



**J. KENNETH BLACKWELL**  
**Ohio Secretary of State**

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**Directive 2006-84**  
November 2, 2006

**To: ALL COUNTY BOARDS OF ELECTIONS**  
**Members, Directors and Deputy Directors**

**CONSENT ORDER REGARDING ABSENTEE BALLOTS AND ELECTION DAY  
VOTING ISSUES**

**THESE INSTRUCTIONS DO NOT CONSTITUTE THE ENTIRE ORDER, PLEASE  
READ THE ATTACHED CONSENT ORDER**

**ABSENTEE BALLOTS**

To ensure that the November 7 elections are conducted uniformly throughout the State, I am issuing this directive to instruct the boards of elections to comply with the attached Consent Order issued November 1, 2006. The Consent Order states that County Boards of Elections shall accept and count any absentee or provisional ballot that an absentee voter cast and returned, whether by mail or in-person, to the local Board of Elections, if that ballot has the voter's name, address, date of birth, and signature as required by R.C. § 3509.04(B) and otherwise complies with Ohio law. County Boards of Elections shall count these ballots even if they do or do not contain the driver's license number, the last four digits of the voter's social security number, or other statutorily recognized forms of identification (i.e., incorrect number such as transposed numbers).

**ELECTION DAY BALLOTS**

On Election Day, voters shall provide proof of their identities in the form of a current and valid photo identification, a military identification that shows the voter's name and current address, or a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document, other than a notice of an election mailed by a board of elections under section 3501.19 of the Revised Code or a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections under 3503.19 of the Revised Code, that shows the name and current address of the elector. "Current" is defined by the Consent Order as one year from the date on which it is presented to the board of elections. "Utility" includes, but is not limited to, water, sewer, electric, natural gas, cable, internet, telephone, and cellular-telephone service. "Other

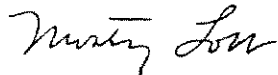
government document” is defined by the Consent Order as any document that has a current address and issued by an appropriate governmental entity to include, but is not limited to, documents issued by all branches of local government (including city, municipal, county, township, and village governments), all branches and political subdivisions of the State of Ohio (including public colleges or universities, public community colleges), and all branches of the United States government.

**As stated in the attached Order from the court these procedures and the Order are applicable to the November 7, 2006, general election only. The Consent Order is incorporated into this document, therefore, this Directive and the court’s order constitute the entire Directive.**

Boards of elections are instructed to communicate this information to all of their employees and shall post the Consent Order on the home page and voting-rule related pages on their website.

If you have any question regarding these instructions, please contact the Elections Division at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Monty Lobb".

Monty Lobb  
Assistant Secretary of State

Attachment