FAIR ELECTIONS LEGAL NETWORK

Working to remove barriers to voting and improve election administration across the United States.

Guide to Get Out the Vote (GOTV) in Colorado

Election Day – Polls are open from 7 am to 7pm
General Election: November 6
Voter Registration Deadline: October 9

Voting by Mail

Colorado allows any registered voter to vote by mail without excuse.

Deadline for a ballot: An absentee ballot by mail can be requested up until October 30 or in person by November 2.

Voters on permanent absentee ballot list: If voters do not receive their ballot by October 25, they should call their county clerk and report the problem.

ID Requirements: Voting by mail requires less ID (EXCEPT for first time voters). Vote by mail simply requires voter to sign envelope. First time voters, including those who have moved, who vote by mail must photocopy an approved ID and include it with their mail-in ballot.

Voting at the Polls on Election Day or Early in Person

Colorado allows all registered voters to vote early in person without an excuse.

Early In-Person Voting: In-person early voting runs from October 22 – November 2 for the November 2012 election. Early voting sites are available through county websites

ID Requirements: ALL Colorado voters must show ID when voting in person. Acceptable IDs include:

- Valid photo ID
- Utility bill, bank statement, government check, or paycheck
- Government document with name and current address.

If ID shows an address it must show a Colorado address to be valid.

Voters Who Moved Since Registering to Vote

They should update registration address by October 9 if possible. After October 9, if they moved:

Within the precinct the voter can update their registration at the office of the clerk and recorder of the county or in the precinct on Election Day. They must bring a Colorado driver's license or ID card or ID with name and current address.

Within the county the voter can update their registration during early voting, in person at a central location (anytime before Election Day) or on Election Day in the new precinct (if the latter, voter will need to vote a provisional ballot).

To different county the voter can update their registration during early voting, in person at a central location (anytime before Election Day) or on Election Day in the new precinct (if the latter, voter will need to vote a provisional ballot).

Voters Who Moved Since Registering to Vote

Tell voters they have the right to vote even if affected by foreclosure.

- If still in home, the voter can register and vote from there.
- If the voter is no longer in the home they may register or remain registered at the address as long as they have not established a new permanent residence.
- If the voter has established a new permanent address, they should register or update registration and vote according to current. See above.

Polling Places

- The Secretary of State provides a polling place locator on their website at www.sos.state.co.us/voter/secuRegVoterIntro.do (individual must enter their personal information to get precinct and polling place information).
- Voters must cast their ballots in the correct precinct. Sometimes there are multiple precincts in one polling place, so voters should confirm their precinct ahead of time and get in the correct line!

This Guide was prepared by FELN staff who are not licensed to practice law in Colorado and FELN intends that the information contained herein is used only as a general guide. This document should not be used as a substitute for consultation with a licensed Colorado legal professional.

Last updated on March 23, 2012