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March 23, 2012

Primary Election Certified
Post-Election Audit Scheduled

(Columbus) The Franklin County Board of Elections certified all but two results of the March 6 primary election this afternoon and scheduled post-election audits required by the secretary of state for even year elections. .

Certified totals show 175,966 or 23.19 percent of 758,799 eligible voters casting ballots in the primary, including 30,025 voting absentee in person or by mail. There were 2,083 valid provisional ballots included in the final count. No outcomes changed and no recounts are necessary because none of the contests in Franklin County were decided by a half percentage point or less- the margin for mandatory recounts under Ohio law.

The board did not certify votes in Democratic primaries for the 19th and 25th Ohio House Districts where unopposed candidates W. Carlton Weddington and Al Donahey have withdrawn since the election. The board has requested an opinion from the Franklin County prosecutor as to whether candidates who withdraw before certification can be certified. The board must meet and vote on the matter by March 27, the deadline to certify primary results.

Final vote totals will be posted on the Web at <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov>

Primary election results will be audited at the board of elections, 280 East Broad Street and at the board's warehouse at 1719 Alum Creek Drive on April 4, 5 and 6. Three contested races will be audited- the secretary of state has chosen elections for the Ohio Supreme Court on the Democratic ballot and for at-large presidential delegates on the Republican ballot. The board of elections was directed to select a third contested race to audit and chose the Democratic race for Franklin County Recorder based upon a coin toss.

The audit will review at least five percent of the countywide turnout as required by Ohio law. It will be open to the public and to duly appointed observers.

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