



NEWS RELEASE

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Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission, said in a statement made today that PACs contributed \$6,986,436 to and on behalf of candidates and political committees during 1989.

This figure represents a 60% increase over 1987, when these same groups contributed \$4,358,143. In 1985, only \$2,200,982 was contributed.

For comparative purposes, the years 1987 and 1985 were chosen because legislative races occurred in each of those years. Exact comparisons to 1987 cannot be made because there were Senate and Assembly races in 1987.

In 1985, however, as in 1989, there was an Assembly race and a Gubernatorial race. In 1985, \$2,200,982 was contributed to candidates and political committees. More than three times that amount was contributed just four years later.

The number of Statewide PACs filing with ELEC continues to rise. In 1985, 113 PACs were on file. The number rose to 187 in 1987 and to 228 in 1989.

According to Herrmann, "the continued rise in contributing by PACs and the large increase in their number indicates that the trend is clearly toward more spending by more PACs."

The statistics were compiled from all four quarterly reports filed in 1989 by PACs established by corporations, trade associations, businesses, labor unions, professional organizations, ideological groups, etc.

Herrmann said that the PACs selected were those located within the State that have engaged in election-related activity throughout New Jersey. This report does not include political party committees or personal PACs set up by candidates and officeholders to raise and spend money on their behalf.

Herrmann noted, "It may be difficult to determine the identity of some of the PACs listed because current law does not require them to file registration statements. The Commission has called for legislation directing PACs to disclose the type of interests they represent and who is in control of them."

The top PAC contributor for 1989 is the Greater Camden County Committee, which contributed \$747,968 during 1989. In both the years 1985 and 1987, the New Jersey Education Association held the number one spot, making contributions totalling \$269,548 in 1987 and \$166,719 in 1985. Accordingly, contributions from the number one PAC in 1989 have almost tripled over 1987 and are more than four times the amount contributed by the number one PAC in 1985.

Attached are appendices which detail the top twenty PAC contributors for the years 1989, 1987 and 1985. An additional appendix provides a comparison chart of the ranking of the years 1989, 1987 and 1985. A final one contains overall comparative statistics.

Herrmann stated, "the top twenty PACs continue to contribute a large percentage of the total amount given by all PACs in a calendar year." In 1985, the top twenty PACs contributed 60% or \$1,329,935 of the total amount contributed. In 1987, the top twenty contributed 58% or \$2,535,500. The same group, in 1989, contributed 60% or \$4,193,802 of the total.

Herrmann noted further, "the reports of the PACs which formed the basis of this press release are not adjusted to account for transfers between PACs or to other accounts such as a national parent organization." The figures represent the cumulative amount listed on the report submitted for the 4th quarter of 1989.

"These statistics, "Herrmann concluded, "point dramatically to the need for reform. Over the years, ELEC has called for PAC registration, contribution limits, and the disclosure of the employers of contributors. Unrestricted and underdisclosed financial activity by PACs is endangering the democratic process in New Jersey."

APPENDIX II

1989 Top Twenty PAC Contributors

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	Greater Camden County Committee, Inc.	\$ 747,968
2	New Jersey State Laborers' PAC	534,718
3	New Jersey Education Association Political Action Committee	370,774
4	ATLA (American Trial Lawyers Association)	295,265
5	Builders Political Action Committee	288,375
6	Friends of Jersey City, Inc.	215,000
7	Realtors Political Action Committee	212,100
8	Greater Camden Committee, Inc.	184,387
9	(MEDAC)-Medical Action Committee	169,350
10	Operating Engineers Local 825 Political Action and Education Committee	154,182
11	New Jersey Car (Conference of Auto Retailers)	126,760
12	New Jersey Organization for A Better State	116,250
13	New Visions for Cherry Hill	112,130
14	New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee	110,825
15	New Jersey Hospital Association Health Political Action Committee	100,163
16	New Jersey United Auto Workers Political Action Committee	99,936
17	New Jersey CPA Political Action Committee	96,500
18	South Jersey Builders Political Action Committee	90,575
19	Campaign Fund of Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law	89,544
20	Private Enterprise Political Action Committee	79,000

