



Mark Shelden, Champaign County Clerk
Champaign County, Illinois
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Urbana, IL 61802



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Absentee Voting Open

Urbana, IL—Champaign County Clerk Mark Shelden announced that absentee voting for the upcoming March 16, 2004 General Primary Election is open at the County Clerk' Office. "We encourage anyone who cannot vote at their assigned polling place on Election Day, March 16, 2004 to make every effort to absentee vote in the County Clerk's Office," said Shelden. The office is located at 1776 East Washington Street in Urbana.

Absentee voting is available to all Champaign County registered voters who expect to be absent from the county on election day, are physically incapacitated, are observing a religious holiday or are employed by the military or by a state or federal agency that requires them to live temporarily outside the county. Applications for absentee ballots may be made by mail, by fax, through our web site, by email, or a registered voter may vote absentee in person in the office of the County Clerk, 1776 East Washington, Urbana, IL, 61802. Persons who registered through the National Voter Registration Act, also known as Motor Voter, must vote in person and present identification at their polling place on Election Day or in person absentee in the County Clerk's office their first time - unless they registered through a state agency such as the driver's license facility. If applying for a ballot by mail, requests must be made well in advance of the election in order to ensure that it is returned in time to be counted. Additional information about absentee voting and an online request form can be located at www.champaigncountyclerk.com/absentee or persons may call our office at 384-3724.

Shelden said that his office would have **additional hours for absentee voting** on Saturday, March 13th from 9:00 a.m. to noon and on Monday, March 15th until 5:00 p.m. Regular office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Poll after poll suggests that people are most concerned about local issues such as education, streets, and crime. This is your chance to voice your opinion in the only poll that matters: Election Day.

Please take the time to vote on March 16th.