



BOARD OF ELECTIONS

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ABSENTEE REQUESTS TOP 100,000

(Columbus) The record demand for absentee voting in the March 4 Primary Election in Franklin County passed another milestone yesterday when the board of elections received its 100,000th request for an absentee ballot.

The running total shows 102,861 voters requesting an absentee ballot with 48,835 asking for a Democratic ballot, 37,004 a Republican Ballot and 7,943 unaffiliated voters requesting an issues ballot for the primary. Election officials are entering data for another 9,079 requests to determine party affiliation.

Another 195 voters have cast ballots at the board of elections since voting began last Friday with 166 voting a Democratic ballot, 25 a Republican ballot and four unaffiliated voters choosing an issues ballot.

“This is not only beyond the previous record for absentee voting in a Franklin County primary, it tops the all-time high for absentee voting in a Franklin County General Election as well” said board of elections director Matt Damschroder. Previous records were set when 12,867 voted absentee in the 2000 Primary Election and 93,472 in the 2006 General Election.

“As yet, there’s no sign of an absentee slowdown,” said board of elections deputy director Dennis White. “We’re so busy, that we’ve decided to remain open to the public for voting this Monday, Feb. 18th while most county offices will be closed in observance of President’s Day.”

Voters have until March 1 to request a mailed ballot and until March 3 to vote absentee here at the board. Nearly all of the ballots requested so far will have been mailed by the end of the week with others mailed as requests are received.

Voters also can request an absentee ballot by calling for the board of elections at (614) 462-3100, download an application from the board’s Web site <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov> or vote at the board weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Saturday Feb. 23 and March 1 from 8 a.m. to noon.

Media Contact:
Ben Piscitelli
(614) 462-5351

**FRANKLIN COUNTY
BOARD OF ELECTIONS**
280 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

(614) 462-3100
(614) 462-3489 FAX
<http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov>

BOARD MEMBERS
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Kimberly E. Marinello

