



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY HUMAN RESOURCES COMMAND
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AHRC-PDP-P

11 JUN 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Command Emphasis-Armed Forces Voters Week

1. In support of the Services' Voting Assistance Program, the Secretary of Defense has designated the week of June 28 – July 7, 2010, as Armed Forces Voters Week. During this week, commanders are encouraged to intensify efforts to contact all assigned personnel and ensure they are informed of the requirements for voting and are provided necessary information regarding voting resources. Timeliness is essential to ensure our personnel are postured to vote in the fall elections.
2. As part of the continuing efforts to provide voting assistance to our Soldiers and their Families, command emphasis and involvement is requested during this special period. Local events planned during this period such as parades, 4th of July celebrations, and Armed Forces Day should emphasize voting and stress the importance of individual preparations for the upcoming November 2, 2010, elections. Commanders should emphasize the procedures required for eligible voters to register and to obtain their absentee ballot in advance of the November election. Armed Forces Voters week provides an ideal opportunity to ensure voters receive key materials such as the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA) so they can send their updated information to their local election officials in order to receive a ballot in time. In addition to voting assistance during Armed Forces Voters week, commanders should also consider conducting registration drives to encourage participation in the election.
3. Efforts by Commanders will reinforce the Voting Assistance Officer (VAO) actions to solidify the Commanders' commitment to providing our Soldiers the opportunity to vote. As the majority of our Soldiers vote via absentee ballot, it is important that Commanders encourage their Soldiers to adhere to the ballot mailing deadline guidance to provide the best opportunity for each absentee ballot to be counted during the election. VAOs should also encourage voters to send and receive voting materials electronically to increase the opportunity for the receipt of ballots in a timely manner.
4. The November 2, 2010, General Election is fast approaching. Commands should aggressively ensure all the necessary resources for our Soldiers to receive and cast a valid ballot are in place and appropriately energized.

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5. Voting is both a privilege and a responsibility of citizens in our democracy. Your personal involvement will go a long way to ensuring the success and effectiveness of this important program.



RICHARD P. MUSTION
Brigadier General, USA
The Adjutant General

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