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DEPARTMENT *of* ELECTIONS

NEWS RELEASE

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Deadline for Mailed Absentee Applications is Tuesday
~ Deadline for In-Person Absentee Voting is Saturday ~

RICHMOND, VA – Qualified Virginia voters have until 5 p.m. on Tuesday, November 1, to request an absentee ballot be mailed to them for the November 8, 2016, general election. These requests may be made directly to local voter registration offices or via the Department of Elections Citizen Portal at vote.virginia.gov.

“We encourage eligible voters who want to request an absentee ballot be mailed to them to make that request as soon as possible to ensure they can get the ballot returned by the November 8 deadline,” said **Department of Elections Commissioner Edgardo Cortés**. “The US Postal Service has advised that First Class delivery takes two to five days, so voters need to keep that in mind when casting their absentee ballot by mail.”

The deadline to return a mailed absentee ballot is 7 p.m. on Election Day, November 8.

Qualified voters also may cast an absentee ballot in person at their local election official’s office through Saturday, November 5.

There is no early voting in Virginia. However, there are 19 acceptable reasons for voting absentee, including military service, illness, being away from home, pregnancy, a long commute that would keep you from getting to the polls, and more. A full list of qualifying reasons to vote absentee can be found at the Department of Elections Citizen Portal at vote.virginia.gov. Among other things, voters can find office hours and contact information for their local voter registration office, see who is on their ballot, apply for an absentee ballot by mail, and check their absentee ballot status at vote.virginia.gov.

More than 442,000 voters have applied for an absentee ballot for the November general election. Absentee voting began in September, and already more than 308,000 Virginia voters have cast their absentee ballots. These figures are updated daily and can be found at vote.virginia.gov.

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