

## SECRETARY OF THE STATE CONNECTICUT

For Immediate Release: October 4, 2013

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- PRESS RELEASE -

## MERRILL: ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

SECRETARY OF THE STATE ALSO REMINDING ELIGIBLE VOTERS TO REGISTER BEFORE OCTOBER  $29^{\text{TH}}$  DEADLINE IN ORDER TO CAST BALLOTS ON NOVEMBER  $5^{\text{TH}}$ 

**HARTFORD:** Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today announced that absentee ballots are now available for any registered Connecticut voters who will be out of town or otherwise unable to go to their polling place and cast a ballot in Municipal Elections on Tuesday November 5, 2013. At the same time, Secretary Merrill is also urging eligible voters in Connecticut to register to vote by the deadline of October 29<sup>th</sup> so they can cast ballots in the Municipal Election.

"With just over 30 days before the 2013 Municipal Elections, I urge any registered voters who know they will be out of town or otherwise unable to make it to their polling place on Election Day to apply for an absentee ballot now," said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut's chief elections official. "Don't put off applying for an absentee ballot until it is too late – make sure you have a say in who serves in your local government. This is a very important election where decisions that have great impact on our communities will be made. I urge every adult citizen in our state to register to vote before the final deadline of Tuesday October 29<sup>th</sup> so your voice will be heard on Election Day!"

To obtain an absentee ballot, registered Connecticut voters can download an application from the Secretary of the State's website <a href="www.sots.ct.gov">www.sots.ct.gov</a> or local town websites, or they can contact their local town clerk's office to pick up an application in-person or receive one through the mail. After the applications are submitted, absentee ballots will be sent to registered voters who request them within days. Absentee ballots must be signed and can be returned through the mail or in-person. In order to be counted for the general election, absentee ballots must be received by town clerks no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 5, 2013.