



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:
December 1, 2009

PRESS ADVISORY

Gubernatorial candidates Governor Jon S. Corzine, Governor-elect Christopher J. Christie, and Independent Candidate Christopher J. Daggett collectively raised \$40.8 million and spent \$40.1 million in the recent general election contest.

These amounts, reported on their respective 20-day post-election reports, represent a fundraising decrease of 30 percent from four years ago, when self-funded candidates Jon Corzine and Douglass Forrester reported raising \$58.6 million. Spending this year was 31 percent less than in 2005, when Corzine and Forrester combined spent \$58.3 million.

Jeff Brindle, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), as he did in previous comments made in the pre-election setting, attributed the decline to the impact of pay-to-plays laws and to the economy. Another factor is that this time only one candidate, the Governor decided not to rely on public funding for his campaign. Candidates who bypass the state system can spend unlimited sums.

The reports showed that the Governor raised \$27.1 million, of which \$25.3 consisted of contributions or loans from the Governor to his own campaign. He reported spending of \$27 million.

Republican candidate and Governor-elect Christie reported total receipts of \$11.9 million and expenditures of \$11.4 million. Independent candidate Daggett reported receipts of \$1.8 million and expenditures of \$1.6 million.

Both Christie and Daggett had participated in the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program while Corzine had opted out of the program.

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Governor-elect Christie received the maximum \$7.3 million in public matching funds, while Independent Daggett received \$1.1 million in matching funds. In both instances, public funds represented 61 percent of funds raised.

Brindle noted that “the amounts reported spent do not include monies spent by 527 groups, which were active during the campaign.” These are independent fundraising committees organized under federal law that are not subject to state disclosure laws.

The 20-day post-election reports show also that combined the other independent candidates raised \$47,750 and spent \$46,794 in the quest of the governorship.

The gubernatorial reports are available online today at 10:00 a.m. on ELEC’s website at www.elec.state.nj.us.

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