

**Ramsay, Kay**

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**From:** Pat McCarthy [PMCCART@co.pierce.wa.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 13, 2004 10:34 AM  
**To:** auditor@auditor.co.mason.wa.us; heidih@co.adams.wa.us; nancym@co.adams.wa.us; ejohnston@co.asotin.wa.us; bobbie\_gagner@co.benton.wa.us; susie\_christopher@co.benton.wa.us; evelyn.arnold@co.chelan.wa.us; nissa.shaw@co.chelan.wa.us; cmckeown@co.clallam.wa.us; prosand@co.clallam.wa.us; greg.kimsey@co.clark.wa.us; tlikness@co.clark.wa.us; sharon\_Richter@co.columbia.wa.us; nielandl@co.cowlitz.wa.us; swansonk@co.cowlitz.wa.us; ppennington@co.douglas.wa.us; tduvall@co.douglas.wa.us; auditor@co.ferry.wa.us; elections@co.ferry.wa.us; dkillian@co.franklin.wa.us; zlenhart@co.franklin.wa.us; ddeal@co.garfield.wa.us; plaugher@co.garfield.wa.us; bvarney@co.grant.wa.us; fanderson@co.grant.wa.us; rpursley@co.grays-harbor.wa.us; vspatz@co.grays-harbor.wa.us; loanng@co.island.wa.us; suzannes@co.island.wa.us; deldridge@co.jefferson.wa.us; karenc@co.jefferson.wa.us; dgilmore@co.kitsap.wa.us; kflynn@co.kitsap.wa.us; davidb@co.kittitas.wa.us; sue@co.kittitas.wa.us; dawnw@co.klickitat.wa.us; dianah@co.klickitat.wa.us; gzandell@co.lewis.wa.us; mlzumbuh@co.lewis.wa.us; dvaughan@co.lincoln.wa.us; rbechtold@co.lincoln.wa.us; sjohnston@co.lincoln.wa.us; pas@co.mason.wa.us; jury6576@co.okanogan.wa.us; robb7673@co.okanogan.wa.us; pgardner@co.pacific.wa.us; dang@co.san-juan.wa.us; sis@co.san-juan.wa.us; erikak@co.skagit.wa.us; normab@co.skagit.wa.us; davido@co.skamania.wa.us; garvison@co.skamania.wa.us; carolyn.diepenbrock@co.snohomish.wa.us; county.auditor@co.snohomish.wa.us; blamm@co.stevens.wa.us; tgray@co.stevens.wa.us; homans@co.thurston.wa.us; sandahb@co.thurston.wa.us; wymank@co.thurston.wa.us; tischerd@co.wahkiakum.wa.us; kmanning@co.walla-walla.wa.us; kmmartin@co.walla-walla.wa.us; dadelste@co.whatcom.wa.us; pgriffin@co.whatcom.wa.us; sforslof@co.whatcom.wa.us; debrah@co.whitman.wa.us; eunicec@co.whitman.wa.us; corky.mattingly@co.yakima.wa.us; Diana.soules@co.yakima.wa.us; bill.huenekens@metrokc.gov; dean.logan@metrokc.gov; Julie.moore@metrokc.gov; checkford@pendoreille.org; tolgson@pendoreille.org; shmoss@secstate.wa.gov; MMcLaughlin@spokanecounty.org; PBrandt@spokanecounty.org; vdalton@spokanecounty.org  
**Cc:** jeffe@ATG.WA.GOV; Lori Augino; Mary Johnson-Hall; Elections-All@secstate.wa.gov  
**Subject:** Re: Military Voters

Sheryl and others,

Many of the counties in our State are offering an e-mail program for our Military and Overseas Voters. I went on your website and found that it is not real easy to get to the county websites. I think if you could put easier links it would be better for the military to find us and know what we offer.

Pat

>>> "Moss, Sheryl" <shmoss@secstate.wa.gov> 10/13/04 10:06AM >>>

Dear Friends:

I just received an email from a deployed soldier asking about the mailing of our absentee ballots. They are being told to vote a Federal Write-In Ballot if they do not receive their regular ballot by October 15. Thank you for your supreme effort in putting your military and overseas ballots into the mail last Friday.

I would like to remind everyone of the special rules for military and overseas ballots:

- The date of the signature, not the postmark, determines if the ballot was mailed on time (RCW 29A.40.110 (3)).
- Federal Write-In Ballots are acceptable if you have an absentee request on file for that voter.
- If you receive a Federal Write-In Ballot or a Special Absentee Ballot, you should count it only if you do not receive a regular ballot from the voter. The ballots are held until you certify. If you have not received a regular ballot from them, duplicate the Federal or Special absentee onto a regular ballot and count their votes. (RCW 29A.40.050 (4))
- Out of state, service, or overseas voters, by state law definition, have the qualifications to vote, but are not registered. If the request comes on a Federal Post Card Application, you should register them to vote and mail a ballot. If the request comes in any other form, they also must be sent a ballot (RCW 29A.40.020). For those not registered and returning a ballot, the signature on their absentee ballot envelope constitutes the equivalent of a voter registration (RCW 29A.40.091).
- Please offer faxed and emailed ballots for those requesting them. They will need sign the absentee oath and provide their own envelopes and postage, but it could make the difference in the voter returning a ballot on time. A voter is also allowed to fax a voted ballot provided the voter signs a waiver of the secrecy of their ballot and the original is received by certification. (WAC 434-208-060 and 434-208-080)

You can find more information on military voting at the following websites:

[www.defenselink.mil/fvap](http://www.defenselink.mil/fvap)

[www.dod.mil/fvap](http://www.dod.mil/fvap)

[www.defense.gov/fvap](http://www.defense.gov/fvap)

[www.pentagon.mil/fvap](http://www.pentagon.mil/fvap)

[www.pentagon.gov/fvap](http://www.pentagon.gov/fvap)

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions regarding military and overseas ballots.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Moss, Manager

Certification and Training Program

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