



BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Matthew M. Damschroder, Director Dennis L. White, Deputy Director

For Immediate Release

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Voters Notified of Identification Requirements for 2008 Primary Mailings Include Absentee Ballot Applications

(Columbus)- Franklin County's registered voters should be on the lookout for an important mailing from the board of elections. Notices are being sent starting today to remind them of Ohio's voter identification requirements for the March 4, 2008 Primary Election and also include applications for absentee ballots.

"Boards of elections are required to mail the identification notices no later than 60 days prior to the 2008 Primary and General Elections, but we're also using this mailing to make it easier to vote absentee by mailing applications to all registered voters," said Director Matt Damschroder. The mailing will cost Franklin County approximately \$342,000 in postage.

"Before now, voters had to request an absentee ballot application before they could request an absentee ballot," said Deputy Director Dennis White. "We hope the added convenience of receiving their application in the mail will encourage more to vote absentee from the privacy and convenience of their own home."

More than 780,000 are registered to vote in Franklin County. Ohio law requires that they first present an unexpired Ohio driver's license with name and current or former address or another form of identification with the voter's name and current address such as a utility bill, paycheck or a document issued by a government agency other than the board of elections. Those without documentation will be permitted to vote a provisional ballot using the last four digits of their Social Security number as identification.

More information on voter identification requirements can be found at <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/boe/assets/pdf/Voter-ID-Flyer.pdf>

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