



# NEWS RELEASE

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FOR RELEASE:  
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Fundraising by county party committees representing both major parties continued to show a drop-off compared to four years ago though both are reporting larger reserves than they did after the first three months of 2006, according to reports filed with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

Both parties disclosed smaller receipts than during the same quarter four years ago. That was last time they had to refill their coffers after both a race for Governor and a State Assembly campaign.

	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Receipts - 2010</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Receipts - 2006</b>	<b>Difference - %</b>
Democratic County Party Committees	\$ 642,147	\$ 1,177,156	-45%
Republican County Party Committees	\$ 366,883	\$ 481,541	-24%
Total – Both Parties	\$ 1,009,030	\$ 1,658,691	-39%

“Combined fundraising by county party committees for the first quarter of this year is down 39 percent since 2006,” said Jeff Brindle, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

“It is clear that State “pay-to-play” restrictions, which are intended to discourage public contractors from making large political contributions, and the economic downturn are continuing to depress fundraising,” he added.

Brindle said another factor is the formation of new political action committees (PACs). “This could be putting a further bite on county party receipts,” he said. ELEC, in a bipartisan recommendation, recently urged the Legislature to end the proliferation of affiliated PACs, which can be used to circumvent contribution limits and “pay-to-play” laws.

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For the first three months of 2010, Democratic county political party committees reported raising more funds while ending the quarter with larger reserves than Republican committees.

	<b>Cash on Hand - January 1</b>	<b>Quarterly Receipts</b>	<b>Quarterly Spending</b>	<b>*Net Worth - March 31</b>
Democratic County Party Committees-	\$1,867,575	\$ 642,147	\$ 822,985	\$1,581,478
Republican County Party Committees-	\$ 247,401	\$ 366,883	\$ 343,810	\$ 970,091

\* Net worth totals include expected repayments of campaign loans made to other committees along with any outstanding debts.

Taken together, Democratic committees raised \$642,147 during the quarter, down 45 percent from the \$1.177 million raised four years ago. Overall Republican fundraising totaled \$366,883 for the quarter, a drop of 24 percent from the \$481,541 raised for the first quarter 2006.

Expenditures also were down for both parties. Democrats together shelled out \$822,985 for the quarter, a decline of 43 percent from the \$1.449 million spent four years ago. Spending totals can be higher than fundraising because committees also tap funds leftover from previous elections or borrow temporary loans. Also in the first quarter, Republicans spent \$343,810 – a drop of 33 percent from the \$516,056 expended in 2006.

While fundraising is down versus four years ago, both parties reported higher net worth than in 2006. The increase was most significant for Democrats.

	<b>*Net Worth - March 31 2010</b>	<b>*Net Worth - March 31 2006</b>	<b>Change - Percentage</b>
Democratic County Party Committees	\$ 1,581,478	\$ 899,384	76 %
Republican County Party Committees	\$ 970,091	\$ 937,136	4 %

\* Net worth totals include expected repayments of campaign loans made to other committees along with any outstanding debts.

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Below is a list of first quarter receipts and expenditures for each county political party committee:

