## **NEWS RELEASE**



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## **PRESS ADVISORY**

According to 11-day pre-election reports filed by gubernatorial candidates for the 2009 General Election, financial activity has decreased from 2005.

Jeff Brindle, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) said today that "Governor Jon S. Corzine, Republican candidate Christopher J. Christie, and Independent candidate Christopher J. Daggett have raised \$37.1 million and spent \$33.6 million."

"Together," added Brindle, "the candidates have raised 15 percent less and spent 23 percent less than 2005 candidates Corzine and Forrester, who reported raising \$43.8 million and spending \$43.6 million at this time in the contest." The two major candidates in 2005 were self-funded.

"The financial activity reported by the candidates," said Brindle, "follows the same pattern displayed in the 29-day pre-election reports, which also showed a decrease in receipts and expenditures."

Brindle said "the same explanation given at the 29-day time frame applies now; Pay-to-Play and economic conditions have impacted financial activity."

According to the 11-day reports, the Governor has raised \$24.1 million, of which \$22.6 million consists of contributions or loans from the Governor to his own campaign. He has reported spending \$23.6 million.

Republican candidate Christie has reported total receipts of \$11.7 million and expenditures of \$8.8 million while Independent candidate Daggett has receipts totaling \$1.3 million and expenditures of \$1.2 million.

Both Christie and Daggett are participating in the Gubernatorial Public Financing Program while Corzine has opted out of the program.

Christie has received the maximum \$7.3 million in public matching funds, or 62 percent of funds raised whereas Daggett has received \$726,876 in matching funds, or 54 percent of funds raised.

The three candidates have reported \$3.6 million cash-on-hand: Christie with \$2.9 million, Daggett at \$292,495 and Corzine at \$412,410.

Brindle said "the financial activity reported by the candidates does not include monies spent independently by 527 groups nor does it include financial activity occurring after October 20<sup>th</sup>."

He said "in 2005 significant financial activity occurred during the last week of the campaign with both the Governor and candidate Forrester raising and spending considerable amounts of money."

The 11-day reports show that combined the other Independent candidates raised \$44,802 and have spent \$26,305 for the 2009 General Election.

The gubernatorial reports are available on-line today at 10:00 a.m. on ELEC's website at www.elec.state.nj.us.