



NEWS RELEASE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:
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County party officials continued to replenish their financial reserves in a year with no statewide campaigns but with counties and municipalities holding elections, according to the latest reports filed with the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

Quarterly reports filed by county parties showed their combined reserves grew from \$1.5 million to \$2 million since June. Those reserves are smaller than the \$2.4 million raised at the same point last year, when there was a governor's race and all 120 legislators were running. However, the combined war chest is larger than the \$1.6 million amassed in 2012, another year with no major state campaigns.

There are county executive elections in Essex and Bergen counties this year, as well as elections for freeholder, sheriff, clerk and surrogate posts in various counties. In addition, there are contests in several municipalities.

**TABLE 1
COMBINED CASH RESERVES
OF COUNTY PARTIES
THROUGH THIRD QUARTER- 2010-2014**

YEAR	CASH-ON-HAND
2010	\$2,365,419
2011	\$2,134,219
2012	\$1,573,648
2013	\$2,456,395
2014	\$1,980,600

The latest reports show Democratic county parties raised more funds during the first nine months of 2014 than they did for the same period in 2010. However, they spent less, and reported lower combined cash-on-hand and net worth totals. Republican county party fundraising and spending totals are down versus 2010 but reserves are up.

Looking just at 2014, Democratic county parties have outperformed Republican committees except for net worth, which is cash-on-hand adjusted for debts owed to or by the committee.

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TABLE 2
SUMMARY OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY BY COUNTY COMMITTEES
JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30
2010 VERSUS 2014

	RAISED-2010	SPENT-2010**	CASH-ON-HAND-2010	NET WORTH-2010*
Democratic County Party Committees	\$2,334,916	\$2,681,287	\$1,676,184	\$1,414,443
Republican County Party Committees	\$2,191,374	\$1,712,200	\$ 689,235	\$1,131,911
Total-Both Parties	\$4,526,290	\$4,393,487	\$2,365,419	\$2,546,354
	RAISED-2014	SPENT-2014**	CASH-ON-HAND-2014	NET WORTH-2014*
Democratic County Party Committees	\$2,705,414	\$2,310,919	\$1,265,988	\$ 899,727
Republican County Party Committees	\$1,704,934	\$1,453,880	\$ 714,612	\$1,548,634
Total-Both Parties	\$4,410,348	\$3,764,798	\$1,980,600	\$2,448,361
Difference 2010 versus 2014				
Democratic County Party Committees	16%	-14%	-24%	-36%
Republican County Party Committees	-22%	-15%	4%	37%
Total-Both Parties	-3%	-14%	-16%	-4%

*Net worth is cash-on-hand adjusted for debts owed to or by the committee.

**Spending may exceed fundraising due to reserves carried over from previous year.

Jeff Brindle, ELEC’s Executive Director, said county parties tend to do their heaviest fundraising and spending during years with statewide elections.

“2014 is more of an in-between year. While county parties do participate in county and local races, many are key players in legislative and gubernatorial races,” Brindle said. “We expect to see the pace of fundraising gradually ramp up as we approach next year’s legislative elections.”

Among Democratic county committees that have filed all of their reports, Camden, Essex, Gloucester, Passaic and Union Counties reported cash-on-hand above \$100,000. Burlington and Hudson Counties reported a negative net worth after adjusting for debts.

TABLE 3
CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY OF
DEMOCRATIC COUNTY PARTY COMMITTEES
JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

