

# COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION

#### Hafa Adai and Tirow!

Enclosed you will find an Affidavit of Voter Registration Application, an Affidavit Questionnaire and an Out of the CNMI Voters Instructions. These forms are necessary for us to determine your eligibility to vote in the Commonwealth elections and to process your registration once your eligibility has been determined and approved.

Please complete all portions of the Affidavit of Voter Registration and Questionnaire forms. Ensure that you attach a copy of any satisfactory evidence of identity and United States citizenship or nationality (U.S. Passport or U.S. Birth Certificate) and your picture identification form as part of your registration packet and mail to us as soon as possible.

If you will be out of the CNMI during the election period, you will need to fill out an Application for Absentee Voting no more than 75 days before or not less than 25 days before the election. The application for Absentee Voting is necessary in order for an absentee ballot to be sent to you; otherwise you will have to vote at the polling place here in the CNMI.

Respectfully,

Executive Director



## **Instructions for Completing the Affidavit of Voter Registration Application**

Registering within the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands? "STOP" and contact our office at 670-235-8683 or visit our office located in Tekken Street, Susupe, Saipan.

Registering out of the CNMI? 1 CMC §§ 6205 requires that you provide us with your last four digits of your social security number, full legal name, place and date of birth and your residence in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), to include mailing address in the CNMI.

For Village, please include the village of your residence in the CNMI. Island should also include the island of residence in the CNMI. A person who reside in Oleai Village should place Oleai under Village and Saipan under Island. A person who reside in San Jose Village should place Tinian as their Island of residence.

If you have registered before and have since had a change of name due to marriage, divorce or had legal change of name, please register under your present name, and include your previous name on item no. 10 in the Affidavit of Registration. Please include your legal document authenticating your change of name.

If you are changing your election district, please complete your registration as you normally would, except that you will indicate your new village (and island, if necessary) and will make the change of election district. A person who are registering for the northern islands should place "Northern Islands" under the village and island.

The Affidavit of Voter Registration Application, Affidavit Questionnaire and a copy of your picture identification form must be mailed directly to the Commonwealth Election Commission, P.O. Box 500470, Saipan, MP 96950-0470. If you are registering for the first time, please provide any satisfactory evidence of your identity and United States citizenship or nationality (U.S. Passport of U.S Birth Certificate) as part of this packet, pursuant to the NMIAC § 30-10-225. Facsimile or other electronic means will not be accepted. Election regulation requires that the mailing envelope be postmarked from the location outside of the CNMI for registration for those residing outside of the CNMI.

If you are registered to vote in a jurisdiction outside of the CNMI, you must re-establish your domiciliary and residency in the CNMI for a period of 120 days before an election as mandated by Article VII, Section 1 of the CNMI Constitution.



### Pursuant to 1 CMC §§ 6201, Voting: Eligibility:

- a) Pursuant to Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, a person is eligible to vote who, on the date of the election, is 18 years of age or older, is domiciled in the Commonwealth, is a resident in the Commonwealth and has resided in the Commonwealth for a period of time provided by law, is not serving a sentence for a felony, has not been declared by a court to be of unsound mind, and is either a citizen or national of the United States.
- b) Pursuant to Article VII, Section 2 of the Commonwealth Constitution, a person shall not be denied the right to vote because that person is unable to read or write.
- c) Under the authority of Article VII, Section 1 of the Commonwealth Constitution, no person shall be eligible to vote who has not resided in the Commonwealth at least 120 days prior to the Election Day.
- d) Consistent with Article VII, Section 1 of the Commonwealth Constitution, no person who is confined to a mental institution shall be eligible to vote.
- e) In accordance with Article VII, Section 1 of the Commonwealth Constitution, no person serving a sentence for a felony, as defined by Section 6003(t) of this part, shall be eligible to vote.
- f) No person shall register or vote in any other precinct than that in which the person resides.

### **Instructions for Completing the Affidavit Questionnaire**

The Affidavit Questionnaire is for the Commission's as it will be used to determine your eligibility to register to vote in the CNMI. Please keep in mind that you must be away from the CNMI for numerous reasons, such as education, employment, medical, business, military, etc., but with intention that the CNMI is your domiciliary and your residence outside the CNMI, no matter the length of time, is temporary. On the Affidavit Questionnaire, you must include your residence where you presently reside.

### **Other Information**

The Application for Absentee Voting should be completed only when you are already registered voter. Only registered voters could be issued an absentee ballot. Please ensure that the address you provided in the absentee application is the address where you want your ballot mailed to. Again,



ensure that the address you placed on the application for absentee voting is the address where you will be in the months leading to an election.

Finally, please ensure that your signature on your Affidavit of Voter Registration Application and Affidavit Questionnaire, your Application for Absentee Voting are the same. The Commission, by law, is required to compare the signature to ensure they match. Signatures that do not match may be rejected and the ballots are either not issued or not counted.

Thank you and we hope your voting experience in the CNMI is enjoyable and meaningful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (670)235-8683 (VOTE) or email us at <a href="mailto:administrative@votecnmi.gov.mp">administrative@votecnmi.gov.mp</a>.