



NEWS RELEASE

Respond to:
CN-185
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185
(609) 292-8700

CONTACT: **FREDERICK M. HERRMANN, Ph.D.**
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:

March 25, 1997

PRESS ADVISORY

Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), announced today that gubernatorial public matching funds totaling \$926,678.80 were deposited into public funds bank accounts for 1997 gubernatorial primary election candidates as follows:

James E. McGreevey	\$380,908.80
Christine Todd Whitman	<u>545,770.00</u>
	\$926,678.80

Herrmann noted that eligible contributions are matched with two public dollars per private dollar submitted by a candidate and that the first \$69,000 of contributions submitted by a candidate is not matched.

Candidate McGreevey's application for public matching funds, received by the Commission on March 10, 1997, was his second and reported \$192,204.40 in contributions eligible for match. If all contributions on the second submission had been eligible for match, Candidate McGreevey would have received \$384,404.80. Herrmann indicated that Candidate McGreevey has already received public funds in the amount of \$505,050.36, based upon his first submission filed on February 10, 1997. On the two 1997 primary election submissions, Candidate McGreevey has received a total of \$885,959.16.

The public funds deposited today for Candidate Whitman were based upon her first 1997 primary election submission, filed with ELEC on March 10, 1997, which reported \$363,560.00 in contributions

-more-

Located at: 28 W. State Street, 13th Floor, Trenton, New Jersey

eligible for match. If all contributions had been found eligible for match, and after deducting the first \$69,000 which is not matched, the Whitman campaign would have received \$589,120.00.

Herrmann explained that contributions which are found to be ineligible for match for technical reasons may be resubmitted with clarification for match on a later matching fund submission date. The next matching fund submission date is April 7, 1997. Contributions may be declared ineligible for match for a variety of reasons including an incomplete contributor name or address, the need for clarification of the source of a contribution, and the absence of occupation and employer information for a contribution in excess of \$300 received from an individual.

In order to be qualified to receive public matching funds, Herrmann said that Candidates McGreevey and Whitman submitted signed agreements to participate in two gubernatorial primary election debates and documented that a minimum of \$210,000 in contributions of \$2,100 or less was raised and spent for the 1997 primary election.

###