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VIA FEDEX OVERNIGHT MAIL

Charles R. Fulbruge, III, Clerk
Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals
600 S. Maestri Place
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

Re: Case No. 06-41573, *Willie Ray, Jamillah Johnson, Gloria Meeks, Rebecca Minneweather, Parthenia McDonald, Walter Hinojosa and The Texas Democratic Party v. Greg Abbott, Attorney General of the State of Texas; and Roger Williams, Secretary of State for the State of Texas*

Dear Mr. Fulbruge:

This post-submission, supplemental letter is being submitted as directed by the Court. Please forward it to the panel assigned to this case.

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT:

During oral argument of this case on December 4, 2007, the Court raised certain concerns regarding Texas's early-voting, mail-in ballot and carrier envelope. Counsel for the Defendants-Appellants, Greg Abbott, Attorney General of the State of Texas, and Phil Wilson, Texas Secretary of State (the "State Officials"), advised that the Secretary of State's Office intended to modify the ballot-envelope instructions and carrier envelope to address and alleviate any concerns the Court might have. The Court directed the State Officials that they had 10 days from the date of oral argument (December 14, 2007) to file a supplemental letter with the Court advising it of any such modifications. This letter does that, as well as addressing a couple of related points.

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The Secretary of State's Office has modified the carrier envelope for the early-voting, mail-in ballot and the ballot-envelope instructions in several significant respects.¹ First, the carrier envelope contains a warning, in bold-faced type, as follows:

Warning: Knowingly possessing another person's ballot or carrier envelope may be a crime unless you provide your signature, printed name, and address. *Aviso: Intencionalmente en posesión de una boleta o sobre portador de otra persona puede ser un delito si no proporcione su firma, nombre en letra de molde y dirección de domicilio.*²

This warning, in both English and Spanish, appears on both the front and back of the carrier envelope. (The warning on the front of the envelope differs only in that it includes the prepositional phrase "on the other side of this envelope" after the word "address.")³ The same warning also appears in the instructions to the ballot envelope, except that it also contains the prepositional phrase "on the carrier envelope" after the word "address" in the instruction.⁴ This language was added to improve clarity and should provide clear notice to any person who knowingly possesses someone else's ballot or carrier envelope that the possession of these items is something very serious and may involve criminal penalties. Moreover, this language advises such a person as to what is required of him or her in order to avoid the threat of criminal prosecution.

Second, on the back of the carrier envelope, in the two blanks for the printed names, signatures, and residence addresses of any witnesses or assistants, there are

1. A copy of the modified carrier envelope, ballot-envelope instructions, and carrier-envelope instructions are attached hereto.

2. *See*, attached, Carrier Envelope.

3. *See id.*

4. *See*, attached, Ballot Envelope ¶5.

now two hash marks that divide these lines into six compartments.⁵ These signify separate compartments for up to three different individuals to include their identifying information. This modification should address the concern of Plaintiffs-Appellees that the carrier envelope is misleading because the former blanks allegedly seemed to indicate that only one person needed to provide the required information. In addition, under the printed-name-and-signature blank, the text now reads:

X _____ / _____ / _____
Printed names and Signatures of **all** Assistants, Witnesses or Persons
handling ballot or carrier envelope. (*Nombres en letra de molde y
firmas de todos que ayudaron al voltante, testigos, o personas
manejando una boleta o sobre portador.*)⁶

_____ / _____ / _____
Residence Addresses of **persons named above.** (*Dirección de
domicilio de las personas indicado arriba.*)⁷

Third, in the insert provided with a voter's mail-in ballot, bold-faced type has been added to the third sentence of item 2 under "Important Information About Returning Your Ballot in the Carrier Envelope." It now reads as follows:

If a person (assistant) helps you in marking your ballot or deposits your carrier envelope in the mail or delivers it to a common or contract carrier, that person must sign your carrier envelope and include their printed name and address.⁸

5. See, attached, Carrier Envelope.

6. See, attached, Carrier Envelope. Changes in bold.

7. See *id.* Changes in bold.

8. See, attached, Carrier-Envelope Instructions ¶2. The Spanish version of this instruction is similarly bolded. See *id.*

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These modifications should ameliorate any alleged confusion as to who exactly is required to sign the carrier envelope where one person assists the voter in filling out the ballot and another person deposits it into the mail. By making this language appear in bold, the State Officials have made it abundantly clear that *each such person* must sign and provide the necessary information on the carrier envelope.

