



EDWARD J. LEONARD

Franklin County Treasurer

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Franklin County Treasurer Ed Leonard to accept position at the Board of Elections

Columbus (OH). This afternoon, the Franklin County Board of Elections selected Ed Leonard to fill the vacancy for Director of the Franklin County Board of Elections.

"I've been honored and blessed to have served as Franklin County Treasurer. Much has changed in my nearly 10 years as Treasurer. We have made tremendous improvements in the operational efficiency, financial strength and customer service focus of the office. One thing that has remained unchanged is the hard work and exemplary dedication of the staff here at the Treasurer's office."

Ed Leonard served as the Deputy Director of the Franklin County Board of Elections from March, 1998 to March 2001. With the Presidential Election just a few short months away, Ed's experience and leadership will help create a seamless transition for the board of elections employees.

Treasurer Leonard's resignation will be effective Friday, September 16th. Ed is expected to begin his new role as Director on September 19, 2016.

Pursuant to ORC Section 305.02(F), the Board of County Commissioners "may appoint a person to hold any of the offices named in division (A) of this section (which includes the office of county treasurer) as an acting officer and to perform the duties thereof between the occurrence of the vacancy and the time when the officer appointed by the central committee qualifies and takes the office." Anticipating that the Board of County Commissioners will choose to do so, Treasurer Leonard respectfully request that Chief Deputy, Melissa Messina-Lanthorn, be appointed acting county treasurer until such time as the vacancy is filled in accordance with the statutory requirements. She will provide exemplary leadership of this office during this important period of transition.

In accordance with Ohio law, the Central Committee of the Franklin County Democratic Party will appoint a new County Treasurer who will serve for the remainder of Treasurer Leonard's term of office. The Central Committee is expected to meet later in the month of September.