

**From:** Will Hutchens <Will\_Hutchens@co.columbia.wa.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 8, 2024 10:57 AM  
**To:** Holmes, Stuart  
**Cc:** Cathy Abel  
**Subject:** FPCA registrations  
**Attachments:** Voter Registration & Absentee Ballot Request Form (FPCA) - Completed by Bikila Sakalo.pdf

Hi Stuart,

Sorry to bother you--feel free to forward this to someone else at OSOS.

Columbia County keeps receiving FPCAs in our email from the Center for US Voters Abroad Turnout Project that are taking up more staff time than they should. A couple of them have been from legitimate Columbia County voters, but most are not. A few have provided King County addresses (with incorrect county and zip codes). Several have provided Washington, D.C., addresses, but for some reason, selected Columbia County, Washington, as their voting jurisdiction. In the cases where we have found a legitimate out-of-county address, we forward the application to the proper jurisdiction, assuming we can figure out what that is.

In addition, we have received some applications that look pretty suspect to me (see attached example). They do not provide any legitimate US addresses and even the countries are inconsistent. That said, they attest to be US citizens. (The Turnout Project will not let potential Washington state voters provide ID, because it is not required for registration. I tested their website.)

I am concerned that the goal of some of these may be attempts to get non-citizens on the voter rolls to demonstrate that the system can be manipulated. I know there are several checks that would prevent them from ever voting, but perception is often more powerful than reality.

I have a couple questions:

1. What is our responsibility with regards to registration applications we receive through this channel when they give an address outside Columbia County?
2. What is our responsibility with applications like the one attached, which do not give any indication they have residence anywhere in the US and have no apparent ties to Columbia County?
3. What are we supposed to do if this person had included a legitimate County address, even if they had never set foot here?

The applicant sent a follow-up email today asking if we received his application. I'm going to wait until I hear from someone from OSOS before I respond.

Thanks,  
Will

Will Hutchens  
Columbia County Auditor  
509-382-4541 (office)  
509-730-6679 (cell)



# Voter Registration and Absentee Ballot Request

Federal Post Card Application (FPCA)

Print clearly in blue or black ink, please see back for instructions.

This form is for absent Uniformed Service members, their families, and citizens residing outside the United States. It is used to register to vote, request an absentee ballot, and update your contact information. See your state's guidelines at [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov).

## 1. Who are you? Pick one.

I request an absentee ballot for all elections in which I am eligible to vote AND:

- I am on active duty in the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marine -OR-  I am an eligible spouse or dependent.  
 I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and I intend to return.  
 I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, and my intent to return is uncertain.  
 I am a U.S. citizen living outside the country, I have never lived in the United States.

Last Name	Sakalo	Suffix (Jr., II)	RCW 29A.08.710(2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Miss
First Name	Bikila	Previous Names (if applicable)	Bikila Tonore Sakalo	<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ms.
Middle Name	Tonore	Birth date (MM/DD/YYYY)	RCW 29A.0 1985		
Social Security Number		Driver's license or State ID#			

## 2. What is your address in the U.S. state or territory where you are registering to vote and requesting an absentee ballot?

Your voting materials will not be sent to this address. See instructions on the other side of form.

Street address	ETHIOPIAN. adis Ababa	Apt #	Oromiya
City, town, village	Addis Ababa	State	Washington
County	Columbia County	Zip	092458

## 3. Where are you now? You MUST give your CURRENT address to receive your voting materials.

Your mailing address. (Different from above)

Your mail forwarding address. (If different from mailing address)

ETHIOPIAN. adis Ababa  
oromiya  
Addis Ababa, Sumali 092458  
Ethiopia

ETHIOPIAN. adis Ababa  
Bulbula  
Addis Ababa, KENIYA 092458  
Ethiopia

## 4. What is your contact information? This is so election officials can reach you about your request.

Provide the country code and area code with your phone and fax number. Do not use a Defense Switched Network (DSN) number.

Email:	RCW 29A.08.710(2)	Phone:	RCW 29A.08.710(2)
Alternate email:		Fax:	

## 5. What are your preferences for upcoming elections?

A. How do you want to receive voting materials from your election office? (Select One)

- Mail  
 Email or online  
 Fax

B. What is your political party for primary elections?

My name is Bikila Tonore I live in Ethiopia

## 6. What additional information must you provide?

Puerto Rico and Vermont require more information, see back for instructions. Additional state guidelines may be found at [FVAP.gov](http://FVAP.gov). You may also use this space to clarify your voter information.

## 7. You must read and sign this statement.

I swear or affirm, under penalty of perjury, that:

- The information on this form is true, accurate, and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that a material misstatement of fact in completion of this document may constitute grounds for conviction of perjury.
- I am a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age (or will be by the day of the election), eligible to vote in the requested jurisdiction, and
- I am not disqualified to vote due to having been convicted of a felony or other disqualifying offense, nor have I been adjudicated mentally incompetent; or if so, my voting rights have been reinstated; and
- I am not registering, requesting a ballot, or voting in any other jurisdiction in the United States, except the jurisdiction cited in this voting form.

Sign here

X

RCW 42.56.425

Today's date  
(MM/DD/YYYY)

10/05/2024