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Board of Elections Announces It Will Begin Using Electronic Poll Books on May 2

(Columbus) The Franklin County Board of Elections announced today that it will begin using Electronic Poll Books for the May 2 primary election. The new technology will replace paper poll books; however, paper poll books will be made available for use in all precincts as a backup if needed.

Last year the Board of Elections entered into a contract with KNOWiNK, LLC. and purchased 1,500 Apple iPad's that have been specifically programed with election-related software. KNOWiNK poll pads are currently used in 27 other Ohio counties as well as 19 states and the District of Columbia.

The funding for the purchase was a public partnership between the State of Ohio, Department of Administrative Services and Franklin County (House Bill 64). The State of Ohio paid \$1,347,907 and Franklin County picked up the remaining balance of \$790,522 with a total cost of \$2,138,429.

The new electronic poll pads will speed up the check-in process, thereby minimizing lines and wait times to vote. With one swipe of a driver's license or state identification card, a voter's information will be readily available to the poll worker. Voters will be able to check in at any available electronic poll book within their precinct.

Last week, the Franklin County Board of Elections, in conjunction with the Franklin County Data Center and KNOWiNK, simulated an election to test the system which was successful.

Close of Registration for the May 2, 2017 Primary is at 9:00 p.m. on April 3, 2017

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