



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:

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PRESS RELEASE

Nedda G. Massar, Director of Public Financing of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), announced today that gubernatorial public matching funds in the amount of \$793,082.00 were deposited into a public funds bank account established for Republican gubernatorial general election candidate Christine Todd Whitman.

Massar 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 Whitman's application for public matching funds, filed with the Commission on August 4, 1997, was her second for the 1997 general election and reported \$447,521.00 of net contributions eligible for match. If all contributions had been found eligible for match, Candidate Whitman would have received \$895,042.00 in public matching funds. Including funds deposited today, Candidate Whitman has received \$2,577,382.00 in 1997 general election matching funds.

Massar explained that contributions which were found to be ineligible for match for technical reasons may be resubmitted with clarification for match by the candidate on a later general election matching fund submission date. Contributions may be declared ineligible for match for a variety of reasons including an incomplete contributor name or address, the need for

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clarification of the source of a contribution, and the absence of occupation and employer information for contribution in excess of \$300 received from an individual.

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

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