

MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS

U.S. Embassy, Manila, The Philippines

November 26, 2013

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THROUGH THE EMBASSY WARDEN SYSTEM AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD.

Alabama to Hold Special General Election for Representative in the 1st Congressional District

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - The U.S. Embassy wishes to advise U.S. citizens that the the State of Alabama will hold a special general election in the 1st Congressional District on **Tuesday, December 17, 2013**, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Representative Jo Bonner. The 1st Congressional District consists of Baldwin, Escambia, Mobile, Monroe and Washington counties, and a portion of Clarke County.

December 17 special general election deadlines are as follows:

Deadline to register to vote	Friday, December 6, 2013
Ballot request deadline	Thursday, December 12, 2013
Ballots must be postmarked	No later than Tuesday, December 17, 2013
Ballots must be received	No later than Friday, December 27, 2013 at 12 noon CST

All Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) voters with an active absentee ballot application on file with the county Absentee Election Manager, or who have submitted an absentee ballot application to the Alabama Special State Absentee Election Manager, will be sent general election ballots based on the following schedule:

Application on File as of November 2, 2013: a special general election ballot containing the names of the Democratic Party candidate and two Republican Party candidates.

Application on File as of November 19, 2013: a standard general election ballot containing the names of the Democratic Party candidate and Republican Party candidate.

Once the Absentee Election Manager receives your application, you will receive your general election ballot from the Alabama Secretary of State's office electronically or by mail, based on your preference as stated on the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) or the Federal Absentee Write-In Ballot (FWAB). If you reside outside the United States and have requested your ballot be mailed to you, it will be sent by express mail and will include a return express mail envelope for return of your voted ballot. Absentee ballot applications are also available from a Voting Assistance Officer or the Alabama Secretary of State's website: www.alabamavotes.gov.

You can register to vote and/or request an absentee ballot at: <https://alabama.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/home.htm> or <https://www.fvap.gov/r3/fpca/home?state=AL>. Do not forget to indicate on the FPCA how you would like to receive your absentee ballot (electronically or by mail).

If you are concerned about not receiving your ballot in time to vote, use the FWAB.

The FWAB online assistant is available at: <https://alabama.overseasvotefoundation.org/vote/FwabStart.htm> or <https://www.fvap.gov/r3/fwab/home?state=AL>. The FWAB is also available at many military installations, embassies and consulates.

You can track the status of your ballot at: <https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/VoterView/AbsenteeBallotSearch.do>.

Submit your FPCA to:

Ed Packard
Special State Absentee Election Manager
600 Dexter Avenue Room E-210
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

###

*For more information on FVAP or assistance with the absentee voting process, visit FVAP.gov, call FVAP at 1-800-438-VOTE or DSN 425-1584 (CONUS)/312-425-1584 (OCONUS) or email vote@fvap.gov.
Facebook.com/DoDFVAP Twitter [@FVAP](https://twitter.com/FVAP)*

The Embassy is located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines and is open 0730-1600, Monday through Friday. The Embassy's main telephone number is (632) 301-2000. U.S. citizens needing to speak to the Embassy can dial this number and ask to be connected to the American Citizen Services (ACS) unit or with the Embassy Duty Officer (for calls outside of normal business hours). You can also contact the ACS unit through email at ACSInfoManila@state.gov or through the [Embassy Facebook page](#). Please visit [our website](#) for information on all services offered by the ACS unit.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in the Philippines enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at www.Travel.State.Gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current [Travel Warnings](#), including the [Travel Warning for the Philippines](#), Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for the Philippines](#). For additional information, refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.