All of these modifications serve to make abundantly clear to any individual coming into contact with a ballot or carrier envelope what was already explicit on the face of the statute: that anyone possessing another person's ballot or carrier envelope (and not falling within the statutory exceptions) must put his or her printed name, signature, and residence address on the carrier envelope to avoid committing a crime. Moreover, the statute criminalizes only those who, not disclosing their name and address, "*knowingly possess*[]" an[other person's] official ballot or carrier envelope," providing an explicit *mens rea* for criminal conduct.

This disclosure requirement—which makes evident the full chain of custody for early-voting, mail-in ballots—is entirely constitutional and is consonant with laws throughout the nation. Approximately 30 other States restrict, in some form or fashion, the possession of mail-in (absentee) ballots.⁹ Most of them restrict ballot possession by either having a smaller class of persons eligible to handle the ballots

9. ARIZ. REV. STAT. ANN. § 16-542; ARK. CODE ANN. § 7-5-411; CAL. ELEC. CODE §§ 3011, 3017, 3021, 18403; COLO. REV. STAT. ANN. §§ 1-8-112, -113; CONN. GEN. STAT. ANN. § 9-140b; FLA. STAT. § 101.62; GA. CODE ANN. §§ 21-2-385, -562; 10 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/19-6, /19-13, /29-20; IND. CODE ANN. § 3-14-2-16; IOWA CODE §§ 39A.4, 53.17, .22; ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, §§ 753-B, 754-A; MD. CODE ANN., ELEC. LAW §§ 9-307, -308; MASS. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, § 92; MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. §§ 168.764a, .932; MINN. STAT. §§ 203B.08, .11; MO. ANN. STAT. § 115.631, .637; MONT. CODE ANN. § 13-13-214; NEB. REV. STAT. §§ 32-943, -944; NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. §§ 293.316, .3165, .330, .730; N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. §§ 657:15, :17; N.J. STAT. ANN. §§ 19:57-23, 37.1; N.M. STAT. ANN. § 1-6-10.1, 1-20-7; N.Y. ELEC. LAW § 8-406; N.C. GEN. STAT. § 163-226.3; N.D. CENT. CODE § 16.1-07-08; OHIO REV. CODE ANN. §§ 3509.05, 3599.21; S.C. CODE ANN. § 7-15-385; S.D. CODIFIED LAWS §§ 12-19-2.1, -2.2, -7.2; VA. CODE ANN. § 24.2-649, -704, -707; WASH. REV. CODE ANN. § 29A.40.080; W. VA. CODE ANN. § 3-3-5; WIS. STAT. ANN. §§ 6.86, .87.

than Texas does,¹⁰ or by requiring the absentee voter to designate their agent in writing.¹¹ Some States also restrict the number of voters one person may serve as an agent to.¹² And South Dakota allows only an authorized messenger to deliver an

