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**For Immediate Release**  
**Sept. 18, 2012**

### **Absentee Ballot Demand Similar to 2008 Record**

**(Columbus)** Totals released today by the Franklin County Board of Elections show 77,674 voters have applied to cast absentee ballots by mail with absentee voting starting two weeks from today.

The figures indicate demand is on pace to match the record level of absentee voting in the county four years ago when more than 248,000 voted absentee with 130,000 applying for ballots by mail by the first day of the early voting period. As of early afternoon, the board of elections had processed 49,416 ballot requests with the following breakdown by party affiliation, if any:

- Constitution – 2
- Democrat – 8,893
- Green- 38
- Libertarian - 101
- Republican - 12,124
- Unaffiliated - 28,258

Another 28,566 absentee requests have been received, but are still being opened. Additional breakdown by party will become available once the applications are processed.

All registered voters and inactive voters who cast ballots in the 2008 general election were mailed absentee ballot requests by the secretary of state shortly after Labor Day. If voters can't find their application, they may download a form from our Web site <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov> or call us at (614) 525-3100 to request one.

Absentee voting begins Tuesday, Oct 2. Ballots will be mailed to voters requesting them and in-person absentee voting will start in Franklin County at this year's early voting site located at 1700 Morse Road, Columbus.

Absentee ballots will be mailed to overseas and military voters beginning this Saturday, Sept. 22.

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