

COUNTY AUDITOR  
AND COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS

**GRANT VEEDER**

KAREN SHOWALTER-Elections Manager

ELECTIONS AND VOTER REGISTRATION DIVISION  
BLACK HAWK COUNTY  
316 E. 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET ROOM 210  
WATERLOO, IOWA 50703-4774

Phone (319) 833-3007  
Fax (319) 833-3119  
E-mail [election@co.black-hawk.ia.us](mailto:election@co.black-hawk.ia.us)

***NEWS RELEASE***

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**Absentee Ballot Request Forms for General Election**

Voters are receiving absentee ballot request forms from a variety of sources. Not to worry, says County Auditor Grant Veeder. Just choose one and mail it in.

Veeder says that people have received multiple request forms in past elections, but this year is different because the COVID-19 pandemic has led to forms being sent out by state and local governments. “We sent request forms to all active registered voters in Black Hawk County for the November 3 general election,” said Veeder. “But a request form sent by a private organization is just as valid, as long as it is addressed to our office at 316 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Waterloo.”

To date, the county Election Office is aware of request forms originating from the Center for Voter Information and the Republican Party of Iowa in addition to the county’s mailing. The Iowa Secretary of State plans to send forms at the end of August, and additional mailings can be expected from political parties and possibly other organizations, says Veeder. People may accidentally send in more than one request, “But no matter how many requests we receive, we’ll only send you one ballot,” he says.

The ballot request forms sent in Black Hawk County are not subject to the Trump Campaign’s lawsuit over pre-populated request forms that was filed in Linn, Johnson and Woodbury Counties. None of the forms sent in Black Hawk show the voter’s identification number, which is the action in dispute.

Ballots will not be ready until October 5, but Veeder encourages voters to send in their ballot requests, and their ballots when ready, as soon as possible. “We have been assured that our local mail will function with its traditional efficiency,” he said, “but the uncertainties circulating around the mail make it prudent to take care of this business sooner rather than later,” he said.

Veeder emphasized that no matter how many people vote by mail, there will still be an election on November 3, saying, “It would take an act of Congress to change the election date, and no one expects that.”

For questions, contact the Election Office at 833-3007 or [election@co.black-hawk.ia.us](mailto:election@co.black-hawk.ia.us).