10. See CAL. ELEC. CODE §§3017, 3021, 18403 (generally allowing only family and members of household to return voted absentee ballots); CONN. GEN. STAT. ANN. §9-140b (allowing only family member or caregiver to return voted absentee ballot); GA. CODE ANN. §21-2-385 (allowing only close family or household member to return voted absentee ballot); 10 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/19-6, /19-13 (generally allowing only family member to return voted absentee ballot); IND. CODE ANN. §3-14-2-16 (allowing only relative or attorney-in-fact to return voted absentee ballot); IOWA CODE §§ 53.17, .22 (generally allowing only ballot couriers and immediate family to return voted absentee ballot); MASS. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, §92(a) (allowing only family member to return voted absentee ballot); MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. §168.764a (allowing only immediate family or household member to return absentee ballot); MO. ANN. STAT. §115.637 (prohibiting anyone from possessing another's absentee ballot); NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. §293.330(4) (allowing only family member to return voted absentee ballots); N.M. STAT. ANN. §1-6-10.1 (allowing only caregiver or immediate family to return voted absentee ballot); N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. §163-226.3(a)(6) (allowing only legal guardian or near relative to possess absentee ballot); OHIO REV. CODE ANN. § 3509.05(a) (allowing only certain relatives to return voted absentee ballot); WASH. REV. CODE ANN. § 29A.40.080(1) (allowing only immediate family to obtain absentee ballot from clerk).

11. See ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, §753-B (requiring a non-family third-party agent to be designated in writing); MD. CODE ANN., ELEC. LAW §9-307 (requiring a voter's agent to be designated in writing); MONT. CODE ANN. § 13-13-214 (same); N.Y. ELEC. LAW §8-406 (same); N.D. CENT. CODE § 16.1-07-08(1) (same); S.C. CODE ANN. § 7-15-385 (same); S.D. CODIFIED LAWS §12-19-2.1 (same); WIS. STAT. ANN. § 6.86(3)(a)(1) (same).

12. ARK. CODE ANN. §7-5-411(a)(2)(B) (restricting a person who hand-delivers absentee ballots to the clerk to deliver no more than two in an election); COLO. REV. STAT. ANN. §1-8-113(1)(a) (restricting a person who hand-delivers ballots to the election official to deliver no more than five in an election); ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, §753-B(2) (restricting a clerk to give no more than five absentee ballots at a time to a designated agent); MINN. STAT. ANN. § 203B.08 (restricting a person who hand-delivers absentee ballots to the clerk to deliver no more than three in an election); MONT. CODE ANN. §13-13-214(1)(b)(iv) (restricting an election administrator to refuse an absentee ballot to a designated agent if the agent has previously picked up ballots for four other electors); N.D. CENT. CODE §16.1-07-08(1) (restricting an agent to serve no more than four absentee voters in an election); W. VA. CODE ANN. § 3-3-5(j) (restricting a person who hand-delivers absentee ballots to the clerk to deliver no more than two in an election).

absentee ballot if the absentee voter is disabled or ill, requires the messenger for more than one voter to disclose to the person in charge of the election all persons he is a messenger for, and prohibits authorized messengers from displaying campaign materials or soliciting votes.¹³ By comparison, other States are either not as restrictive as the aforementioned states,¹⁴ or are silent as to whether third parties may possess an absentee ballot. Of the approximately 30 States that significantly restrict the possession of mail-in ballots, many of them make it a criminal offense to unlawfully possess a mail-in ballot and provide penalties for a violation.¹⁵ And TEX. ELEC. CODE §86.006(f), like those other state statutes, is entirely constitutional. Accordingly, the Court should reject Plaintiffs-Appellees' facial challenge and reverse the District Court's preliminary injunction.

Finally, please be advised that the changes described in this letter to the ballot materials may be subject to the preclearance requirements of the United States Department of Justice under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act. The Secretary of State's Office will be submitting these changes to the Justice Department for preclearance. To avoid a potential disruption during the upcoming primary season, these modifications will not be employed until preclearance from the D.O.J. is obtained.

13. S.D. CODIFIED LAWS §§12-19-2.1-2.2, -7.2.

14. *See, e.g.*, R.I. GEN. LAWS §17-20-23 ("The voter shall then . . . cause the envelope to be delivered to the state board on or before election day.").

