STEP 1: Complete the Absentee Ballot

- Follow the instructions provided by the County Clerk for marking your choices on the ballot.
- Vote for only one (1) candidate per race unless the ballot instructions indicate otherwise. Marking more choices than allowed will result in an over vote and the vote for that race will not be counted.
- If a mistake is made with a pencil, erase the mistake completely, and correct the mistake.
- If a mistake is made with a pen, mark your choice on the ballot, and circle the name of the candidate for whom you want to vote.
- If someone assists you with completing the absentee ballot, he/she must complete and sign the voter assistance form.
- When you are finished marking your ballot, double check it for accuracy.
- Place the voted ballot in the inner envelope.

**NOTE:** The voter can not be assisted by his/her employer, an agent of the employer or an agent of the voter’s labor union.

STEP 2: Sign & Seal Inner and Outer Envelopes

- **DO NOT DETACH THE FLAP** on the inner envelope. If the flap is detached, the ballot will not be counted.
- **THE FLAP** on the inner envelope MUST BE SIGNED by the voter on the signature line indicated by an X. If the flap is not signed, the ballot will not be counted.
- The inner envelope containing the ballot MUST BE SEALED. If the envelope is not sealed, the ballot will not be counted.
- Place the signed & sealed inner envelope into the outer envelope.
- The outer envelope MUST BE SIGNED & SEALED by the voter. If the outer envelope is not signed on the signature line located in the upper left hand corner and sealed, the ballot will not be counted.

**NOTE:** If a “mark” is used instead of a signature, two (2) witnesses must sign in the spaces indicated on the inner envelope flap and on the outer envelope. Any person having power of attorney (POA) for the voter who signs the flap and the outer envelope for the voter MUST complete and sign the voter assistance form and include a copy of the POA.

STEP 3: Return the Envelopes to the County Clerk

- Affix proper postage to the outer envelope and mail it to the County Clerk. **ALL absentee ballots MUST be returned by mail. HAND DELIVERY WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** for mail-in absentee ballots. The Post Office or delivery service (UPS, FedEx, DHL, etc.) will aide you in the correct amount of postage or delivery fee.
- Medical emergency absentee ballots are allowed to be hand delivered.
- The ballot WILL NOT be counted if it is delivered after 6 pm local time on Election Day.

**NOTE:** Any voter who receives an absentee ballot by mail and knows at least seven (7) days before the election that he/she will be in the county on Election Day and has not mailed the absentee ballot, SHALL cancel the absentee ballot and vote in person. Contact the County Clerk for instructions on returning the canceled ballot. The canceled ballot must be returned no later than seven (7) days prior to the election. *This information does not apply to those unable to appear at the polls due to age, disability, illness or medical emergency absentee ballots.*

REMEMBER:
**THE INNER AND OUTER ENVELOPES MUST BE SIGNED & SEALED FOR THE BALLOT TO BE COUNTED.**