

DENISE W. MERRILL

SECRETARY OF THE STATE CONNECTICUT

For Immediate Release: October 3, 2014 <u>For more information:</u> Av Harris: (860) 509-6255 Cell Phone: (860) 463-5939

- PRESS RELEASE -

MERRILL: ABSENTEE BALLOTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR NOVEMBER 4TH GENERAL ELECTIONS

SECRETARY OF THE STATE ALSO REMINDING ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF UPCOMING DEADLINES TO REGISTER TO VOTE

HARTFORD: Secretary of the State Denise Merrill today announced that absentee ballots are now available for any registered Connecticut voters who will be out of town or otherwise unable to go to their polling place and cast a ballot in Municipal Elections on Tuesday November 4, 2014. At the same time, Secretary Merrill is also reminding Connecticut citizens of upcoming deadlines to register to vote in order to cast a ballot on Election Day. Voters can register online or by mail until Tuesday October 21st and have until Tuesday October 28th to register in person at their town offices in order to cast a ballot on Election Day.

"With just over 30 days before the 2014 general elections, I urge any registered voters who know they will be out of town or otherwise unable to make it to their polling place on Election Day to apply for an absentee ballot now," said Secretary Merrill, Connecticut's chief elections official. "Don't put off applying for an absentee ballot until it is too late – make sure you have a say in who serves in your state and federal government. This is a very important election where decisions that will have great impact on our state and our country will be made. I urge every adult citizen in our state to register to vote now – it is so easy to go online and become a registered voter. Make sure your voice is heard on Election Day!"

Connecticut citizens can visit <u>www.sots.ct.gov/vote</u> to register for the general election. Once registered, voters can also visit the Secretary of the State's website to download an application for an absentee ballot. Applications may also be available on local town websites, or voters can contact their local town clerk's office to apply in-person or through the mail. Once applications are submitted and accepted, absentee ballots are sent to applicants within days. Absentee ballots must be signed and can be returned through the mail or in-person, though in order to be counted for the general election they must be received by town clerks no later than 8:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 4, 2014.