



U.S. Election Assistance Commission Standards Board Meeting

Ronald A. Stroman
Deputy Postmaster General

April 14, 2016

- 2016 Election Mail Efforts
- Key Issues
- Postal Service Recommendations

- Voting is the bedrock of our democracy
- Postal Service organization-wide commitment on Election Mail
- 100% of Election Mail processed and delivered to meet your States election requirements
- Work with Election Officials in a timely fashion to ensure smooth process

Collaborating with External Organizations

- Election Assistance Commission
- Federal Voting Assistance Program
- Military Postal Service Agency
- National Association of Secretaries of State
- National Association of State Election Directors
- Election Center
- Joint Election Officials Liaison Committee

HQ Cross Functional Election Mail Task Force

- Develop Election Mail toolkit
- Provide Communications kits
- Update internal and external Election Mail Web site
- Train District Election Mail coordinators
- Track issues reported and ensure resolution

District Election Mail Coordinators

- Outreach to 8,000 state and local Election Officials
- Establish primary contact point
- Coordinate postal resources to support election officials
- Quickly resolve and escalate questions, issues
- Report issues/resolution to HQ tracking system

- Resource coordination
 - Mailpiece design analysts
 - Mailing preparation and entry
 - Delivery and pickup activities

Delivery Standards Changed January 2015

- First-Class Mail
 - Some delivered overnight, most delivered within 2-5 days
- Standard Mail
 - Delivery within 3-10 days (Contiguous 48 States)

Network Changes Including Plant Consolidations

- Drop-off points for outbound ballots
- Critical Entry Time for service standard commitments

Postmark Issues

- Illegible or missing postmarks
 - Flats vs. letter size return ballot envelopes
- Postmarks on back of envelope

Voter Communication

- Consider a voter notification with the ballot material packet
- Recommend mail ballots at least one week prior to Election Day
- Postmarks can be requested at Post Office window
- USPS Blue Collection Boxes - ballots deposited after the printed collection time will not be postmarked until the next day
- Home or Business Mailboxes - ballot will be postmarked the day the mail carrier collects it

- Work with Mailpiece Design Analyst to design reply envelopes and include Official Election Mail® logo
- Leverage Intelligent Mail® barcode technology
- Use First-Class Mail for outbound ballots
- Include Tag 191 Domestic and International Ballots
- Provide machineable letter-size reply envelopes to voters



State Voting Laws are Complex and Variable

Example: *“Ballot must be received at clerk’s office by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day. Ballots applied for no later than 30 days before the election by qualified electors outside of the United States that are signed, dated, postmarked, and mailed by voter no later than the day of the election and received by the county clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. 10 days after the election will be counted. Absentee ballots of armed services personnel serving in active status shall be counted if received by the county clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. 10 days after the election, if the ballots were executed no later than the date of the election.”*

Number of States with
Vote by Mail
(No Limitations)

3

Number of States with
Limited Vote by Mail

17

Number of States with No
Excuse Absentee Voting

27

Voting laws are predominantly statutory

- **Encourage use of Postal Service resources to design ballots**
 - Machineable letter-size envelopes for return ballots
 - Use of Intelligent Mail barcode to track ballots
- **Ensure sufficient number of days prior to election**
 - Voter requests a ballot
 - Board of election mails ballot
 - Voter receives ballot
 - Voter acts on ballot
 - Voter mails ballot
 - Board of election receives ballot
- **Deadlines based on ‘postmarked by’ rather than ‘received by’**
- **Notice to voters with mail by date guidelines**

Thank you!



Questions?

