

Who we are...

The Department of the Public Advocate is charged with making government more accountable and responsive to the needs of New Jersey residents, especially our most vulnerable citizens. The Public Advocate's mission is to act as a voice for the people on a range of critical issues. The Department works to protect the interests of the public, with a special focus on the elderly, people with mental illness or developmental disabilities, consumers and children.

As part of its **voting rights project**, the Public Advocate seeks to protect the basic and fundamental right to vote belonging to every U.S. citizen. The project has three components ensuring: first, that every eligible person is registered to vote; second, that every registered voter can cast a ballot; and third, that all ballots cast are fully and fairly counted.

To learn more about the Public Advocate's voter's rights project, as well as other issues, please visit

www.njpublicadvocate.gov

The need to hold the government accountable to those it serves and to provide choices for those rendered mute by poverty or other forms of political impotence is the noblest of missions.

- Public Advocate
Ronald K. Chen,
Senate Testimony,
February 6, 2006

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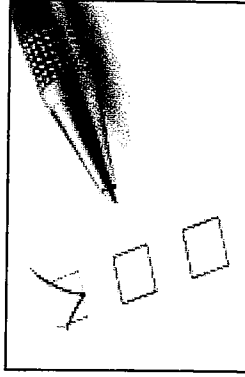
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This brochure was created in cooperation with the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Minority Concerns' Criminal Justice and the Minority Defendant Subcommittee.

*Completing or Ending
Your Parole or
Probation?*

HOW TO RESTORE



YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE IN NEW JERSEY



Restoring Your Right to Vote

According to New Jersey state law (N.J.S.A. 19:4-1), you may not vote in New Jersey while serving a sentence (jail, prison, probation, and parole) as a result of a conviction for an indictable offense.

However, when you complete your sentence including parole or probation and are otherwise qualified to vote in accordance with legal requirements (U.S. citizenship, age 18 or older, and resident of your county for 30 days) you have the right to register to vote and to vote once registered.

For more information on voter registration, please visit:
www.njelections.org

How to Register to Vote in New Jersey

In order to register to vote, you must complete a Voter Registration application.

WHERE TO GET APPLICATION:

Voter Registration Applications are available from the following:

- Your Municipal Clerk
- Any Motor Vehicle Commission Agency
- Your County Commissioner of Registration
- Online at www.njelections.org

WHERE TO SEND YOUR APPLICATION:

Send your completed application to the Division of Elections or the Commissioner of Registration in the county where you live **at least 21 days** before the next election.



Visit http://njelections.org/loc_officials_doe.html for locations.

Applications are available at some government agencies, including:

- All motor vehicle agencies.



Visit [www.http://www.state.nj.us/mvc](http://www.state.nj.us/mvc)

- Offices that issue Food Stamps
- Any public library
- Offices of the NJ Medical Assistance and Health Services Program
- Offices supplying food or services under the WIC special supplemental food program
- Offices of the Work First NJ program
- Public offices of the Division of Developmental Disabilities and Office of Disability Services
- Armed Forces or National Guard recruiter's office
- Any office of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Any office of the Commissioner for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Any county welfare agency or county board of social services
- Offices of the Division of Workers' Compensation, Employment Services, and Unemployment and Temporary Disability Insurance
- Offices of the Division of Taxation
- Offices of NJ Transit
- Registrars of public colleges/universities