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**For Immediate Release  
September 6, 2016**

**Leonard Named Director at Board of Elections**

**(Columbus)** Edward Leonard was named Director by the Franklin County Board of Elections today effective September 19, 2016. He succeeds William Anthony who recently retired after multiple years of service as Director and prior to that as a Board member.

Leonard will team with board of elections Deputy Director David Payne, a Republican, to oversee the county's election jurisdiction of more than 800,000 voters.

Over the last decade, Treasurer Leonard has served in various senior administrative posts in County government. Before his election to office in November 2008, he was appointed to serve as County Treasurer in January 2007 when Richard Cordray took office as State Treasurer.

From March 2003 until his appointment as County Treasurer, Mr. Leonard was the Special Counselor to the Treasurer's office; where he was responsible for the execution of several major initiatives. Prior to joining the Treasurer's Office, Mr. Leonard served from March of 2001 to March of 2003 as the Compliance Officer for then-Franklin County Clerk of Courts Office John O'Grady where he provided legal advice and oversaw the Internal Audit function. From 1998 to 2001, Mr. Leonard served as Deputy Director of the Franklin County Board of Elections.

His legal career began as Captain in the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's Corp from 1990 to 1994. Ed was also in private practice for several years before serving as Assistant Columbus City Prosecutor from 1997 to 1998.

He earned his law degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1990 and his undergraduate degree in Business Administration from Youngstown State University in 1987. Ed is the 9th child in a family of eleven children and was born and raised in Youngstown, Ohio.

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