



NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION ACT (NVRA) TRAINING MANUAL FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES





- National Voter Registration Act of 1993, aka NVRA or Motor Voter Act became effective on January 1, 1995 in most states.
- NVRA became effective on January 1, 1996 in Arkansas





Three (3) states were allowed to delay implementation because they needed to amend their state constitutions to comply with the NVRA.

- Arkansas, Vermont & Virginia





- To comply with the NVRA, new provisions were added to **Amendment 51** of the Arkansas Constitution.
- Amendment 51 is titled **Voter Registration.**





Purposes of NVRA

- Protect the integrity of the electoral process.
- Ensure that accurate and current voter registration rolls are maintained.





Purposes of NVRA (cont'd)

- Increase the number of eligible citizens who register to vote in elections for Federal office
- Enhance the participation of eligible citizens as voters in elections for Federal office





NVRA and Amendment 51 do not just impact “election officials”

- Public Libraries are specifically named in the NVRA as Voter Registration Agencies.





The NVRA states in part:

- Each State shall designate as voter registration agencies –
 - State or local government offices such as public libraries...

{See 42 USCS § 1973gg-5(a)(3)(B)(i)}





Amendment 51, § 5(a)(4) identifies Public libraries as a voter registration agency which shall:

- Distribute mail voter registration applications, provide assistance to applicants in completing voter registration application forms, unless the applicant refuses assistance, and accept completed voter registration application forms for transmittal to the appropriate permanent registrar via the Secretary of State.





Agency Requirements

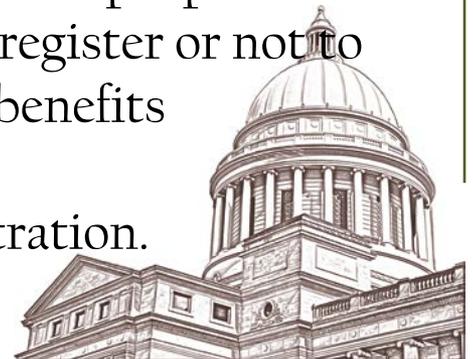
- The agency employee must ask all clients the question:
"If you are not registered to vote where you live now, would you like to register to vote here today?"
- Public assistance agencies and disabilities agencies shall provide the same degree of assistance in completing voter registration forms as is provided with regard to the completion of agency forms, unless the applicant refuses such assistance.





Amendment 51, § 5(c)(4)(A-E) states a person who provides voter registration assistance through any voter registration agency shall not:

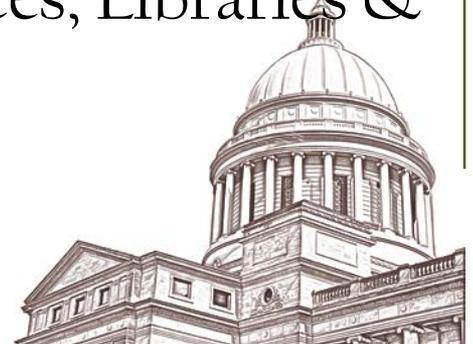
- Seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party registration
- Display any such political preference or party allegiance
- Make any statement to an applicant or take any action to the purpose or effect of discouraging the applicant from registering to vote
- Make any statement to an applicant or take any action to the purpose or effect of leading the applicant to believe that decision to register or not to register has any bearing on the availability of services or benefits
- Disclose any applicant's voter registration information, except as necessary for the administration of voter registration.





Registration applications are received from the following sources:

- In person
- Registration Drives
- Mail
- Public Assistance Agencies
- Other (Disability Services, Armed Forces, Libraries & Other State Agencies)
- Revenue/DMV





NVRA nationwide registration application statistics

	2008	2010
In Person	15.4%	14.5%
Registration Drives	3.5%	1.9%
Mail, Fax & Email	29.6%	20.9%
Public Assistance Agencies	1.6%	2.5%
Other (Disability Services, Armed Forces, Libraries & Other State Agencies)	17.7%	21.26%
Internet	1.2%	1.6%
Motor Vehicle	30.9%	37.1%





NVRA Arkansas registration application statistics

	2008	2010
In Person	37.3%	28.1%
Registration Drives	5.6%	7.5%
Mail, Fax & Email	37.0%	24.9%
Public Assistance Agencies	0.65%	2.1%
Other (Disability Services, Armed Forces, Libraries & Other State Agencies)	1.9%	2.0%
Motor Vehicle	17.4%	35.3%
Total	141,580	59,429





How Do We Get These Statistics?





NVRA & Amendment 51 require Mandatory Record Keeping





US Election Assistance Commission Gathers the Data from Each State





US Department of Justice Scrutinizes the Data





Civil Rights Division of DOJ has a Voting Rights Section

One of their duties is to enforce the NVRA





Non-Compliance Consequences

Agencies that fail to comply with NVRA face the following:

- **Investigation** and/or **litigation** by the U.S. Department of Justice.
- **Litigation** by individuals and clients.
- **Litigation** by concerned national interest groups.





Multiple Law Suits

- A July 12 Lawsuit in Louisiana alleged that the State and its agencies violated the NVRA by Failing to offer voter registration opportunities.
- 28 Voting Rights Lawsuits in the past few months.
- Defendants named are not just Secretaries of State, but **Agency Heads** as well.