15. *See* ARIZ. REV. STAT. ANN. §16-1018(6); CAL. ELEC. CODE §18403; COLO. REV. STAT. ANN. §1-13-803; CONN. GEN. STAT. ANN. §9-140b(d); GA. CODE ANN. §21-2-385(a)-(b); 10 ILL. COMP. STAT. 5/29-20(4); ME. REV. STAT. ANN. tit. 21-A, §791; MD. CODE ANN., ELEC. LAW §9-312; MASS. GEN. LAWS ch. 54, §27A; MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. §§168.931(1)(b)(iv), .932(f); MINN. STAT. §§203B.03, .08; MO. ANN. STAT. §§115.291(2), .304, .631, .637; MONT. CODE ANN. §§13-13-214(1)(b)(iv), -25-103; NEB. REV. STAT. §32-1522(3); NEV. REV. STAT. ANN. §293.330(4); N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. §§657:15, :17, 666:1; N.J. STAT. ANN. §19:57-37; N.M. REV. STAT. ANN. §1-20-7; N.C. GEN. STAT. ANN. §163-226.3(a)(6); N.D. CENT. CODE §16.1-07-14; OHIO REV. CODE ANN. §3599.21(A)(9), (C); S.C. CODE ANN. §§7-15-385, -25-190; VA. CODE ANN. §§24.2-707, -1012; WASH. REV. CODE ANN. §29A.84.680; W. VA. CODE ANN. §§3-3-5(k), -9-19.

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT RETURNING YOUR MARKED BALLOT IN THE CARRIER ENVELOPE

1. A carrier envelope may not be returned in an envelope or package containing another carrier envelope unless the other carrier envelopes are from persons registered to vote at the same address as your voter registration address.
2. You must seal your carrier envelope before signing your name. You must sign your name next to the large "X" on the carrier envelope. If you cannot sign your name, you must have a person witness your mark. **If a person (assistant) helps you in marking your ballot or deposits your carrier envelope in the mail or delivers it to a common or contract carrier, that person must sign your carrier envelope and include their printed name and address.** Failure of the assistant to provide this information is a crime, and may result in your ballot being rejected.

SPECIAL RULES RESTRICTING ELIGIBLE COMMON AND CONTRACT CARRIERS

1. If you use a common or contract carrier to return your ballot, the carrier must be a bonafide business, for profit carrier, the primary business of which is transporting or delivering property for compensation.
2. Your ballot will not be counted if it is picked up by a common or contract carrier at an office of a political party or candidate, office for a specific-purpose or general purpose political committee involved in the election, or a candidate's house unless the address of the candidate is your address.
3. If you return your carrier envelope by common or contract carrier, your carrier envelope must be accompanied by an individual delivery receipt when delivered to the early voting clerk. The receipt must indicate the name and address of the person who delivered the carrier envelope to the common or contract carrier and the date, hour, and address where the carrier envelope was received by the common or contract carrier.
4. If your ballot is returned by an unauthorized method, it will not be counted.

If you have any questions about returning your carrier envelope, please contact the early voting clerk's office at (_____)_____. If you feel that your voting rights have been violated or abused, you may report these incidents to the Secretary of State toll-free at 1-800-252-VOTE(8683).

*DATOS IMPORTANTES EN CUANTO A LA DEVOLUCIÓN DE
SU BOLETA ELECTORAL MARCADA EN EL SOBRE DE ENTREGA*

- 1. Es prohibido colocar el sobre de entrega dentro de otro sobre o paquete que contenga sobres de entrega adicionales a menos que las personas enviándolos estén inscritos a votar y el domicilio indicado en sus inscripciones electorales sea igual al suyo.*
- 2. Antes de firmarlo, es necesario que cierre y selle el sobre de entrega. Firme el sobre en el lugar indicado por la "X" grande en el sobre. Si no sabe cómo firmar su nombre, será necesario que tenga un testigo presente cuando haga su marca. Si alguien le ayudó marcar sus votos en la boleta, también será necesario que esta persona firme el sobre de entrega porque de otra forma su boleta no se incluirá en el conteo final. Falta por parte del asistente de proporcionar esta información es un delito y puede resultar en que su boleta sea rechazada.*

