



## NBC 4 Profiles Race For City Council Seats

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**COLUMBUS, Ohio** -- Election Day is fast-approaching and voters in Franklin County can cast absentee ballots beginning on Tuesday.

Applications are available online and citizens can go to local public libraries or the board of elections office on Broad Street to vote.

The hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and the offices will be open Oct. 27 and Nov. 3 from 8 a.m. to Noon.

Columbus voters will be deciding who should be Mayor and filling several council seats, **NBC 4's** Patrick Preston reported.

The council race is getting more attention thanks to new TV commercials by three candidates.

There are ten city council candidates vying for five seats -- in the most crowded field of council candidates since 1995.

Five sitting council Democrats are defending their seats, but only two of them are up for reelection -- Council President Michael Mental and Councilwoman Charleta Tavares. The other three were appointed to their jobs.

Hearcel Craig is one of the three, along with Priscilla Tyson, who launched her first TV ad this week with a focus on community involvement.

Meanwhile, fellow democrat Andy Ginther used his first TV ad to focus on a specific issue as he emphasized his efforts to support public safety.

But with five weeks to go until Election Day, Republicans see an opportunity to end the Democratic monopoly on City Hall. The GOP has fielded its own slate of five, with attorney Larry Thomas joining businessman Paul Bingle, financial planner Bill Brownson, activist Heidi Samuel and attorney Jim O'Grady.

### More Information:

#### Democrats

Hearcel Craig – [www.hearcelcraig.com](http://www.hearcelcraig.com)

Andrew Ginther – [www.andrewginther.com](http://www.andrewginther.com)

Michael Mental – [www.michaelmentel.com](http://www.michaelmentel.com)

Charleta Tavares – [www.charletatavares.com](http://www.charletatavares.com)

Priscilla Tyson – [www.tysonforcouncil.com](http://www.tysonforcouncil.com)

#### Republicans

Paul Bingle – [www.paulbingle.com](http://www.paulbingle.com)

Bill Brownson – [www.brownsonforcouncil.com](http://www.brownsonforcouncil.com)

Jim O'Grady – no Web site

Heidi Samuel – [www.heidisamuel.com](http://www.heidisamuel.com)

Larry Thomas – [www.citizensforlarrythomas.com](http://www.citizensforlarrythomas.com)

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