Required Forms

- Arkansas Voter Registration Application
- Monthly Reporting Form
- “Register to Vote Here” signs

All forms provided by
The Arkansas Secretary of State’s Office





Register to Vote Here!

New to Arkansas? Moved across town or to another county? Has your name changed?

Complete one form to update your voter information!



Use a QR Code app on your
Smartphone to check your
voter registration status

www.VoterView.org

A Message From
ARKANSAS
SECRETARY OF STATE
MARK MARTIN





PLEASE PRINT AND USE BLACK INK TO COMPLETE

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ARKANSAS VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION					
Check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> This is a new registration. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a name change. <input type="checkbox"/> This is an address change. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a party change.			Office Use Only		
Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.		Last Name		Jr. Sr.	First Name
Assigned ID		Middle Name			
1	Address Where You Live (See Section "C" Below) (Rural addresses must draw map.)			Apt. or Lot #	City/Town
2	Address Where You Receive Mail If Different From Above			Apt. or Lot #	City/Town
3	Date of Birth		Home & Work Phone Numbers (Optional)		Party Affiliation (Optional)
4	Month / Day / Year		(H) (W)		6
5	E-mail Address (Optional)				8
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Have you ever voted in a federal election in this State?				Signature of elector - Please sign full name or put mark.
7	<input type="checkbox"/> Arkansas Driver's license number <input type="checkbox"/> If you do not have a driver's license provide the last 4 digits of social security number <input type="checkbox"/> I have neither a driver's license nor social security number.				The information I have provided is true to the best of my knowledge. I do not claim the right to vote in another county or state. If I have provided false information, I may be subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment of up to 10 years under state and federal laws.
8	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Are you a citizen of the United States of America and an Arkansas resident?				
9	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Will you be eighteen (18) years of age or older on or before election day?				Date: _____ Month / Day / Year
10	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Are you presently adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction?				
11	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Have you ever been convicted of a felony without your sentence having been discharged or pardoned?				<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If applicant is unable to sign his/her name, provide name, address and phone number of the person providing assistance: Name: _____ Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Phone#: _____

Please complete the sections below if: **MAIL REGISTRANTS: PLEASE SEE SECTION D.**

- You were previously registered in another county or state, or
- You wish to change the name or address on your current registration.

Agency Code (For Official Use Only)



A	Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.	Previous Last Name	Jr. Sr.	First Name	Middle Name(s)
Date of Birth		Month / Day / Year			
B	Previous House Number and Street Name			Apt. or Lot #	City or Town
		State		Zip Code	

If you live in a rural area but do not have a house or street number, or if you have no address, please show on the map where you live.

C Write in the names of the crossroads (or streets) nearest where you live. Draw an "X" to show where you live. Use a dot to show any schools, churches, stores or other landmarks near where you live and write the name of the landmark.		IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IMPORTANT: If your voter registration application form is submitted by mail and you are registering for the first time, and you do not have a valid Arkansas driver's license number or social security number, in order to avoid the additional identification requirements upon voting for the first time you must submit with the mailed registration form: (a) a current and valid photo identification; or (b) a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address.	
Example	Route #2	- Grocery Store	NORTH ↑
Public School		Woodchuck Road	X





	Arkansas Secretary of State	Elections Division
	Voter Registration Site Monthly Reporting Form	Voter Services
	Voter Registration	1-501-682-1686
	P.O. Box 8111	1-800-247-3312
	Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-8111	
	Mark Martin, Secretary of State	

Remember to put your AGENCY CODE on all Voter Registration Applications
 Please send completed APPLICATIONS to Secretary of State DAILY. Retain all Declination Forms for 24 months. Send original of this form to the Secretary of State.

You must retain the yellow copy for your records for 24 Months

← AGENCY CODE

Agency: _____ Agency Code: _____ Month/Year: _____

Address: _____
Street City

_____ ZIP Code County

_____ Agency Contact Telephone Number

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Date								
<small>Number of VR Applications</small>								
<small>Number of Declinations</small>								

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Date								
<small>Number of VR Applications</small>								
<small>Number of Declinations</small>								

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Date								
<small>Number of VR Applications</small>								
<small>Number of Declinations</small>								

Week 4	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Date								
<small>Number of VR Applications</small>								
<small>Number of Declinations</small>								

Week 5	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Date								
<small>Number of VR Applications</small>								
<small>Number of Declinations</small>								

Number of VR Applications Grand Total		Declination Grand Total	
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Agency Form Requirements

- Post “Register to Vote Here” signs in the Agency.
- Maintain Monthly Reporting Form (bottom yellow copy) for 24 months **onsite at each agency office.**
- Submit top white copy of Monthly Reporting Forms and VR Applications to:

Arkansas Secretary of State
ATTN: Voter Registration
P.O. Box 8111
Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-8111





Agency Form Requirements

ONE FINAL NOTE TO REMEMBER:

- Agency internal reporting requirements are **separate and in addition to** Secretary of State monthly reporting requirements.





NVRA Points of Contact

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Thank you for attending!

Any Questions?



www.sos.arkansas.gov