APPENDIX I

1989 Top Twenty Contributors with Rank Comparisons to 1987 and 1985

<u>1985 Rank</u>	<u>1987 Rank</u>	<u>1989 Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
--	--	1	Greater Camden County Committee, Inc.	\$ 747,968
--	--	2	New Jersey State Laborers' PAC	534,718
1	1	3	New Jersey Education Association Political Action Committee	370,774
--	10	4	ATLA (American Trial Lawyers Association)	295,265
2	2	5	Builders Political Action Committee	288,375
--	--	6	Friends of Jersey City, Inc.	215,000
6	5	7	Realtors Political Action Committee	212,100
--	15	8	Greater Camden Committee, Inc.	184,387
8	3	9	(MEDAC)-Medical Action Committee	169,350
15	7	10	Operating Engineers Local 825 Political Action and Education Committee	154,182
7	8	11	New Jersey Car (Conference of Auto Retailers)	126,760
4	9	12	New Jersey Organization for A Better State	116,250
--	--	13	New Visions for Cherry Hill	112,130
5	6	14	New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee	110,825
--	--	15	New Jersey Hospital Association Health Political Action Committee	100,163
11	--	16	New Jersey United Auto Workers Political Action Committee	99,936
12	11	17	New Jersey CPA Political Action Committee	96,500
13	16	18	South Jersey Builders Political Action Committee	90,575
3	4	19	Campaign Fund of Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law	89,544
--	18	20	Private Enterprise Political Action Committee	79,000

APPENDIX III

1987 Top Twenty PAC Contributors

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	New Jersey Education Association Political Action Committee	\$ 269,548
2	Builders Political Action Committee	211,765
3	MEDAC-Medical Action Committee	190,173
4	Campaign Fund of Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law	188,470
5	Realtors Political Action Committee	177,415
6	New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee	144,750
7	Operating Engineers Local 825 Political Action and Education Committee	137,112
8	New Jersey Car (Conference of Auto Retailers)	134,424
9	New Jersey Organization for Better State	127,500
10	(ATLA) American Trial Lawyers Association	119,336
11	New Jersey CPA Political Action Committee	118,525
12	MPAC, Inc. (New Jersey Council of Multi-Housing Industries)	109,350
13	Transportation Trust Fund II	107,500
14	SAPEC-NJ '87 (Savings Association Political Election Committee-New Jersey)	85,475
15	Greater Camden Committee, Inc.	78,931
16	South Jersey Builders Political Action Committee	73,615
17	Midlantic State Bank Political Action Committee	70,375
18	Private Enterprise Political Action Committee	64,000
19	Food Council Committee	63,650
20	Laborers' Union Local 172 Political Action Committee Fund	63,586

APPENDIX IV

1985 Top Twenty PAC Contributors

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	New Jersey Education Association Political Action Committee	\$ 166,719
2	Builders Political Action Committee	125,910
3	Campaign Fund of Lawyers Encouraging Government and Law	106,720
4	New Jersey Organization for A Better State	102,950
5	New Jersey Dental Political Action Committee	97,999
6	Realtors Political Action Committee	92,600
7	New Jersey Car (Conference of Auto Retailers)	84,831
8	MEDAC-Medical Action Committee	73,611
9	SAPEC-NJ '87 (Savings Association Political Election Committee-New Jersey)	71,957
10	First Fidelity Bank Political Action Committee	51,310
11	New Jersey United Auto Workers Political Action Committee	50,505
12	New Jersey CPA Political Action Committee	48,320
13	South Jersey Builders Political Action Committee	45,000
14	New Jersey American Physical Therapists Political Action Committee (formerly PT-PAC)	39,810
15	Operating Engineers Local 825 Political Action and Education Committee	39,552
16	New Jersey Soft Drink Committee	38,050
17	Political Committee for New Jersey	37,600
18	Plumbers & Pipefitters Local #9 Political Action Committee	36,716
19	New Jersey Motor Truck Political Action Committee	34,920
20	Food Council Committee	34,855

APPENDIX V

	1989	1987	1985
Total PAC Contributions	\$ 7.0 million	\$ 4.4 million	\$ 2.2 million
Number of PACs	228	187	113
Top 20 PAC Contributions	\$ 4.2 million	\$ 2.5 million	\$ 1.3 million
Number One PAC Contributions	\$ 748,000	\$ 270,000	\$ 167,000