Florida: Please read entire 4 pg. document

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dyer, Jesse C.** <Jesse.Dyer@dos.myflorida.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 5, 2017 at 2:47 AM

Subject: RE: information needed regarding voting from abroad

To: "herro048@umn.edu" <herro048@umn.edu>

Cc: "Holland, Gary" < Gary. Holland@dos.myflorida.com>

Ms. Herron,

You can find our Voter Registration and Voting Guide handbook at the following link: http://dos.myflorida.com/media/693760/voter-registration-guide.pdf

This should be helpful to you in answering your questions.

Jesse Dyer

Assistant General Counsel

Florida Department of State

R.A. Gray Building

500 South Bronough Street

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

(850)245-6536

(850)245-6127 Fax

Note: This response is provided for reference only and does not constitute a formal legal opinion or representation from the sender or the Department of State. Parties should refer to the Florida Statutes and applicable case law, and/or consult an attorney to represent their interests before relying upon the information provided.

In addition, Florida has a very broad public records law. Written communications to or from state officials regarding state business constitute public records. Public records are available to the public and media upon request, unless the information is subject to a specific statutory exemption. Therefore, any information that you send to this address, including your contact information, may be subject to public disclosure.

From: Melissa Herron [mailto:herro048@umn.edu]

Sent: Monday, December 4, 2017 4:39 AM

To: Secretary of State < <u>SecretaryofState@DOS.MyFlorida.com</u>> **Subject:** information needed regarding voting from abroad

Hello,

I'm a volunteer helping US citizens, living overseas, vote in US elections. We want to make sure that <u>votefromabroad.org</u> provides accurate and up-to-date voting information. Would you please answer the following questions.

- 1. If a U.S. citizen is residing abroad and they <u>intend to return</u>, are they allowed to vote in <u>state</u> elections?
- 2. If a U.S. citizen is residing abroad and their return is <u>uncertain</u>, are they allowed to vote in state elections?
- 3. If a U.S. citizen has never resided in the United States, are they eligible to vote in <u>state</u> elections?
- 4. If a US citizen has never resided in the United States, are they eligible to vote in <u>federal</u> elections?

Thank you for taking the time to answer our questions. We appreciate you helping Americans execute one of their most important rights!

Take Care,

Melissa Herron

The Department of State is committed to excellence. Please take our <u>Customer Satisfaction Survey</u>.

Several e-mails went back and forth to Florida that were not particularly helpful so I did not include them here. Phone calls to SOS supervisors were equally frustrating. However, my phone call to the General Counsel was extremely helpful. He told me, "you can vote in state elections if your return is uncertain and you cannot vote in state elections if you never resided." He e-mailed me a particularly helpful document.

E-mail from General Counsel:

See attached guide (2nd page near bottom answers the questions we discussed).

Link to Florida's Online Voter Registration application: https://registertovoteflorida.gov/en/Registration/Index

Link to FPCA (you have to accept privacy act statement, then select State on next screen): https://www.fvap.gov/fpca-privacy-notice

Regards,

Gary J. Holland

Assistant General Counsel Florida Department of State R.A. Gray Building 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250 (850)245-6536 (850)245-6127 Fax

Note: This response is provided for reference only and does not constitute a formal legal opinion or representation from the sender or the Department of State. Parties should refer to the Florida Statutes and applicable case law, and/or consult an attorney to represent their interests before relying upon the information provided.

In addition, Florida has a very broad public records law. Written communications to or from state officials regarding state business constitute public records. Public records are available to the public and media upon request, unless the information is subject to a specific statutory exemption. Therefore, any information that you send to this address, including your contact information, may be subject to public disclosure.

The Department of State is committed to excellence. Please take our Customer Satisfaction Survey.