



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY
SEPTEMBER 23, 1987

In a statement made today, Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), said that PAC contributions to candidates and on behalf of candidates during the first two quarters of 1987 have increased by 81 percent over the same period in 1985 and the number of PAC's has increased by 35 percent.

According to Herrmann, PAC's contributed \$993,594 to candidates during the first two quarters of 1987. He said that this amount was up from the \$548,091 contributed to candidates during the first two quarters of 1985.

Herrmann said that the figures contained in this report involve all financial activity from January 1st to March 31st, the first quarter, and from April 1st to June 30th, the second quarter. He said that the filing deadlines are April 15th and July 15th.

A PAC is obligated to file with ELEC when in a calendar year it contributes or expects to contribute at least \$2,500 to aid State or local candidates or promote the passage or defeat of public questions, and when it is expected to make such contributions during subsequent years.

PAC's as well as political party committees are required by "The Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act," (N.J.S.A. 19:44A-1 et seq.) to file financial information on a quarterly basis with the Election Law Enforcement Commission.

"All of the PAC's mentioned in this press release are located within the State of New Jersey and engage in New Jersey election-related activity," said Herrmann. "This report does not include, however, personal PAC's which are set up to raise or expend money on behalf of certain officeholders. Moreover, the figures don't include the State political party committees and the local political party committees."

Herrmann said that the PAC's cited in this analysis are those established by corporations, trade associations, businesses, labor unions, ideological groups, etc.

Herrmann stated that the figures were taken from the 144 PAC's on file in 1987 and the 107 PAC's in 1985. The years 1985 and 1987 were selected because they were both years in which legislative races occurred. In 1985, there was an election for members of the General Assembly. In 1987, both the Senate and the General Assembly membership are being elected.

Herrmann said that the large increase in 1987 first and second quarter contributions over the same period in 1985 can be partly attributed to the fact that there is a Senate election this year, in addition to an

Assembly contest; to the ongoing trend in increased PAC activity; and, of course, to the larger number of PAC's.

According to Herrmann, "the top contributing PAC for 1987 so far is Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law (L.E.G.A.L.), which has contributed \$58,200."

"The top contributing PAC in 1985 during the same period was the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA), which made contributions to, and on behalf of candidates totaling \$50,539," stated Herrmann.

Attached to this release is a list of the top twenty PAC's for the years 1985 and 1987 (see Appendix).

Herrmann pointed out that some of these reports include contributions to federal candidates, and transfers to national parent organizations as well as contributions to local, legislative and gubernatorial candidates.

"Disclosure of PAC activities through the reports filed at the Commission," Herrmann concluded, "is ELEC's primary tool of regulatory control."

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The figures contained in this press release have been taken from committee reports on file with the Commission as of August 1, 1987. Figures from reports or corrections to reports filed after that date are not included.

This press release is merely a compilation of figures reported to the Commission, and is not intended to express any opinion concerning the accuracy or completeness of any filed report. Further, although the Commission has taken all reasonable precautions to prevent mathematical or typographical errors, the possibility of their existence cannot be entirely eliminated. Copies of any report on file with the Commission are available for inspection and verification during regular office hours.

A P P E N D I X

Top Twenty PAC Contributors

1985

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	New Jersey Education Association Political Action Committee	\$50,539.25
2	Builders Political Action Committee	36,610.00
3	New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee	31,349.25
4	Campaign Fund of Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law	25,520.00
5	New Jersey Organization for a Better State	24,300.00
6	Midlantic State Political Action Committee	21,675.00
7	Operating Engineers Local 825 Political Action & Education Committee	19,475.00
8	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #9 Political Action Committee	16,886.32
9	New Jersey Life Underwriters Political Action Committee	15,500.00
10	New Jersey CAR (Conference of Auto Retailers)	14,456.85
11	PT - PAC (Physical Therapists Political Action Committee)	14,230.00
12	New Jersey Pharmacists Political Action Committee	13,400.00
13	Local 68 Political Action Committee (Int'l Union of Operating Engineers)	13,300.00
14	Johnson & Johnson Employees' Good Government Fund	12,695.00

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Top 20 PAC Contributors - 1985

15	Garden State Pharmacy Owners, Inc. Political Action Committee	12,385.00
16	New Jersey Health Care Political Action Committee	12,240.00
17	Political Committee for New Jersey	11,975.00
18	Jersey Bankers Political Action Committee (JEBPAC)	11,200.00
19	City Federal Political Action Committee	10,900.00
20	Laborers' Union Local #172 Political Action Committee	10,650.00

Top Twenty PAC Contributors

1987

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	Campaign Fund of Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law	\$58,200.00
2	Builders Political Action Committee	54,250.00
3	New Jersey Education Association Political Action Committee	53,723.77
4	New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee	52,850.00
5	Midlantic State Political Action Committee	39,210.00
6	Central Jersey Builders Association Political Action Committee	34,815.00
7	MEDAC - Medical Action Committee	31,400.00
8	Operating Engineers Local 825 Political Action & Education Committee	28,675.00
9	New Jersey CAR (Conference of Auto Retailers)	23,750.00
10	Political Committee for New Jersey	22,575.00
11	South Jersey Builders Political Action Committee	21,750.00
12	New Jersey Optometric Political Action Committee	20,525.00
13	New Jersey Pharmacists Political Action Committee	19,971.26
14	Laborers' Union Local #172 PAC Fund	19,701.00
15	Jersey Bankers Political Action Committee (JEBPAC)	19,400.00
16	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #9 Political Action Committee	18,709.80
17	New Jersey Organization for a Better State	17,500.00

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Top 20 PAC Contributors - 1987

18	New Jersey Bell State Political Action Committee	15,435.00
19	Johnson & Johnson Employees' Good Government Fund	14,325.00
20	SAPEC - NJ '87 (Savings Association Political Election Committee - New Jersey 1987)	14,225.00