

Office of Public Relations  
Galloway Twp., NJ 08240

## **Results of Hughes Center at Stockton/ Press of Atlantic City Poll**

*President, U.S. Senate and Congressional Districts 1, 2 and 3  
Yield Some Surprises*

### **For Immediate Release**

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**Galloway Twp., NJ** – Combined results of likely voters in the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional Districts (CD) are clear: Obama is up nine percentage points over McCain and Lautenberg is up 12 percentage points over Zimmer in the Senate race. In district polling incumbent Congressmen Frank LoBiondo (2<sup>nd</sup> District) and Rob Andrews (1<sup>st</sup> District) hold huge leads over their opponents; but in the 3<sup>rd</sup> District Sen. John Adler (D) and Republican Chris Myers are in a dead heat with more than a fifth of the likely voters still undecided.

The Hughes Center at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey/Press of Atlantic City poll was conducted from Sept. 18-20 by pollster Zogby International. More than 1,200 likely voters were interviewed for the combined results with a margin of error of  $\pm 2.9\%$ . Individual Congressional District numbers were of 400 or more likely voters with a margin of error of  $\pm 2.9\%$ .

“When the three districts are looked at individually on the President and U.S. Senate races, the picture changes,” said Sharon Schulman, Director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy. “In the heavily Democratic 1<sup>st</sup> CD Obama leads McCain by 24 percentage points and Democratic Sen. Frank Lautenberg leads his Republican challenger Dick Zimmer by 26 points. In the more balanced 2<sup>nd</sup> CD McCain and Obama are tied, but Lautenberg still holds an 11 point lead. In the heavily Republican 3<sup>rd</sup> CD the numbers reflect a statistical tie for Obama and McCain and a smaller 5% lead for Lautenberg.”

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Lautenberg's support is substantially higher among 18-49 year-olds and is even among seniors. He also holds a large lead among African-Americans and Hispanics. Zimmer gets much more of his support from men (40%) than women (28%).

"Throughout southern NJ likely voters were clear as to what they see as the two top issues facing the country today. The first issue is overwhelmingly jobs and the economy. A distant second is the war in Iraq, peace, and foreign policy," Schulman added.

One of the questions asked of voters was who they thought is the most influential political leader in southern NJ. In both the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> CD's the incumbent Congressman is perceived as the most influential person followed by Gov. Jon Corzine. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> CD, where Congressman Jim Saxton is retiring, Corzine is considered most influential followed closely by Saxton.

Interesting trends were found in each of the three districts. In the 1<sup>st</sup> CD race Republican-likely voters were more heavily in favor of Democratic Congressman Rob Andrews than of their own candidate Dale Glading. Andrews dropping out of the race to run for Senate in the June primary and then re-entering the Congressional race after losing had very little effect on the voters.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> CD's, Republicans LoBiondo and Myers get higher support from men than women. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> CD men heavily favor McCain over Obama but in the 1<sup>st</sup> CD it reverses. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> CD the gender split is almost tied.

Schulman noted that additional polling would be conducted later in the fall.

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