

NEWS RELEASE

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Six candidates for governor have raised a combined \$2.4 million and spent just \$61,009, according to the latest campaign finance reports on file with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

Left unspent so far is a collective cash reserve of \$2.3 million.

Table 1
Campaign Finance Activity by Gubernatorial
Candidates through December 31, 2012

				Cash-On-
Candidate	Party	Raised	Spent	Hand
Chris Christie	R	\$ 2,139,545	\$ 53,291	\$ 2,086,254
Barbara Buono	D	\$ 214,500	\$ 1,573	\$ 212,927
Diane Sare	I	\$ 5,850	\$ 2,714	\$ 3,361
Carl Bergmanson	D	\$ 10,702	\$ 2,514	\$ 1,721
William Araujo	D	\$ 1,154	\$ 917	\$ 236
Jeff Boss*	D	-	-	-
Totals		\$ 2,371,751	\$ 61,009	\$ 2,303,499

^{*} Does not expect to raise or spend more than \$4,000 for primary.

"Most candidates are gearing up for the June 4 primary election. Independent candidates don't appear on the ballot until the November 5 general election," said Jeff Brindle, ELEC's Executive Director.

Incumbent Governor Chris Christie, a Republican, is the dominant fundraiser. He raised more than \$2.1 million during December. His campaign has announced it does not intend to participate in the state's Gubernatorial Public Financing Program for the primary.

State Senator Barbara Buono, a Democrat, has raised \$214,500 and reported a cash balance of \$212,927. Her campaign has announced that it does intend to participate in the public financing program.

The next date for candidates to submit funds for matching is Tuesday, January 29, 2013.

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Under the program, candidates who raise at least \$380,000 can obtain up to \$3.5 million in public funds for the primary. Candidates receive \$2 in public funds for every \$1 they raise privately, though the first \$122,000 raised privately is not eligible for matching funds.

Publicly funded candidates must keep their overall primary spending below \$5.6 million. The law does exempt a few expenses from the cap, including candidate travel and election night activities.

There is no spending limit for non-participating candidates but they must abide by the contribution limit of \$3,800 for the primary and general elections.

To view individual candidate reports and to obtain more information about the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program, visit ELEC's website at www.elec.state.nj.us.

ELEC also can be accessed on Facebook (<u>www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw</u>) and Twitter (<u>www.twitter.com/elecnj</u>).

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