



# NEWS RELEASE

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

(609) 292-8700 or Toll Free Within NJ 1-888-313-ELEC (3532)

CONTACT: JEFF BRINDLE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:  
October 31, 2017

## CANDIDATES HAVE SPENT \$13.3 MILLION ON GENERAL ELECTION WHILE INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES HAVE SPENT \$10.6 MILLION

As a late wave of independent spending poured into New Jersey's campaign for governor, total spending has reached \$23.8 million on the general election based on reports available 11 days prior to the November 7 election, according to the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC).

Democrat Phil Murphy has amassed \$13.3 million and spent \$9.8 million. He has \$3.5 million in reserve.

Republican Kimberly Guadagno has raised \$3.9 million and spent \$3.3 million. She reports a reserve of \$632,169. All candidates combined have spent \$13.3 million.

**Table 1**  
**General Election Campaign Finance**  
**Activity Through October 24, 2017**

| CANDIDATE                          | PARTY        | RAISED              | SPENT                | CASH-ON-HAND        |
|------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Murphy, Phil                       | Democrat     | \$13,285,295        | \$ 9,827,571         | \$ 3,457,725        |
| Guadagno, Kimberly                 | Republican   | \$ 3,917,248        | \$ 3,285,079         | \$ 632,169          |
| Kaper-Dale, Seth                   | Green        | \$ 96,316           | \$ 104,381           | \$ (866)            |
| Genovese, Gina                     | I            | \$ 52,046           | \$ 45,269            | \$ 5,189            |
| Rohrman, Peter                     | Libertarian  | \$ 7,765            | \$ 6,142             | \$ 1,623            |
| Riccardi, Matthew                  | Constitution | NA                  | NA                   | NA                  |
| Ross, Vincent*                     | I            | NA                  | NA                   | NA                  |
| <b>TOTAL - CANDIDATES</b>          |              | <b>\$17,358,670</b> | <b>\$ 13,268,442</b> | <b>\$ 4,095,840</b> |
| Independent Committees – General** |              | <b>\$ 7,270,104</b> | <b>\$ 10,567,242</b> |                     |
| <b>TOTAL – GENERAL</b>             |              | <b>\$24,628,774</b> | <b>\$ 23,835,684</b> |                     |
| Primary/Pre-Primary                |              |                     |                      |                     |
| Candidates                         |              | \$34,611,440        | \$ 34,024,577        |                     |
| Independent Committees             |              | \$13,926,224        | \$ 9,123,371         |                     |
| <b>TOTAL- PRIMARY/PRE-PRIMARY</b>  |              | <b>\$48,537,664</b> | <b>\$ 43,147,948</b> |                     |
| <b>TOTAL- ENTIRE ELECTION</b>      |              | <b>\$73,166,438</b> | <b>\$ 66,983,632</b> |                     |

\*Does not expect to spend more than \$5,100

\*\*Not all independent contributions are disclosed.

The campaign for governor in New Jersey has drawn national attention because it is one of only two in the nation this year. Virginia also is electing a new governor this fall.

--more--

“As a result, the race has attracted significant spending from Washington, DC-area groups, including both the Democratic and Republican Governors Associations and national unions,” said Jeff Brindle, ELEC’s Executive Director.

“In the past three weeks alone, reported spending by independent groups soared from \$2.6 million to \$10.6 million,” he said.

“The heavy bombardment by independent groups has continued a trend that began on a large scale in New Jersey during the 2009 gubernatorial election. This type of spending is now a fixture in both gubernatorial and legislative campaigns,” he said.

Brindle said the growing influence of independent groups is a major reason for the legislature, perhaps after the election, to approve pending legislation recommended by ELEC that would require more disclosure by these groups.

The largest independent spender so far has been the Committee to Build the Economy, which has spent \$6.1 million, followed by the two national governors associations.

**Table 2**  
**Spending by Independent Committees**  
**Related to Gubernatorial Campaign**  
**(Ranked by Spending)**

| <b>SUPPORTS</b>    | <b>INDEPENDENT COMMITTEES</b>                     | <b>SPENT</b>        |
|--------------------|---|---------------------|
|                    | <b>General</b>                                    |                     |
| Murphy, Phil       | Committee to Build the Economy                    | \$ 6,094,464        |
| Murphy, Phil       | Our New Jersey (Democratic Governors Association) | \$ 2,235,211        |
| Guadagno, Kimberly | Republican Governors Association                  | \$ 1,996,013        |
| Murphy, Phil       | New Start NJ (1)                                  | \$ 125,842          |
| Murphy, Phil       | Planned Parenthood Action Fund of New Jersey      | \$ 114,057          |
| Murphy, Phil       | New Jersey Working Families                       | \$ 1,655            |
|                    | <b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>                              | <b>\$10,567,242</b> |
|                    | <b>TOTAL- PRIMARY/PRE-PRIMARY</b>                 | <b>\$ 9,123,371</b> |
|                    | <b>TOTAL – ENTIRE ELECTION</b>                    | <b>\$19,690,613</b> |

(1) Since July 13 report.

While the two governors associations already have spent \$4.2 million on independent spending, their full involvement is larger. The Democratic Governors Association has made several direct contributions to New Jersey candidates and parties, including Murphy, while the Republican Governors Association has made a donation to Guadagno.

**Table 3**  
**Spending by Democratic and Republican Governors**  
**Associations Related to 2017 New Jersey Election**

|   | <b>Democratic<br/>Governors<br/>Association</b> | <b>Republican<br/>Governors<br/>Association</b> | <b>Both<br/>Associations</b> |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| Independent Spending                                |   |   |                              |
| Governors Association Itself                        | \$1,235,211                                     | \$1,996,013                                     |                              |
| DGA To Committee to Build the Economy               | \$1,000,000                                     |   |                              |
| <b>Total Independent Spending</b>                   | <b>\$2,235,211</b>                              | <b>\$1,996,013</b>                              | <b>\$4,231,224</b>           |
| Contributions to Candidates or Parties              |   |   |                              |
| County Parties                                      | \$ 666,000                                      |   |                              |
| Democratic State Committee                          | \$ 25,000                                       |   |                              |
| Local Parties                                       | \$ 15,600                                       |   |                              |
| Gubernatorial Candidates                            | \$ 4,300  | \$ 4,300  |                              |
| <b>Total Contributions to Candidates or Parties</b> | <b>\$ 710,900</b>                               | <b>\$ 4,300</b>                                 |                              |
| <b>All Spending</b>                                 | <b>\$2,946,111</b>                              | <b>\$2,000,313</b>                              | <b>\$4,946,424</b>           |

Information in this press release was based on reports filed by noon on October 30, 2017. Reports filed by gubernatorial candidates are available online on ELEC's website at [www.elec.state.nj.us](http://www.elec.state.nj.us). ELEC also can be accessed on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw](http://www.facebook.com/NJElectionLaw)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/elecnj](http://www.twitter.com/elecnj)).

###