

I am a NYC voter, based in Harlem. Due to COVID-related circumstance, I am currently in Virginia. I requested a new absentee ballot the week of June 1st--over the phone--after accidentally marking my ballot with my pen when folding it for the envelope.

My ballot never arrived. I called the NY Board of Elections the week of 6/15 and was told that they had my VA address on file and could see that it was requested. They informed me that I should receive it shortly. I sent them a direct message on Twitter on Fri, 6/20 after still not receiving my ballot. They responded that it was "successfully submitted and sent for printing." I still never received it.

It was meant to be postmarked today and I have no ballot, no way of exercising my right to vote. I can't imagine how inundated the BOE must be this primary, but I am especially worried about our general election in November as I imagine the pandemic will still be present in some way. We need a better infrastructure in place to ensure that everyone has the ability to cast their vote.

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Katherine A. Matthews