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## 2004 UTAH VOTER INFORMATION

### Prepared by the ACLU of Utah

#### Who is eligible to vote?

- You must be registered in order to vote. (Utah Code § 20A-2-102)
- You can register to vote in Utah if you are a citizen of the United States; have resided in Utah at least 30 days immediately prior to the election; are at least 18-years-old on or before the election; and are not a convicted felon currently incarcerated for a felony. (Utah Code § 20A-2-101)
- If you are a convicted felon, your right to register to vote and vote in an election is restored when you are sentenced to probation by the sentencing judge; are granted parole by the Board of Pardons; or have successfully completed the term of incarceration to which you were sentenced. (Utah Code § 20A-2-101.5)

#### How do I register to vote?

- The deadline for registering to vote is 20 days before the election if you are registering by mail (Utah Code § 20A-2-202) or 8 days before the election if you are registering in person (Utah Code § 20A-2-201). To vote in the 2004 general election, voter registration forms must be postmarked no later than October 13 or you must register in person at your County Clerk's Office no later than October 25.
- You may register to vote by using the mail-in registration form available on the Utah State Elections Office website at <http://www.elections.utah.gov/Registration.PDF>. Forms are also available in the white pages of your phone book, and at state offices, such as the Drivers License Division; Division of Workforce Services; Utah State Department of Health, Women, Infant and Children (WIC) Offices; the Division of Services for People with Disabilities; the Department of Rehabilitation; and public colleges and universities.
- You may also contact your county clerk to request a form or to register in person. You can find the contact information for your county clerk at <http://www.elections.utah.gov/countyclerks.html>, or you can look it up in the government section of your phone book.
- On October 22 and 25 from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., you may register at any satellite registration location in your county. Please contact your county clerk for satellite registration locations. (Utah Code § 20A-2-203)
- If you are a first time voter and are registering by mail, you should include with your voter registration form a photocopy of a valid photo ID or other proof of residence, such as a current utility bill, government check, or paycheck. In addition, on the form you must disclose your driver's license number, state identification number, or the last 4 digits of your social security number. (Utah Code § 20A-2-104)
- If you have moved or changed your name since registering to vote, you must fill out a new voter registration form. (Utah Code § 20A-2-306)
- If you are homeless, you may use the address of the Road Home homeless shelter for your residence. The shelter address is 210 S Rio Grande Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84101.

#### When do I vote?

- The general election is November 2, 2004.
- The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. You have the right to cast a vote if you are in line at the time the polls close. (Utah Code § 20A-1-302)
- If you are scheduled to work, your employer must allow you to leave your workplace for up to two hours in order to vote. You must ask for this leave before Election Day and your employer may not deduct from your usual salary or wage because of your absence. (Utah Code § 20A-3-103)

## **Where do I vote?**

- After the County Clerk's Office processes your application for voter registration, you will receive a voter registration card that will tell you where to vote. If you do not receive this card or lose it before Election Day, contact your county clerk to find out where you can vote and to request a replacement card. (Utah Code § 20A-3-202).
- County Clerks determine where polling places will be located. In addition to various government buildings, polling places can include private facilities, such as churches and private homes. All polling places must meet ADA requirements.

## **What must I bring with me when I vote?**

- If you are voting for the first time in the jurisdiction and you did not provide proper ID when you registered, you will be required to present proof of identity or proof of residence. (Utah Code § 20A-3-104) One of the following documents may be used to prove residency: driver's license, state identification card, passport, current utility bill, government check, paycheck, or any other government document that shows your name and address. If you do not bring proper ID or proof of residency, you will be issued a provisional ballot.
- Election judges can request your photo ID if they do not know you and have reason to doubt your identity. (Utah Code § 20A-3-104) If this is the case and you did not bring a photo ID, you will be issued a provisional ballot.

## **How do I handle the most common problems?**

- If a poll worker tells you that you are not on the list of registered voters but you believe that you should be (because you submitted a registration form before the deadline), first ask him or her to check the list again. If that fails, show the poll worker your voter registration card or some other form of identification. By law, you will be permitted to vote on a provisional ballot even if the poll worker cannot confirm your registration. (Utah Code § 20A-3-105.5) The provisional ballot will NOT count unless it is later determined that you are eligible to vote and that you voted the provisional ballot in the correct precinct. (Utah Code § 20A-4-107)
- If you need instructions on how to use the voting equipment in your precinct, ask a poll worker for help. You have the right to receive instructions. (Utah Code § 20A-3-109)
- If you need assistance because you are disabled, unable to read, or speak a language other than English, you may be accompanied into the voting booth by a person of your choice who may assist you in voting (as long as that person is not your employer, an agent of your employer, a representative of your union, or a political candidate). (Utah Code § 20A-3-108)

## **How can I minimize potential problems on Election Day?**

- Call your county clerk to double-check your registration status and polling place at least 8 days before Election Day.
- Bring your voter registration card and a photo ID to the polls. This may not be necessary to vote but can be helpful if anyone challenges your eligibility.
- Vote early in the day.
- Read all instructions carefully.
- Take your time in the voting booth. You have up to ten minutes to cast your ballot. (Utah Code § 20A-3-105)
- If you make a mistake when marking your choices on a paper ballot, ask for a new one. You can receive up to two replacement ballots. (Utah Code § 20A-3-107)
- If you are scheduled to work on Election Day, ask for time off to vote in advance.

## **Useful phone numbers:**

Utah State Elections Division: (801) 538-1041 or (800) 995-VOTE  
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Voting Section: (800) 253-3931  
National ACLU Voting Rights Project: (404) 523-2721  
ACLU of Utah: (801) 521-9862 ext 104