



NEWS RELEASE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:

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PRESS RELEASE

Frederick M. Herrmann, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), announced today that gubernatorial public matching funds totaling \$292,850.00 were deposited into public funds bank accounts for 1997 gubernatorial primary election candidates as follows:

James E. McGreevey	\$ 152,200.00
Michael Murphy	\$ 140,650.00

Herrmann noted that eligible contributions are matched with two public dollars per private dollar submitted by a candidate and that the first \$69,000 of contributions submitted by a candidate is not matched.

Candidate McGreevey's application for public matching funds, received by the Commission on May 5, 1997, was his eighth. The submission included \$81,700.00 in contributions eligible for match. If all contributions on his eighth submission had been eligible for match, Candidate McGreevey would have received \$163,400.00. Herrmann explained that contributions which were found to be ineligible for match for technical reasons may be resubmitted with clarification for match by the candidate on a later matching fund submission date. Contributions may be declared ineligible for match for a variety of reasons including an incomplete contributor name or address, the need for clarification of the source of a contribution,

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and the absence of occupation and employer information for a contribution in excess of \$300 received from an individual.

Herrmann indicated that Candidate McGreevey has already received public funds in the amount of \$1,563,469.16, based upon his first seven submissions, and has now received a total of \$1,715,669.16 in 1997 primary election public matching funds. The maximum in public matching funds which may be received by a 1997 primary election gubernatorial candidate is \$1.86 million.

Candidate Murphy's application for public matching funds, received by the Commission on May 5, 1997, was his fourth. The fourth submission contained \$84,825.00 in contributions submitted for match, including items resubmitted from prior public matching fund submissions. If all contributions on the fourth submission had been eligible for match, Candidate Murphy would have received \$169,650.00. Candidate Murphy has already received public funds in the amount of \$441,992.00, based upon his first three submissions, and has now received a total of \$582,642.00 in 1997 primary election public matching funds.

In order to be qualified to receive public matching funds, Herrmann said that Candidates McGreevey and Whitman submitted signed agreements to participate in two gubernatorial primary election debates and documented that a minimum of \$210,000 in contributions of \$2,100 or less was raised and spent for the 1997 primary election.

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