certified guidelines
  ▪ EAC establishes guidelines
    ▪ EAC also certifies it will assist in project
    ▪ Different requirement than MOVE Act
  ▪ DoD may further delay implementation
## NIST Proposed Pilot Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TGDC WG Proposals</th>
<th>Initial View</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Ballot Delivery</td>
<td>Doing and plan to continue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Attended Kiosk-Based Voting System</td>
<td>Premature?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Unattended Kiosk-Based Voting System</td>
<td>• Overseas Citizen definition study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Geographic concentration of OC voters may indicate kiosk is superior approach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Standard Ballot Delivery Format</td>
<td>Very interested</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CDF for EMS Integration</td>
<td>• EMS, BDF and VRS/Geo data migration between systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• A widget?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- FY2011 Final Appropriations and Ongoing DoD Efficiencies Key Variable
- Who should run (and therefore pay for) pilot programs in support of the EAC developed electronic absentee voting guidelines?
How Electronic Standards Development Should Be Framed

**GAO Guidance**

- FVAP & EAC need detailed plans
- Necessary plan elements:
  - results-oriented action plan
  - goals, tasks, milestones, time frames, and contingencies
- FVAP-EAC Memorandum of Understanding
- EAC-NIST Interagency Agreement
- MOVE Act also requires EAC to develop detailed timeline for development of electronic absentee ballot guidelines - Roadmap

**Risk = % x impact**

- Acceptable risk level policy decision already made
  - It IS the current voting system
  - Accepts 1/3 of absentee ballots never returned
- We should accept equivalent risk in new UOCAVA systems
  - May have different probability or impact
  - Can reduce probability and/or mitigate impact
  - Goal is to keep risk level at least the same, if not better
- The articulation of risk in the current system would serve as a useful baseline for future electronic absentee systems
## Path Forward

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Articulate the Current Risk</th>
<th>Establish Properties</th>
<th>Establish Interim Pilots</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>▪ Evaluate the postal mail UOCAVA absentee ballot system as the baseline</td>
<td>▪ What “properties” are necessary for an electronic absentee voting system?</td>
<td>▪ Integrate current work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Find comparable current system threats to NIST/other identified threats</td>
<td></td>
<td>▪ Also examine national level threat risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>▪ Develop comparable measures for other voting systems</td>
<td>▪ To achieve the same level of risk as current system</td>
<td>▪ Develop decision points for iterative development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Focus on Technological, Security, and Reliability Issues with Electronic Return of Voted Ballot
Federal Voting Assistance Program
Department of Defense

Bob Carey, Director

1777 North Kent St., #14003
Arlington, VA 22209

Phone: 703-588-8118
Fax: 703-696-1352
Email: Bob.Carey@fvap.gov