



NEWS RELEASE

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P.O. Box 185
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0185

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CONTACT: JEFF BRINDLE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Big Six Committees Ended 2021 Elections With Modest But Respectable Coffers

After shelling out \$17 million on the 2021 elections, the so-called “Big Six” fund-raising committees ended the first quarter of 2022 with a combined \$1.3 million in cash reserves, according to quarterly reports filed with the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

**TABLE 1
CAMPAIGN FINANCE ACTIVITY BY “BIG SIX”
AT END OF 1ST QUARTER BY YEAR**

YEAR	RAISED	SPENT	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH	STATE ELECTIONS
2009	\$1,741,580	\$ 754,923	\$2,844,159	\$2,649,177	Governor and Assembly
2010	\$ 885,123	\$ 694,309	\$1,474,272	\$1,290,437	
2011	\$1,738,239	\$ 777,847	\$2,500,926	\$2,191,738	Senate and Assembly
2012	\$1,293,649	\$1,617,192	\$ 704,601	\$ 503,541	
2013	\$1,464,033	\$ 583,756	\$2,564,802	\$2,421,411	Governor and Both Houses
2014	\$ 600,526	\$ 694,221	\$ 750,904	\$ 443,050	
2015	\$ 973,494	\$1,017,051	\$1,623,550	\$ 994,137	Assembly
2016	\$ 673,048	\$ 555,175	\$1,097,091	\$ 415,590	
2017	\$1,076,186	\$ 544,948	\$2,198,343	\$2,064,647	Governor and Both Houses
2018	\$1,902,503	\$1,832,307	\$ 814,754	\$ 730,251	
2019	\$ 981,798	\$ 634,650	\$1,868,717	\$1,728,640	Assembly
2020	\$ 819,384	\$ 679,768	\$ 799,682	\$ 719,825	
2021	\$2,277,202	\$1,338,955	\$2,309,631	\$2,245,225	Governor and Both Houses
2022	\$1,380,180	\$1,084,589	\$1,314,627	\$1,270,221	

“The two state party committees and four legislative leadership committees are regrouping after last year’s election and their current cash reserves are hardly eye-popping,” said Jeff Brindle, ELEC’s Executive Director. “However, among the seven years without state elections since 2010, the cash-on-hand total is the second largest for a first quarter since the nearly \$1.5 million total that same year.”

Brindle further noted that the \$1.4 million raised during the quarter was the second largest during a year without state elections, topped only by the \$1.9 million raised in 2018.

One reason fund-raising was considerably higher in 2018 was because the Democratic State Committee funded Governor Phil Murphy’s first inaugural. The state party raised and spent \$990,000 for the event, which occurred before the COVID-19 pandemic put a damper on such large celebrations.

While Murphy won reelection last November, inaugural activities in 2022 were more subdued, presumably due to the virus threat, and also less costly. The Democratic State Committee raised just \$127,943 for them.

**TABLE 2
FUNDRAISING BY “BIG SIX” COMMITTEES
JANUARY 1 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2022**

REPUBLICANS	RAISED	SPENT**	CASH-ON-HAND	NET WORTH*
New Jersey Republican State Committee	\$ 108,872	\$ 7,916	\$ 155,372	\$ 155,372
Senate Republican Majority	\$ 113,997	\$ 49,370	\$ 73,702	\$ 73,702
Assembly Republican Victory	\$ 93,300	\$ 32,687	\$ 118,875	\$ 118,875
Sub-Total- Republicans	\$ 316,169	\$ 89,973	\$ 347,949	\$ 347,949
Versus First Quarter 2018 (Dollars)	\$ 119,004	\$ (116,936)	\$ 97,400	\$ 97,400
Versus First Quarter 2018 (Percent)	60%	-57%	39%	39%
DEMOCRATS				
New Jersey Democratic State Committee	\$ 627,265	\$ 811,394	\$ 305,125	\$ 291,157
Senate Democratic Majority	\$ 286,713	\$ 30,856	\$ 505,361	\$ 505,361
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$ 150,033	\$ 152,366	\$ 156,192	\$ 125,754
Sub-Total- Democrats	\$1,064,011	\$ 994,616	\$ 966,678	\$ 922,272
Versus First Quarter 2018 (Dollars)	\$ (641,327)	\$ (630,782)	\$ 402,473	\$ 442,570
Versus First Quarter 2018 (Percent)	-38%	-39%	71%	92%
Total- Both Parties				
Total- Both Parties	\$1,380,180	\$1,084,589	\$1,314,627	\$1,270,221
Versus First Quarter 2018 (Dollars)	\$ (522,323)	\$(747,718)	\$ 499,873	\$ 539,970
Versus First Quarter 2018 (Percent)	-27%	-41%	61%	74%

*Net worth is cash-on-hand adjusted for debts owed to or by the committee.

**Some spending totals exceed fundraising totals because the committee dipped into reserves or incurred debt.

Brindle said while 2022 fund-raising so far has been respectable for a year without state elections, the need continues for the legislature and governor to enact ELEC-recommended changes that would strengthen party committees in order to provide balance between them and independent, dark money groups.

State parties and legislative leadership committees are required to report their financial activity to the Commission on a quarterly basis. The reports are available on ELEC’s website at www.elec.state.nj.us. ELEC also can be accessed on Facebook (www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/elecnj).