

Instructions for Voting Form **FS3** **Federal Services Absentee Ballot**

Enclosed is your federal services absentee ballot, envelope with statement and an airmail postage free* envelope addressed to the county election officer of your county of residence for the return of the ballot.

Read the instructions carefully and review the ballot before making any marks on it.

To vote for a person, place a cross or check mark in the square or parenthesis at the left of and on the same line as the name of the candidate.

Write-in votes are allowed only if a blank line is provided under the specific office. A name must be written clearly and a cross or check mark placed in the box or parenthesis at the left.

To cast a vote for a question submitted ballot, place a cross or check mark in the box or parenthesis at the left of the word "Yes"; to vote against a question, place a cross or check mark in the box or parenthesis at the left of the word "No."

Do not make any marks on the ballot that would in any way identify the ballot. Any such marks will invalidate your ballot.

When you have completed marking the ballot, seal it securely in the ballot envelope. Complete the form printed on the ballot envelope and sign the affidavit. The ballot must be mailed or otherwise transmitted to the county election officer and must reach that office no later than the close of the polls on election day.

VOTING BY FACSIMILE

If you reside outside the United States or are a member of the United States armed forces or you are the spouse or dependent of a member of the armed forces and a qualified elector and cannot vote timely by mail, you may apply for registration and an absentee ballot by facsimile. You may also request that the county election officer transmit to you by facsimile a ballot, or second ballot, as the case may be. You may then either mail or transmit by facsimile your voted ballot back to the county election officer.

If you choose to transmit your voted ballot to the county election officer by facsimile, the transmittal shall contain the following statement: ***"Understand that by faxing my voted ballot I am voluntarily waiving my right to a secret ballot."*** This statement shall be followed by your signature and the date. Upon receipt of the transmittal, the county election officer shall place the voted ballot along with the signed statement and affidavit in an appropriately marked envelope and seal it. The county election officer and such officer's staff shall take the steps necessary to keep the voted ballots received by facsimile as confidential as possible.

*Foreign airmail postage must be affixed if mailed from a foreign postal facility.