COUNTY	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH
Atlantic	\$ 30,706	\$ 21,910	\$ 18,411	\$ 18,411
Bergen	\$ 393,142	\$ 365,455	\$ 27,912	\$ 90,245
Burlington	\$ 38,287	\$ 36,353	\$ 5,118	\$ (80,449)
Camden	\$ 312,122	\$ 272,760	\$ 127,563	\$ 127,563
Cape May	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,245	\$ 5,993	\$ 5,993
Cumberland	\$ 40,075	\$ 45,551	\$ 2,014	\$ 2,014
Essex	\$ 198,500	\$ 188,041	\$ 128,855	\$ 128,855
Gloucester	\$ 263,111	\$ 132,597	\$ 186,809	\$ 143,707
Hudson	\$ 158,421	\$ 193,329	\$ 22,134	\$ (285,404)
Hunterdon	\$ 31,678	\$ 14,669	\$ 21,969	\$ 21,969
Mercer	\$ 107,040	\$ 94,849	\$ 45,308	\$ 45,308
Middlesex	\$ 322,757	\$ 278,566	\$ 56,417	\$ 56,417
Monmouth	\$ 145,644	\$ 123,866	\$ 28,640	\$ 28,640
Morris	\$ 61,493	\$ 63,248	\$ 20,373	\$ 20,373
Ocean	\$ 30,857	\$ 35,492	\$ 8,980	\$ 25,147
Passaic	\$ 260,955	\$ 173,651	\$ 342,477	\$ 342,477
Salem	\$ 8,105	\$ 16,254	\$ 44,449	\$ 44,449
Somerset	\$ 106,449	\$ 99,153	\$ 23,879	\$ 23,879
Sussex	\$ 5,745	\$ 6,394	\$ 4,021	\$ 4,021
Union	\$ 182,110	\$ 143,043	\$ 140,368	\$ 131,814
Warren	\$ 4,719	\$ 3,493	\$ 4,298	\$ 4,298
Democrats-Total	\$2,705,414	\$2,310,919	\$1,265,988	\$899,727

Among Republican county committees that have filed their reports, Burlington and Somerset reported cash reserves and net worth's larger than \$100,000.

TABLE 4
CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY OF
REPUBLICAN COUNTY PARTY COMMITTEES
JANUARY 1 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

COUNTY	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH
Atlantic	\$ 28,205	\$ 44,668	\$ 26,340	\$ 26,340
Bergen	\$ 194,060	\$ 142,671	\$ 59,941	\$ 59,941
Burlington	\$ 504,240	\$ 407,769	\$ 112,804	\$ 956,699
Camden	\$ 13,520	\$ 12,857	\$ 22,635	\$ 22,635
Cape May	\$ 69,000	\$ 54,885	\$ 26,061	\$ 26,061
Cumberland	\$ 46,417	\$ 26,452	\$ 21,129	\$ 21,129
Essex	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,003	\$ 1,890	\$ 1,890
Gloucester	\$ 34,349	\$ 35,140	\$ 397	\$ 397
Hudson**				
Hunterdon	\$ 27,424	\$ 22,370	\$ 27,958	\$ 27,958
Mercer	\$ 18,457	\$ 16,128	\$ 3,155	\$ 2,840
Middlesex	\$ 32,374	\$ 17,906	\$ 23,039	\$ 23,039
Monmouth	\$ 146,408	\$ 111,167	\$ 40,007	\$ 40,007
Morris	\$ 86,215	\$ 76,363	\$ 37,483	\$ 37,483
Ocean	\$ 86,041	\$ 139,511	\$ 4,646	\$ 4,646
Passaic*	\$ 31,473	\$ 25,247	\$ 5,530	\$ 5,530
Salem	\$ 35,008	\$ 38,128	\$ 10,261	\$ 10,261
Somerset	\$ 275,755	\$ 205,823	\$ 264,634	\$ 261,633
Sussex	\$ 16,125	\$ 23,591	\$ 8,834	\$ 8,834
Union	\$ 42,815	\$ 32,782	\$ 10,043	\$ 3,486
Warren	\$ 13,050	\$ 17,420	\$ 7,825	\$ 7,825
Republicans- Total	\$1,704,934	\$1,453,880	\$ 714,612	\$1,548,634

*Through June 30, 2014.

** Does not expect to spend more than \$5,500 this year.

The numbers in this analysis are based on reports filed by noon October 28, 2014. They have yet to be verified by ELEC staff, and should be considered preliminary.

Interested parties are encouraged to review individual reports at ELEC's website (www.elec.state.nj.us).