

For: State and County Offices

Additional Information for 2003 COC Election Outreach and Nomination

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Field Operations



1 Overview

A Background

This notice provides:

- additional information for COC election outreach and nominations
- answers to questions resulting from Notice AO-1283.

B Outreach Efforts

It is imperative that the State Outreach Coordinators, as well as every County Office and COC, conduct outreach efforts and publicize the nomination process extensively.

Note: It is the Agency's goal to make the nomination process as accessible as possible.

2 Additional Nomination Information

A Notice AO-1283

Subparagraph 2 B advised that if no eligible candidates are nominated, then COC will develop a slate with 3 names.

- This is the only instance where COC will add names to the slate.
- COC shall include individuals on this slate to represent socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers including female and minority farmers and ranchers.

B WebCAAF Identification

Employees are required to have a WebCAAF identification to load the nomination information. **Employees must immediately ensure that they have the proper WebCAAF identification.**

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2004	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice AO-1284

2 Additional Nomination Information (Continued)

C Accepting Nominations

Notice AO-1283 informed COC's to begin accepting nominations upon receipt of the notice.

- A revised nomination form, FSA-669A, will be available on August 1, 2003, at forms.sc.egov.usda.gov for public access.
- The revised form requests the nominee to voluntarily provide his/her personal identification of race, gender, and ethnicity.
- If a request is made for a nomination form before August 1, 2003, provide the requester a current FSA-669A that is available from the FFAS employee forms site.

D Nominated Candidates

If 1 or more eligible candidates are nominated, then the name or names will be the only names on the slate.

- If only 1 candidate is nominated, then only one name will appear on the ballot; there will be no alternates.
- COC will **not** add any names to the slate under these circumstances
- Slates will be developed only through the nomination process unless there are no candidates nominated for the LAA(s) election. If no nominations, see subparagraph A.

Note: Eligible voters may nominate themselves.

E Preliminary Election Information

On ballots with 2 or more candidates, the candidates receiving the most votes will be COC member, the second most votes will be the 1st alternate, and third most votes will be the 2nd alternate.

- No CMC will be designated
- CED's shall notify, by letter, farm management firms or agents representing landowners to forward all ballots they receive to landowners upon receipt.

Note: It is critical that landowners receive ballots timely to enable them to vote and have the return mailer postmarked on or before December 1, 2003.

Notice AO-1284

2 Additional Nomination Information (Continued)

F Contact

If there are questions about this notice, contact Ken Nagel at:

- telephone: 202-720-7890
- e-mail: **Ken_Nagel@wdc.usda.gov**
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