



www.traviscountytax.org
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AT LEAST 74,000 VOTER CARDS RETURNED!

AUSTIN, --- Between 74,000 and 90,000 voter certificates have been returned by the U. S. Postal Service to the Travis County Voter Registrar as undeliverable. Voters who have not received a new blue voter certificate should contact the voter registrar's office immediately to avoid complications in the future.

"This is the beginning of the process that sometimes leads to disappointment," said Nelda Wells Spears, Voter Registrar for Travis County. "I cannot emphasize enough the importance of updating the record now, before the next voter registration deadline." The next deadline is February 1, 2010, the last day to register for the March 2 Joint Primary Election.

Each one of the 74,000 + returned certificates will be handled individually. The process involves sorting, researching current records, preparing the document for imaging and generating a letter that can be forwarded to the voter. The letter asks the voter to respond and update their record.

"Voters who fail to respond to the confirmation letter run the risk of being turned away at their neighborhood polling place. I am especially concerned about voters who did not provide a forwarding address at the post office, or if they did provide one, the time frame has expired," said Spears.

Of the 533,000 certificates mailed earlier this month, officials anticipated approximately 14% in returns. If a voter moved and provided a forwarding address at the post office, a follow up letter goes out from the voter registration division requesting an address update. If the voter fails to respond, the record is placed in a suspense file. While this action does not prevent voting, it may cause a delay at the polling place on Election Day. Address updates can be made online if the voter has moved within the county. Find the link at www.traviscountytax.org.

Anyone who did not receive a voter certificate and needs to update address may download the form at www.traviscountytax.org or call 854-9473 to order by mail.

See <http://www.traviscountytax.org/goNews.do#voters> for voter registration statistics and a sample voter certificate.