<b>2010 COUNTY POLITICAL PARTY COMMITTEES - RANKED BY FIRST QUARTER RECEIPTS</b>		
<b>DEMOCRATS</b>	<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>
BERGEN	\$ 155,203	\$ 134,708
CAMDEN	\$ 130,509	\$ 134,393
PASSAIC	\$ 72,800	\$ 137,371
MIDDLESEX	\$ 65,618	\$ 97,942
UNION	\$ 48,041	\$ 73,058
SOMERSET	\$ 43,879	\$ 13,636
HUDSON	\$ 38,456	\$ 23,713
MERCER	\$ 20,164	\$ 10,989
ESSEX	\$ 18,123	\$ 63,542
MONMOUTH	\$ 17,867	\$ 21,879
GLOUCESTER	\$ 14,628	\$ 58,598
ATLANTIC	\$ 7,201	\$ 8,680
CUMBERLAND	\$ 5,500	\$ 11,530
HUNTERDON	\$ 2,294	\$ 2,363
SUSSEX	\$ 1,360	\$ 2,269
OCEAN	\$ 504	\$ 11,315
BURLINGTON	\$ -	\$ 14,575
CAPE MAY	\$ -	\$ 2,425
MORRIS	NA	NA
SALEM	NA	NA
WARREN	NA	NA
<b>DEMOCRATS - TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 642,147</b>	<b>\$ 822,985</b>
<b>REPUBLICANS</b>		
BURLINGTON	\$ 80,392	\$ 72,603
BERGEN	\$ 57,103	\$ 57,964
MORRIS	\$ 42,929	\$ 19,824
CUMBERLAND	\$ 26,574	\$ 21,321
UNION	\$ 23,925	\$ 22,138
SOMERSET	\$ 21,463	\$ 27,522
MERCER	\$ 20,009	\$ 19,481
MIDDLESEX	\$ 17,050	\$ 4,941
OCEAN	\$ 13,989	\$ 15,786
ATLANTIC	\$ 12,533	\$ 8,948
SUSSEX	\$ 11,809	\$ 10,941
CAMDEN	\$ 9,035	\$ 9,893
SALEM	\$ 7,660	\$ 9,494
CAPE MAY	\$ 7,393	\$ 14,790
GLOUCESTER	\$ 6,833	\$ 6,482
WARREN	\$ 6,724	\$ 5,473
MONMOUTH	\$ 837	\$ 10,169
PASSAIC	\$ 625	\$ 5,172
ESSEX	\$ -	\$ 867
HUDSON	NA	NA
HUNTERDON	NA	NA
<b>REPUBLICANS - TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 366,883</b>	<b>\$ 343,810</b>
<b>TOTALS - BOTH PARTIES</b>	<b>\$1,009,030</b>	<b>\$ 1,166,795</b>

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Five Democratic county party committees ended the quarter with a net worth of more than \$100,000. Passaic County Democratic Committee reported the highest total among Democrats - \$646,874. Four Democratic county party committees ended the quarter in the red.

<b>DEMOCRATS</b>	<b>* Net Worth</b>
PASSAIC	\$ 646,874
CAMDEN	\$ 346,699
BERGEN	\$ 344,461
UNION	\$ 271,208
OCEAN	\$ 125,456
GLOUCESTER	\$ 74,386
SOMERSET	\$ 41,802
HUNTERDON	\$ 23,589
CAPE MAY	\$ 22,980
MIDDLESEX	\$ 14,035
ATLANTIC	\$ 10,445
SUSSEX	\$ 3,623
ESSEX	\$ 1,882
CUMBERLAND	\$ 1,314
MERCER	\$ (6,952)
MONMOUTH	\$ (76,604)
BURLINGTON	\$ (95,802)
HUDSON	\$ (167,918)
MORRIS	NA
SALEM	NA
WARREN	NA
<b>DEMOCRATS - TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,581,478</b>

\* Net worth totals include expected repayments of campaign loans made to other committees along with any outstanding debts.

Among the Republican county party committees, only the Burlington County Republican Committee finished the quarter with a net worth above \$100,000. It topped all 37 committees that have reported so far with a net worth of \$732,349. No Republican committees reported a net worth below zero.

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<b>REPUBLICANS</b>	<b>*Net Worth</b>
BURLINGTON	\$ 732,349
MORRIS	\$ 64,836
MERCER	\$ 24,470
CAMDEN	\$ 23,166
MONMOUTH	\$ 19,030
SOMERSET	\$ 18,728
SALEM	\$ 13,288
BERGEN	\$ 11,432
UNION	\$ 11,361
MIDDLESEX	\$ 10,572
CAPE MAY	\$ 10,306
PASSAIC	\$ 9,428
CUMBERLAND	\$ 6,330
ATLANTIC	\$ 4,182
GLOUCESTER	\$ 2,849
WARREN	\$ 2,768
OCEAN	\$ 2,452
SUSSEX	\$ 2,063
ESSEX	\$ 481
HUDSON	NA
HUNTERDON	NA
<b>REPUBLICANS- TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 970,091</b>

\* Net worth totals include expected repayments of campaign loans made to other committees along with any outstanding debts.

The analysis contained in this press release was based on reports filed by 5 p.m. on April 29, 2010. The numbers are based on reports that have yet to be verified by ELEC and should be considered preliminary. Interested parties are encouraged to review individual reports on ELEC's website ([www.elec.state.nj.us](http://www.elec.state.nj.us)). Reports from 2006 include figures from all 42 county party committees.

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