

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 06/25/2026

CRAWFORD COUNTY, MISSOURI ELECTION AUTHORITY / COUNTY CLERK

RE: August 4, 2026 Primary Election-**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

Crawford County Clerk, Kim Gibbs, wishes to advise registered Crawford County voters that absentee ballots for the August 4, 2026 Primary Election are now available in the County Clerk's Office.

The deadline to vote absentee in this election in the County Clerk's Office is Monday, August 3, at 5:00 pm. In accordance with election law, no ballots may be sent out or mailed out of the office after 5:00 pm on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, unless a voter is hospitalized after that time, in which case a deputized absentee team could deliver a ballot to the hospital. Applications may be completed only by the voter or on behalf of the applicant by his or her guardian or relative within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity.

The County Clerk's Office will be open on Saturday, August 1, 2026, from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm, for absentee balloting. Legal reasons for voting by **absentee** ballot are as follows:

- Absence on election day;
- Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including caring for a person who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability; **(Notary not required)**
- Religious belief or practice;
- Employment as an election authority at a location other than your polling place; ***as a first responder, as a health care worker, or as a member of law enforcement;**
- Incarceration, provided all qualifications for voting are retained;
- Certified participation in the address confidentiality program established under sections 589.660 to 589.681 because of safety concerns;

***Additional new legal reason for voting absentee**

PLEASE NOTE: INFORMATION REGARDING IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING:

BEGINNING ON THE SECOND TUESDAY PRIOR TO AN ELECTION, A REASON SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED FOR IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING IN THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE. For the August 4, 2026 Primary Election, that date is Tuesday, July 21, 2026.

In order to be counted, absentee ballots must be received in the County Clerk's Office, 302 W Main St – PO Box AS Steelville, MO 65565, no later than 7 pm on Tuesday, August 4, 2026. Ballots may be returned by the voter in person, or by his or her guardian or relative within the second degree of consanguinity, or by mail.

The deadline to register to vote for the August 4, 2026 Primary Election is Wednesday, July 8, 2026, at 5:00 pm.

Please also note if you will be 18 years of age on or before August 4, 2026, you must still register to vote by July 8, 2026, at 5:00 pm in order to be eligible to vote in this election.

If you have any questions regarding absentee balloting or voter registration, please contact Kim Gibbs, Crawford County Clerk/Election Authority, at 573-775-2376.

OTHER CHANGES TO BE AWARE OF REGARDING NEW ELECTION LAW:

THE STATE OF MISSOURI NOW REQUIRES EVERY VOTER TO PRESENT A **PHOTO ID** IN ORDER TO VOTE. INFORMATION REGARDING OBTAINING A FREE NONDRIVER'S LICENSE IS AVAILABLE AT WWW.SOS.MO.GOV