*REGLAS ESPECIALES EN CUANTO AL USO
DE TRASPORTISTAS O PORTADORES COMERCIALES*

- 1. Si decide contratar un transportista o portador comercial para enviar su boleta electoral, éste deberá ser de una empresa de fines de lucro cuya razón principal es el transporte y la entrega de documentos y bienes por paga.*
- 2. Si dicho transportista fuere a recoger su boleta en: la sede de un partido político, la sede de una campaña electoral, las oficinas de un comité político, ya sea de interés general o específico, que tenga algún interés en estas elecciones o el domicilio de cualquiera de los candidatos, su boleta no se incluiría en el conteo final a menos que el domicilio del candidato es igual al suyo.*
- 3. Si opta enviar su sobre de entrega por portador o transportista comercial al secretario de Votación Adelantada asegúrese que éste lleve un acuso de recibo individual. El recibo debe indicar el nombre y dirección de la persona que entrego el sobre de entrega al portador o transportista comercial y la fecha, hora, y dirección de donde el portador o transportista comercial recibió el sobre de entrega.*
- 4. Si la entrega de su boleta no cumple con toda la norma, su voto no se incluirá en el conteo final.*

Si tiene alguna pregunta en cuanto a cómo devolvernos su sobre de entrega por favor comuníquese con la oficina de la Secretaría de Votación por Adelantado más cercano llamando al ()_____.

Si siente que sus derechos electorales han sido violado o abusado, puede hacer un reporte con la oficina del Secretario del Estado al 1-800-252-8683 (VOTE).

Warning: Knowingly possessing another person's ballot or carrier envelope may be a crime unless you provide your signature, printed name and address on the other side of this envelope.

Aviso: Intencionalmente en posesión de una boleta o sobre portador de otra persona puede ser un delito si no proporciona su firma, nombre en letra de molde y dirección de domicilio en el otro lado de este sobre.

CARRIER ENVELOPE FOR EARLY VOTING BALLOT
(SOBRE OFICIAL PARA ENVÍO DE BOLETAS DE VOTACION ADELANTADA)

TO (A):

Name of Early Voting Clerk (Nombre de la Secretaría de votación adelantada)

Official Title (Título Oficial)

P.O. Address (Dirección Postal)

_____, Texas _____
Zip (Zona Postal)

Warning: Knowingly possessing another person's ballot or carrier envelope may be a crime unless you provide your signature, printed name and address.

Advertencia: Intencionalmente en posesión de una boleta o sobre portador de otra persona puede ser un delito si no proporciona su firma, nombre en letra de molde y dirección de domicilio.

NOTE: This envelope must be sealed by the voter before it leaves the voter's hand. Seal envelope before signing. Do not sign this envelope unless the ballot has been marked by you or at your direction.

NOTA: Este sobre debe ser sellado por el votante antes de salir de su mano. Sellado el sobre antes de firmar. No firme este sobre a menos que usted haya completado la boleta electoral o esta se complete a su dirección.

INSTRUCCIONES PARA EL VOTANTE: Complete all applicable spaces. The carrier envelope must be signed by the voter in the appropriate space. If the voter cannot sign, the voter's mark must be witnessed and the witness block must be completed. The carrier envelope may not be used to return more than one ballot. The carrier envelope may be delivered in another envelope and must be delivered by mail or by courier or contract carrier. Only one carrier envelope shall be placed in another carrier envelope. However, more than one carrier envelope may be placed together in another envelope if the additional carrier envelope(s) belong to a person registered to vote at the same address.

OATH OF ASSISTANCE: If you assisted the voter in any way with the ballot or witnessed the signature of the voter on the carrier envelope, you must sign the oath. If you are going to deposit the carrier envelope in the mail for the voter or deliver it to a common or contract carrier, you must provide your signature, printed name, and address in the space provided.

