



BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Michael Stinziano, Director Matthew M. Damschroder, Deputy Director

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Absentee Ballot Requests Outpace 2004 Total

(Columbus) Election Day is nearly two months away, but initial returns forecast landslide popularity for absentee voting in Franklin County.

To date, more than 52,000 voters have requested absentee ballots for the 2008 general election compared to just over 47,000 for the entire absentee voting period in 2004. Absentee applications were included in last week's 60 day election notice mailed to some 650,000 registered Franklin County voters.

"It's easier to vote absentee now than it was in 2004 and postage is free on both the applications and ballots mailed back to us when using the envelopes provided by the board with the mailing. But this is still a phenomenal response less than one week from when we sent the mailing," said board of elections Director Michael Stinziano.

"We strongly urge Franklin County voters to complete the application that was mailed to them by the board of elections and return it in the blue postage paid envelope," added Deputy Director Matt Damschroder.

The board of elections has stressed the ease and convenience of voting absentee and reminded voters that casting an absentee ballot by mail guarantees that you won't ever stand in line to vote. More than 200,000 mail-in absentee ballots are expected to be cast for the Nov 4 election, approximately one-third of all ballots predicted.

Voters can request an absentee application by visiting the board of elections at 280 E. Broad Street, calling us at 462-3100 or downloading an application at vote.franklincountyohio.gov on the Web. Applications also are available at public libraries.

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