



NEWS RELEASE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:

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PRESS RELEASE

Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), announced today that the Commission received applications for public matching funds from 1997 primary election gubernatorial candidates Robert E. Andrews, James E. McGreevey and Michael Murphy. This submission was the third received for Candidate Andrews, the ninth for Candidate McGreevey, and the fifth for Candidate Murphy.

On the unreviewed submissions, the candidates reported the following net amounts of contributions submitted for match:

Robert E. Andrews	\$203,405.00
James E. McGreevey	\$ 61,725.00
Michael Murphy	\$ 38,340.00

Herrmann explained that the New Jersey Public Financing Program provides that each dollar of a contribution eligible for match is matched with two dollars of public funds after a candidate has raised and spent a minimum of \$210,000 in contributions of \$2,100 or less. The first \$69,000 of contributions submitted by a candidate is not matched. As a condition for receipt of public matching funds, a candidate must also agree to participate in two televised debates. The law limits the amount of public funds that may be given to any one 1997 gubernatorial primary election candidate to \$1.86 million.

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Herrmann noted that Candidate Andrews has received public funds totaling \$1,192,469.16 on his first and second matching fund submissions. Candidate Andrews will be eligible to receive another \$406,810.00 in public matching funds if all contributions on his third submission are found to be eligible for match after Commission review.

Candidate McGreevey has, to date, received a total of \$1,563,469.16 in 1997 primary election public funds on his first through seventh submissions. The McGreevey eighth submission is currently being reviewed by the Commission. Candidate McGreevey will now be eligible to receive another \$123,450.00 in public matching funds if all contributions on his ninth submission are found to be matchable after Commission review.

Candidate Murphy has received \$441,992.00 in matching funds based upon his first through third submissions. His fourth matching fund submission is under review by Commission staff. If all contributions submitted today by Candidate Murphy are found to be eligible for match after Commission review, he will be eligible for \$76,680.00 in public matching funds.

The submissions received today will be reviewed and the public funds amounts the candidates are eligible to receive will be certified to the State Treasurer. The Commission will deposit the public funds in public funds accounts established for the candidates. The use of public funds by gubernatorial candidates is strictly limited by law to expenditures such as the purchase of time on radio and television and payment of the costs of printing and mailing campaign literature.

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