INSERCCIONES PARA EL VOTANTE: Proporcione toda la información solicitada usando los espacios apropiados. Procure firmar el sobre en el espacio apropiado. Si no sabe firmar, un testigo debe que presenciar su marca y la información en cuanto al testigo deberá ser proporcionada. Es prohibido colocar más de una boleta dentro de cada sobre. Aunque se permite colocar el sobre oficial dentro de otro sobre, nunca se debe colocar más de un sobre oficial dentro de un mismo sobre, y éste deberá ser entregado por correo o por medio de un portador o transportista contratista. No obstante lo anterior, si en el mismo domicilio vive otro votante autorizado a votar bajo la misma dirección, se permite que su sobre oficial sea colocado dentro del mismo sobre.

PRECAUCIÓN: Toda persona que haya ayudado al votante en la preparación de su boleta, no obstante cómo o que ha testigo cuando éste firmó el sobre oficial deberá firmar y suministrar al siguiente juramento. Cambiar cualquier parte que va a depositar el sobre oficial en el correo o llevarlo a un portador contratista en vez de el votante mismo debería proporcionar su firma, nombre en letra de molde y dirección de domicilio en el espacio provisto.)

To be completed by early Voting Clerk: (A ser completado por un representante de la Secretaría de Elección por adelantado)

Name of Voter (Nombre del votante) _____ Name of Election (Tipo de elección) _____ Date of Election (Fecha de Elección) _____

I certify that the enclosed ballot expresses my wishes independent of any direction or undue persuasion by any person. Corrijo, se la boleta aquí adjunta da a conocer mis deseos y no obedece las indicaciones ni influencias indebidas de otras personas.

SIGNATURE OF VOTER (FIRMA DEL VOTANTE)

OATH OF PERSON ASSISTING VOTER: I swear (or affirm) that I will not suggest by word, sign, or gesture how the voter shall vote. I will confine my assistance to answering the voter's questions, to stating propositions on the ballot, and to naming candidate and, if listed, their political parties; and I will prepare the voter's ballot as the voter directs. JURAMENTO AL OJO SE SONETE LA PERSONA QUE AYUDA AL VOTANTE: Juro o afirmo que, ni por palabra, signo o gesto, le sugiero al votante cómo deberá votar. Me limitaré a contestar sus preguntas y a llevarle las propuestas que aparecen en la boleta y las nombres de los candidatos y los partidos políticos a que estos pertenecen, si es que esta información está incluida en la boleta según sus instrucciones.)

Assistant Witness: If voter cannot sign, voter's mark must be witnessed. If voter cannot make mark, witness must check here. If the voter is unable to read and/or mark the ballot, the assistant must fill out the information below. (Si el votante no sabe firmar, deberá hacer su marca ante un testigo. Si el votante no sabe hacer su marca, el testigo deberá marcar aquí)

Printed names and Signatures of all Assistants, Witnesses or Persons handling ballot or carrier envelope. (Nombres en letra de molde y firmar de todas que ayudaron al votante, testigos, o personas manejando una boleta o sobre portador.)

Residence Address of person named above. (Dirección de domicilio de las personas indicadas arriba.)

APR-21 12:07

BALLOT ENVELOPE

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER:

1. Mark ballot, place ballot in envelope marked "BALLOT ENVELOPE," and seal ballot envelope.
2. Place ballot envelope in carrier envelope, seal carrier envelope, sign carrier envelope, and return carrier envelope to the early voting clerk either by mail or common or contract carrier. A ballot may not be returned to the early voting clerk by any other method. (See instructions on carrier envelope and the important information enclosure for additional information.)
3. Be sure to mail your ballot so it will be received by the early voting clerk before 7:00 p.m. on election day. If you are voting from outside the United States, the late counting ballot rules may apply to you.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ASSISTANTS:

