ABSENTEE/ALTERNATIVE BALLOT DEADLINE REMINDERS

The statutory deadline for most civilian voters to request an absentee ballot is **the Tuesday prior to the Election**; and the deadline by which a county must receive voted absentee ballots from those civilian absentee voters is **the Friday prior to the Election**. However, there are several exceptions to this general rule. Those exceptions are outlined briefly in this document.

**Note: Special Rule for Voters in Actual Military Service**

Please keep in mind that a voter in actual military service, who is present in his or her voting district of residence and has not already voted in the municipal election, may apply in person at the county board of elections. The military voter may then vote the absentee ballot, in secret, in the office of the county board of elections.

**EMERGENCY ABSENTEE VOTERS**

5:00 P.M. on the **Friday prior to the Election** is the statutory deadline for emergency absentee voters (voters who are voting by absentee ballot because of a disability or absence from their municipality that was not and could not have been known prior to the Tuesday before the Election) to request an absentee ballot through the county board of elections. *(Voted absentee ballots must be received from these voters no later than 5:00 P.M. on the Friday prior to the Election in order to be counted.)*

8:00 P.M. on the day of the **Election** is the statutory deadline for a voter to request through the appropriate Court of Common Pleas an emergency absentee ballot, if the voter becomes physically disabled or ill after 5:00 P.M. on the Friday prior to the election; or if the voter learns after 5:00 P.M. on the Friday prior to the election that the voter will be absent from the voter’s municipality of residence on Election Day because of the voter’s business, duties or occupation. *(Voted absentee ballots must be received from these voters no later than 8:00 P.M. on the day of the Election.)*

**EMERGENCY ALTERNATIVE VOTERS**

8:00 P.M. on the day of the **Election** is the deadline for an “elderly” or “handicapped” voter who is assigned to an inaccessible polling place to apply for an emergency alternative ballot. An emergency alternative ballot may be requested when circumstances arise unexpectedly, including those circumstances when an “elderly” or “handicapped” voter learns after the application deadline that he or she has been assigned to an inaccessible polling place. *(Voted absentee ballots must be received from these voters no later than 8:00 P.M. on the day of the Election.)*

**MILITARY AND OVERSEAS VOTERS**

A qualified military or overseas voter may apply for an absentee ballot at **any time prior to the Election**. *(Voted absentee ballots must be received from these voters no later than 5:00 P.M. on the seventh day following the Election, if the ballot is postmarked no later than the day before the Election.)*