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**For Immediate Release**  
**Sept. 13, 2010**

### **ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS TOP 100,000**

**(Columbus)**- Requests to vote absentee by mail in the 2010 general election passed the 100,000 mark today, a milestone reached less than three weeks since the board of elections mailed applications for absentee ballots to more than 600,000 active voters.

“Voters have been quick to respond to our mass mailing of absentee applications even though they have until Oct. 30 to request a ballot by mail,” board director Bill Anthony said.

“It’s still a good idea to request a ballot as soon as possible to ensure that you receive your ballot early enough to complete it and mail it back to us in time to have it count in the general election,” added deputy director Matt Damschroder.

Ballots will be mailed beginning Sept. 28, the start of the 35 day absentee voting period in Ohio. Absentee voters will receive a postage paid return envelope to mail their voted ballot back to the board of elections. Voted ballots from domestic, non-military voters must be received by the board of elections by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day or by Nov. 12 if postmarked by Nov.1.

Absentee applications to vote by mail in Franklin County are available online at <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov> or by phoning the board of elections at 462-3100. Voters also have the option of casting absentee ballots at the board of elections.

Polls will be open on Election Day from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm as voters elect candidates for federal, state and local offices and decide a host of local spending issues, charter amendments and liquor options.

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