ABSENTEE BALLOT DEADLINES NEAR FORGENERAL ELECTION

ALBANY, NY (9/23/04)- The New York State Board of Elections today reminded all New Yorkers, that if they will be out of their county or New York City on Election Day November 2, 2004 or will be unable to go to the polls because of illness or physical disability, they may vote by absentee ballot.

Voters will receive an absentee ballot after they complete an application and mail it to their county board of elections no later than Tuesday, October 26 or handdeliver it by Monday, November 1. All completed absentee ballots must be postmarked by Monday, November 1 and received no later than Tuesday, November 9, at the voter's county board of elections. Absentee ballots may also be hand delivered to their county boards prior to the closing of the polls on Election Day.

October 22 is the last day for a board of elections to receive an applications from military voters who are not previously registered to vote. The last day to receive applications from military voters who are already registered is October 26. In person application can be made up until November 1 for those previously registered military personnel. For active duty military, in 2004 only, the deadline for receipt of completed ballots at a county board of elections is November 15.

Applications for absentee ballots are available at any county board of elections. Internet users can download an application by clicking on "Absentee Voting" on the New York State Board of Elections' web site, /www.elections.state.ny.us/