

MORSEcode

serving voters with excellence and civic pride

Franklin County Board of Elections

JULY 2015

Primary Election 2015 -On the Ballot

Focus on 2015 Through the Lens of 2016 has been this year's theme for the Precinct Election Official Department. With three high profile elections on the horizon, once again the nation's eyes will be on Ohio. It reminds us of the need to "recruit, train and place the best poll workers."



- **General Election 2015-- November 3, 2015** will be a regular municipal election. By law this type of election is held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in each odd-numbered year.
- **Primary Election 2016-- March 15, 2016** will be a **Presidential Primary** election. New legislation has been enacted that changes the date held from the first Tuesday after the first Monday to the second Tuesday after the first Monday in March. By moving this election — from March 8 to March 15, it allows Ohio to take advantage of rules adopted by the Republican National Committee requiring states with primaries between March 1 and March 14 to be subject to a proportional allocation of their delegates, while those with primaries on March 15 or later to award delegates on a "winner-takes-all" basis.
- **General Election 2016-- November 8, 2016** is the Presidential Election (held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.)

OUR MISSION
"To recruit, train, and place the best poll workers who are committed to serving voters with excellence and civic pride."

GOOD TO KNOW

- The Board of Elections does not determine the number of Voting machines at a location, no matter what the anticipated voter turnout may be for any election. We must follow the Secretary of State requirement that states, "There must be at least one voting machine for every 175 registered voters in a precinct or voting location".
- Brush up on your **Morse Code** and decipher the important message hidden throughout the newsletter. The answer is on page 2. Have fun!

GENERAL INFORMATION

VOTING LOCATION MANAGER

Ann Henkener, Standby, steps in for ill VLM, LID 2210, Reynoldsburg High School By being a poll worker since 2006, Ann has been willing to do whatever is needed to help democracy work. Assigned to step in as VLM at the very last minute (5:45 am) for this past Election, Ann waited at the BOE for the supplies, drove to the location, and distributed the supplies to the team who had the polling place up and running before the first voter arrived! She gives the credit to: "the Warehouse for getting the supplies ready quickly, Rovers who unlocked things before I arrived, Machine judges who got the first machine ready within 5 minutes of my arrival, and Roster and Paper Judges who set everything else up". She carries this dedication through the year as an active member of the League of Women Voters "to insure that all people have the opportunity to vote."



No Signature on file...

If when processing a voter you see "no signature available" in the Signature on file box, simply have the voter sign their name. This way the BOE will have it on file for the next time.



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ROSTER JUDGE

When is there no ballot style to choose?

If your voting location has only one ballot for a precinct, then there will not be an option to select a ballot style. After you have selected and verified the correct Precinct Identifier, the next screen will have two options: **ADA Provisional Only** and **Display Ballot Now**. For a regular voter ALWAYS choose **Display Ballot Now**.

VOTING MACHINE JUDGE

Training pays off!

During our last training session some poll workers had additional instruction (after training) on completing the Provisional Envelope. This paid off big time with only 4 voters failing to sign the envelope. Also, the number of Voters who voted in the wrong precinct or polling location went down for the 2015 Primary. Good work PBJ's! Practice makes perfect.

PAPER BALLOT JUDGE

★ PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

Have issues with the location on Election Day? The BOE Warehouse works year-round developing and maintaining rapport with all our voting facility owners, managers, custodians and superintendents. It is critical that a close and harmonious relationship in which all concerned understand each other's feelings or ideas, and communicate well so that we are welcomed back for future elections. Therefore, if you feel there is an issue that is not being taken care of by the facility contact person, ***please call the Board of Elections*** right away. We all work as a team and are happy to help resolve any issues in a cordial manner.



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What happened to my paycheck?

On Election Day, usually in the morning, once everything is set up your Voting Location Manager has you sign the payroll form that is found in the Precinct Workbook. This is the only place we can verify that you worked that day. If your VLM gets busy, gently remind him or her sometime during the day. If you do not sign the payroll, your paycheck will be delayed.

What triggers a recount? Recounts are mandatory in Ohio when certified totals show a local election decided by one half of one percent of the vote or less. The Board of Elections conducts a recount within 6 to 10 days of certification from precincts selected at random to cover at least five percent of the votes cast in the contest.

FAQ



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A few facts about petitions to put state-wide issues on the ballot:

- The total number of signatures on the petition must equal at least 10 percent of the total vote cast for the office of governor at the last gubernatorial election.
- The signatures must have been obtained from at least 44 of the 88 counties in Ohio. From each of these 44 counties, there must be signatures equal to at least 5 percent of the total vote cast for the office of governor in that county at the last gubernatorial election
- *Each petition signer must be a qualified elector of the state of Ohio* and each petition must contain signatures of electors from only one county.

Note: this is not a complete listing of the SOS requirements for petitions. For additional information go to: www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/LegnAndBallotIssues/issues.aspx

SECRETARY OF STATE



DATES TO REMEMBER

October 5

Last day to register to Vote

October 6

Absentee Voting begins

Oct 30-Nov 1

Practice Makes Perfect

November 3

Election Day

2015 PRIMARY ELECTION TOTALS:

Registered Voters: 606,008

Ballots Cast Total: 57,568

Election Day Voters: 47,760

Absentee Voters: 9,061

Provisional Voters: 712

Curb Side and 17 Year Olds: 35

Voter Turn Out: 9.5%

Please Note: Numbers taken from "Official Results" posted by the BOE 5/21/2015

★ DICTIONARY OF TERMS

1. Van Accessible Signs:

- Indicates where anyone with a van can park.
- Are attached (with a rubber band) to permanent Handicap Parking signs that do not indicate van accessibility.
- Are attached (with duct tape) to the entrance of the location indicating there is Van Accessible parking in the lot.



2. Traffic Cones:

- Place under qualifying wall protrusions, and to identify tripping hazards in the location.
- Place in parking lot to hold up flags.
- Mark temporary handicapped parking spaces.
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KNOW SOMEONE THAT WOULD LIKE TO BE A POLL WORKER?

Have them call us at 614/525-5393 or go on line at <http://vote.franklincountyohio.gov/precinct-official/>



Answers: 1.b, 2.d Morse Code hidden in banner: PEO Morse Code hidden in newsletter: "help democracy work"