1. A voter may be assisted to vote only if the voter is physically unable to write or see and/or unable to read the ballot.
2. Assisting a voter includes the following conduct by a person other than the voter that occurs while the person is in the presence of the voter's ballot or carrier envelope: (a) reading the ballot to the voter; (b) directing the voter to read the ballot; (c) marking the voter's ballot; or (d) directing the voter to mark the ballot.
3. A voter may choose an assistant as long as that assistant is not the voter's employer or an agent of the voter's employer, or officer or agent of the voter's labor union.
4. It is a Class A misdemeanor: (a) to provide assistance to a voter who is not qualified to receive assistance; (b) to prepare the ballot for the voter other than as the voter directs or without direction from the voter; (c) to suggest to the voter by word, sign, or gesture, how the voter should vote; or (d) to provide assistance to a person that has not requested assistance or selected the person to assist the voter. It is also a Class A misdemeanor to assist a voter in violation of #3 above.
5. Knowingly possessing another person's ballot or carrier envelope may be a crime unless you provide your signature, printed name and address on the carrier envelope.
6. If the voter allows a person to mail his or her ballot or deliver the ballot to a carrier/delivery service, that person must sign the carrier envelope and include their printed name and address. Failure to provide this information is a crime. The person mailing or delivering the ballot must do so immediately. It is a crime for a person to collect and store carrier envelopes at another location for subsequent delivery to the early voting clerk.
7. Any ballot cast with assistance in violation of any of the above instructions may not be counted.

EL SOBRE DE LA BOLETA

INSTRUCCIONES PARA EL VOTANTE:

1. *Marque su boleta, meta la boleta en el sobre marcado "SOBRE DE LA BOLETA", y cierre el sobre de la boleta.*
2. *Meta el sobre de la boleta en el sobre portador, ciérrelo, firmelo, y mándelo al secretario de votación adelantada por correo o por transporte común o bajo contrato. No está permitido devolver la boleta al secretario de votación adelantada de ninguna otra manera. (Vea las instrucciones en el sobre portador para información adicionales.)*
3. *El secretario de la votación adelantada deberá recibir el sobre portador con la boleta incluso antes de las 7 de la noche el día de la elección. No es suficiente solamente enviar el sobre para esta fecha. Si está votando fuera de los Estados Unidos las reglas de contar boletas pueden aplicar a Udsted.*

INSTRUCCIONES PARA LAS PERSONAS DANDO AYUDA:

1. *Un votante puede recibir ayuda solamente si es físicamente incapaz de escribir o ver o no puede leer la boleta.*
2. *Ayudar a un votante incluye la siguiente conducta por una persona, no el votante, que ocurre durante la presencia de la boleta de votar ó sobre de entrega: a) leer la boleta al votante; b) dirigiendo al votante a leer la boleta; c) marcando la boleta del votante; ó d) dirigiendo al votante que marque la boleta.*
3. *Un votante puede escoger un ayudante con tal de que ese ayudante no sea la persona que lo(a) emplea, o un agente de la persona que lo(a) emplea, o un oficial o agente de la unión de obreros de la cual el votante es socio.*
4. *Es un delito menor de la Clase A preparar una boleta para un votante que no está autorizado para recibir ayuda, o preparar la boleta para el votante diferente al modo en que dirija el votante, o sugerir por palabra, seña o acción cómo debiera de votar el votante. Es un delito menor de la Clase A ayudarle a un votante que no ha cumplido con las condiciones del #3 mencionado arriba.*
5. *Intencionalmente en posesión de una boleta o sobre portador de otra persona puede ser un delito si no proporcione su firma, nombre en letra de molde y dirección de domicilio una boleta o sobre portador.*
6. *Si el votante permite a alguna persona enviar su boleta o entrega las boleta por transporte común o bajo contrato, esa persona debe firmar el sobre de entrega incluyendo su nombre en letra de molde y dirección. Falta de proporcionar esta información es un delito. La persona enviando o entregando la boleta debe hacer lo inmediatamente. Es un delito que una persona colecte y guarde sobre de entrega en otro local para entrega subsiguientemente al secretario de votación adelantada.*
7. *No se deberá contar ninguna boleta que fue votada con ayuda de un modo en violación de alguna de las instrucciones mencionadas arriba.*