

Democracy at a Distance: A Summit to Make Voting Work for Military and Overseas Voters

Sponsored by Make Voting Work, a project of the Pew Center on the States, in collaboration
with the JEHT Foundation

September 15-16, 2008

Monday, September 15th (Reserve Officers Association, One Constitution Avenue, NE)

8:00 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **Welcome and Introductions**

Major General David Bockel, USAR (Ret.) – Deputy Executive Director, Reserve Officers Association
Michael Caudell-Feagan – Director, Pew’s Make Voting Work
Nicole Gordon – Vice President, JEHT Foundation

9:00 a.m. **Innovation at the State Level**

Moderator: Mark Halperin – Editor-at-large and senior political analyst for TIME
Secretary of State Jennifer Brunner (OH)
Secretary of State Beth Chapman (AL)

10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:40 a.m. **UOCAVA: The Current System**

Moderator: Susan Urahn – Managing Director, Pew Center on the States
Thad Hall – Assistant Professor, University of Utah
Kil Hub – Research Manager, Pew Center on the States
Celinda Lake – President, Lake Research Partners
Brian Nienaber – Vice-President, The Tarrance Group

11:40 a.m. **New Technological Tools for Overseas Voters**

Michael Caudell-Feagan – Director, Pew’s Make Voting Work
Susan Dżieduszycka-Suinat – President and CEO, Overseas Vote Foundation

12:30 p.m. **Lunch**

1:15 p.m. **Remarks from the Hill**

Introductions: Susan Magill – Director of Government and Donor Relations, The Pew Charitable Trusts
Senator John Warner (VA) – Senate Armed Services Committee

2:00 p.m. **The Voter Experience for Military and Overseas Voters**

Moderator: Bob Carey – Consultant, Pew’s Make Voting Work

Dr. Earl Ingram – Vice Chancellor, TROY Global Campus

Lucy Stensland Laederich – U.S. Liaison, Federation of American Women’s Clubs Overseas

Kari Lantos – Associate Director, Grassroots Advocacy, NAESA: Association of International Educators

Rev. Dr. Lyda Pierce – Mission Interpreter, General Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church

Captain Samuel F. Wright, JAGC, USN (Ret.) – Military Law Consultant, Reserve Officers Association

3:00 p.m. **The Business Community Overseas**

John Castellani – President, Business Roundtable

3:25 p.m. **Break**

3:40 p.m. **Legislation on the Move**

Moderator: Carolyn Race – Senior Associate, Pew Center on the States

Federal: U.S. Representative Mike Honda

State: State Representative Frank Corte (TX)

State Representative Jeremy Kalin (MN)

5:30 – **Reception at National Guard Association** (1 Massachusetts Avenue, NW)

7:30 p.m.

Introductions: Susan Urahn – Managing Director, Pew Center on the States

Secretary of State Pedro Cortés (PA) – President, National Association of Secretaries of State

Brigadier General Stephen M. Koper (Ret.) – President, National Guard Association of the US

Rebecca W. Rimel – President & CEO, The Pew Charitable Trusts

Tuesday, September 16th (The Pew Charitable Trusts – 1025 F Street, NW 9th Floor)

8:45 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

9:00 a.m. **Concurrent Working Sessions**

- **Developing a uniform state law for military and overseas voters**

The Uniform Law Commission (ULC), also known as the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL), has established a study committee to consider the issues pertaining to developing a uniform or model law for consideration and enactment by the states concerning overseas military services and civilian absentee voting. During this session a panel of representatives will discuss this initiative and seek feedback from the audience about this important subject.

Moderator: Michael Caudell-Feagan, Director, Pew’s Make Voting Work

Mike Houghton – Chair, Scope Committee, Uniform Law Commission

Steve Wilborn – Chair, Study Committee: Military and Overseas Voting, Uniform Law Commission

- **Technological Advances to Aid UOCAVA voters**

This working group will explore opportunities to employ new technologies to get UOCAVA voters the information they need, update registration rolls and speed transmission of ballots.

Moderator: Bob Carey – Consultant, Pew’s Make Voting Work

Susan Dzieduszycka-Suinat – President and CEO, Overseas Vote Foundation

Rosemary Rodriguez – Chair, Election Assistance Commission

10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:45 p.m. **Concurrent Working Sessions**

- **The current shape and future frontiers of research on military and overseas voting**

This working group of researchers and government representatives will identify gaps in current UOCAVA research, discuss plans for data collection and analysis in the 2008 general election and assess opportunities to advance the knowledge of UOCAVA voter demographics, voting processes and voting data.

Moderator: Doug Chapin – Director, Pew’s electionline.org

Polli Brunelli – Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program

Michael Hanmer – Assistant Professor, University of Maryland

Kil Hub – Research Manager, Pew Center on the States

Karen Lynn-Dyson – Research Director, Election Assistance Commission

Michael McDonald – Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Toby Moore – Elections and Voting Research, RTI International

- **Federal Strategy**

This working group will discuss potential federal strategies to raise the visibility of military and overseas voting in federal policy debates and enact reforms.

Moderator: Joe Barnes – Co-Chair, The Military Coalition

Eric Eversole - McCain for President (Invitation pending)

Jonathan Freeman – Director of Veterans Affairs, Obama for President (Invitation pending)

12:00 p.m. **Lunch**