

1. "Then there are the military Absentee ballots that weren't sent out in enough time. They're supposed to have 6 weeks but only had about 3. All kinds of issues..."

Well, that's one particularly false rumor one I'm calling foul on.

Our military ballots always go out at the first point our absentee ballots are ready. However filing deadlines are different for city and other local elections vs. federal elections where they must be mailed out at least 45 days early. We go out of our way to do the very best job we can with our military voters.

Two of my adult children are active duty military and have served three tours in Iraq between them. Our youngest son is there now. I take a high degree of personal offense at the implication that we would ever, ever short change our military voters for any reason or play games with their ballots. That's just plain over the line and without a basis in fact whatsoever.

There are a number of other inaccurate implications in your statement and others I have read but I'm too upset as a Army and Navy father to attempt to address all of them but I'll mention a few.

In most cases, if people have moved away permanently they don't still have the right to vote an absentee ballot. However, just because people are on the road, live part of the year in other states, or even other countries that does not mean they automatically lose their right to vote here. There are state and federal laws that govern these situations.

However, if you know for sure someone voted illegally you should report it to the Election's Office or directly to the Prosecutor's Office because it should be reported. Idaho does not require voter ID and recounts are by law conducted in the same manner as the original election.

While I might agree there could be changes or improvements to our election law that is not something that is decided by the local county clerk or elections department or on an election by election basis. We follow the law as it is. If you believe it should be changed then talk to your legislators. If it is changed we then we will change our procedures accordingly.

Comment by Dan English — November 13, 2009 @ [9:21 pm](#)