Appendix

Gulf Atlantic

298, 304,
308-310,
312-319,
320, 322-326,
344, 398

- **Election Mail Coordinator**
- Robin Lang, 904-645-3220; Robin.M.Lang@usps.gov
- **Marketing Manager**
- Lucious Sumlar, 954-359-2711; Lucious.R.Sumlar@usps.gov
- **District Manager**
- David F. Martin, 904-359-2763; David.F.Martin@usps.gov

Suncoast

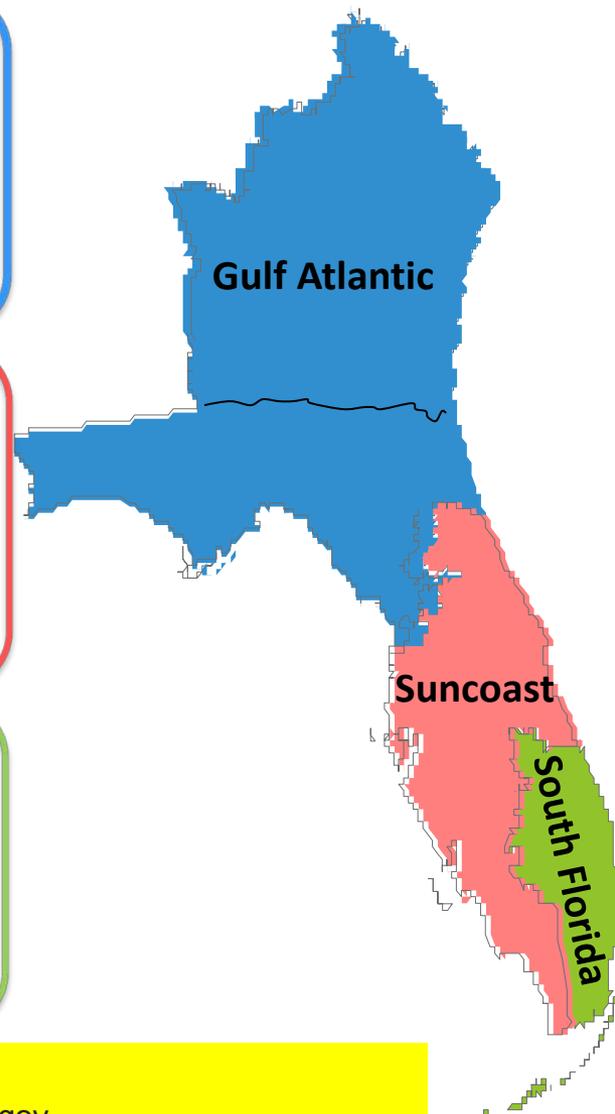
321, 327-329,
335-339,
341-342,
346-347

- **Election Mail Coordinator**
- Don Dease, 813-354-6223; Donald.E.Dease@usps.gov
- **Marketing Manager**
- Pamela West, 813-354-6064; Pamela.S.West@usps.gov
- **District Manager**,
- Eric D. Chavez, 813-354-6099; Eric.D.Chavez@usps.gov

South Florida

330-334,
340, 349

- **Election Mail Coordinator**
- Joycelynn King, 954-527-3261; JoycelynnKing@usps.gov
- **Marketing Manager**
- Juan Nadal, 954-527-3262; Juan.C.Nadal@usps.gov
- **District Manager**
- Jeffery A. Taylor, 954-527-6987; Jeffery.A.Taylor@usps.gov



Southern Area:

Area Political Mail Coordinator Felicia Carter, 214-819-8733; Felicia.L.Carter@usps.gov

Area Marketing Manager Jacquelyn R. Villemaire, 214-819-8860; Jacquelyn.Villemaire@usps.gov

Area Vice President Shaun E. Mossman, 214-819-8650; Shaun.E.Mossman@usps.gov

- Official Election Mail Program Fact Sheet
- Publication 632, *State and Local Election Mail—User’s Guide*
- Publication 631, *Official Election Mail—Graphic Guidelines and Logos*
- Special Procedures APO/FPO Absentee Ballots Fact Sheet
- Tag 191 Fact Sheet and Sample Tag
- IMb Tracing® Fact Sheet
- Steps to Creating Your Intelligent Mail® Barcode Fact Sheet