



280 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

<http://Vote.FranklinCountyOhio.gov>

(614) 525-3100
(614) 525-3489 FAX

BOARD MEMBERS: Douglas J. Preisse, Chairman ★ Bradley K. Sinnott ★ Kimberly E. Marinello ★ Gregory K. Haas

DIRECTOR: William A. Anthony, Jr., DEPUTY DIRECTOR: Dana Walch

**For Immediate Release
Feb. 3, 2014**

Board of Elections Grants Protests against Campaign Finance and Arena Votes

(Columbus) The Franklin County Board of Elections this afternoon sided with groups challenging proposed ballot initiatives on campaign finance limits for Columbus City offices and the city's continued lease and eventual purchase of Nationwide Arena. The result-neither issue will appear on the May primary ballot.

The board voted 4 to 0 to uphold protests against petitions calling for ballot issues on each question. It found several errors including a misleading summarization in petitions that would have allowed Columbus candidates to accept public funding provided they agreed to campaign spending limits. The board also agreed with other protestors who argued that it was not possible to amend the city's lease of Nationwide Arena through 2039 because any change would involve cancelling a contract involving Columbus, Franklin County and other parties.

Remaining issues and candidates must be filed with the board of elections by this Wednesday, Feb. 5 to be eligible for the primary ballot. The board will certify the balance of them on or before Feb. 18.

Contact:
Ben Piscitelli
Public Information Officer
(614) 525-5351
bjpiscit@franklincountyohio.gov