

**Resolution authorizing a contract between Franklin County and FIRSTLINK for the delivery of Foreclosure Prevention Referral Services.**

(Treasurer) (\$70,000)

**WHEREAS**, home foreclosures in Franklin County have been steadily increasing since 2005 with 9,266 foreclosure filings in Franklin County Courts for 2008 and the current figure of 7,937 as of the end of October for 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, foreclosures create vacant and blighted properties in our neighborhoods, decrease property values and therefore could lead to a decrease in the funds distributed to our schools and vital social services agencies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Treasurer, Prosecutor and the Board of Commissioners developed the Homeowner HelpLine in 2008, a comprehensive foreclosure intervention and prevention program addressing the various causes, impacts and needs resulting from the increase in home foreclosures in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, FIRSTLINK made 4,953 referrals to the HUD approved Housing Counseling Agencies from January 2009 to September 2009 which was an increase of 893 additional referrals from 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, this funding will allow FIRSTLINK to continue their successful work as an integral part of the Homeowner HelpLine Program;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners, Franklin County, Ohio:

That the attached Contract between Franklin County and FIRSTLINK for the delivery of foreclosure prevention referral services and the accompanying Purchase Order are hereby approved. Approval of this resolution will also approve the opening of a purchase order in the amount of \$70,000.

Prepared by: Edward J. Leonard, Franklin County Treasurer

cc:

Prosecutor  
Economic Development and Planning