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For Immediate Release
Monday, Oct. 3, 2011

Absentee Voting Begins Tomorrow

(Columbus) Absentee voting for the Nov. 8, 2011 general election begins tomorrow with the start of early voting at the Franklin County Board of Elections and first mailings of absentee ballots to those who've applied to vote by mail.

Board offices are located at 280 East Broad Street, Columbus, and will be open for early voting weekdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. through Nov. 7 except for Tuesday, Oct. 11 –the last day to register for the general election– when the board will be open for voting and registration from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Voters have until Nov. 5 to request a ballot by mail and until Nov. 7 to ask for one at the board of elections. Applications are available online at <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov> or by phone at 525-3100.

Deadlines to return ballots:

- **Absentee ballots personally returned to the board of elections must arrive by 7:30 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 8.**
- **Ballots returned by mail from within the United States must be postmarked by Nov. 7 and arrive by Nov. 18.**
- **Ballots returned by mail from outside the United States must be postmarked by Nov. 8 and arrive by Nov. 18**

Voters must provide proper identification in order to vote a regular ballot including the last four digits of their Social Security number or Ohio driver license. Other acceptable identification includes photo I.D., or other documents with the voter's current name and address other than a mailing from the board of elections.

All ballots in Franklin County will list three statewide issues, candidates for Judge of Municipal Court and Clerk of Municipal Court, and a proposed levy for the developmentally disabled. Cities and villages will hold local elections for municipal offices and school boards. Local issues also will include safety, school, library and park levies, charter amendments, annexation and liquor options.

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