BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SIMULATED ELECTION SCHEDULED TO TEST VOTING EQUIPMENT

(Columbus) The Franklin County Board of Elections will simulate an election to spot and correct any printing or programming errors on paper ballots and voting machines prior to the March 4 Primary Election.

Test votes will be cast on 25,000 paper ballots and simulated results from 50 to 60 precincts will be entered on 24 voting machines to determine if optical scanners are capturing every vote made on paper and whether voting machines are correctly counting the votes cast on their touch screens for the candidates and issues on the primary ballot.

"This testing is required by state law to and is open to the public," said board of elections director Matt Damschroder. "We'll enter a specific number of votes on paper and the voting machines and check each to determine if the results are accurate."

Deputy Director Dennis White added that testing also goes beyond the legal requirements. "We'll use nearly 4,300 voting machines in the primary. Test votes will have been entered on every one of them to ensure their accuracy before they are delivered to polling places."

Optical scan testing will be conducted beginning at 9:00 a.m., Friday Feb. 22 at the board of elections located at 280 East Broad Street. Voting machines will be testing beginning at 2:00 p.m., Monday Feb. 25, at the board of elections warehouse located at 1719 Alum Creek Drive.

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