



# **EDWARD J. LEONARD**

## *Franklin County Treasurer*

373 S. High Street, 17<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus OH 43215-6306 (614) 525-3438

<http://Treasurer.franklincountyohio.gov>

### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Thursday, February 16, 2012**

Contact: Melissa Messina, Franklin County Treasurer's Office, 614/525-3059  
Scott Varner, Franklin County Commissioners, 614/525-6638

### **MEDIA ADVISORY:**

## **FRANKLIN COUNTY TO UNVEIL NEW TOOL TO FIGHT BLIGHT AND PROTECT PROPERTY VALUES**

Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard and Franklin County Commissioner Paula Brooks will unveil on Friday the county's newest tool in fighting neighborhood blight, protecting property values, and addressing the persistent problem of vacant and abandoned properties.

The Franklin County Land Bank, made possible by a recent change in Ohio law, will give the County the ability to quickly take control of vacant and tax delinquent properties – including abandoned home that erode community pride, impact nearby property values, and drive away new investment.

Through this new land bank initiative, the County can then work with local and state partners, as well as private and non-profit agencies, to rehab or demolition these buildings and return the properties to productive use.

On Friday, Treasurer Leonard, County Commissioner Brooks and Clinton Township officials will showcase a vacant and abandoned tax delinquent property that is a prime example of the type of blighted properties that will be eliminated through this new endeavor.

**WHO:** Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard  
Franklin County Commissioner Paula Brooks

**WHAT:** Unveiling of new Franklin County Land Bank initiative

**WHEN:** Friday, February 17, 2012  
1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** 1936 Dunbar Drive, Clinton Township  
(East of 3200 Cleveland Avenue, West of Westerville Road)

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