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General Election Today

(Columbus) Will marijuana become legal in Ohio? Who will be the next mayor of Columbus? These are just two of the questions voters will answer when Franklin County holds its general election for 2015 today.

Local polling places are open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. More than 832,000 voters are eligible.

Franklin County voters requested 43,991 absentee ballots by the time early voting ended at 2:00 p.m. yesterday with 34, 242 voted ballots received so far. The total includes 11,405 voting early in-person at the board of elections.

Statewide issues will determine if marijuana is legalized, if groups can be prevented from changing the state constitution for private benefit and if Ohio revamps the way legislative districts are drawn. Countywide ballots will show levies for ADAMH, Franklin County's Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health board, the Columbus Zoo and candidates for Franklin County Municipal Court.

Columbus is holding an election for mayor with no incumbent candidate on the ballot for the first time since 1999 and electing candidates for city council and school board. Suburbs have elections for municipal offices and school board as well. Some communities have ballot issues for police and fire protection, roads, energy programs and charter changes. Thirty-five liquor options are on local ballots throughout the county.

Voters can find their polling location and see the issues on their ballot by checking the <u>Sample Ballot</u> link on our Web site. Unofficial vote totals will be posted there after the polls close tonight and will be updated throughout the evening.

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