



# NEWS RELEASE

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## PRESS ADVISORY

As of the fourth and final quarter of 2009, the State parties and Legislative Leadership Committees have raised \$12.4 million and spent \$12.9 million, according to Jeff Brindle, Executive Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission.

Fundraising reports filed January 15 indicate that financial activity by the so-called “big six” committees has declined dramatically from four years ago, the last time there were campaigns for both the Governor’s Office and the General Assembly.

Gross receipts reported by the “big six” were down 36 percent compared to similar reports for 2005. Spending showed a 34 percent decline from four years ago.

In 2005, fundraising totaled \$19.3 million while spending amounted to \$19.7 million. Total spending can exceed total receipts because committees sometimes tap funds carried over from earlier years, or temporarily take on debt.

Total “big six” fundraising last year fell to \$12.4 million- a reduction of 36 percent from 2005, and 70 percent from 2001. Fundraising by the “big six” peaked in 2001 when the six committees collectively raised \$42 million and spent \$46 million.

Brindle said two key factors have driven this dramatic decline. “Pay-to-Play laws have led to a sharp reduction in contractor cash to these committees,” he said. “The recession also has made it tougher for campaigns.”

The two State party committees and four Legislative Leadership Committees have reported the following financial activity for 2009.

	<b>RAISED</b>	<b>SPENT</b>
Republican State Committee	\$1.7 Million	\$1.5 Million
Senate Republican Majority	\$528,839	\$343,243
Assembly Republican Victory	\$1 Million	\$1.2 Million
Democratic State Committee	\$6.1 Million	\$6.1 Million
Senate Democratic Majority	\$731,358	\$931,887
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$2.3 Million	\$2.8 Million

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The following chart indicates the change in financial activity among the big six committees between 2005 and 2009.

**RAISED**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Republican State Committee	\$2.3 Million	\$1.7 Million	-27
Senate Republican Majority	\$716,937	\$528,839	-26
Assembly Republican Victory	\$2.3 Million	\$1 Million	-54
<b>Subtotal (GOP)</b>	<b>\$5.3 Million</b>	<b>\$3.2 Million</b>	<b>-39</b>
Democratic State Committee	\$6.1 Million	\$6.1 Million	0
Senate Democratic Majority	\$1.4 Million	\$731,358	-47
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$6.5 Million	\$2.3 Million	-65
<b>Subtotal (Dem)</b>	<b>\$14 Million</b>	<b>\$9.1 Million</b>	<b>-35</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19.3 Million</b>	<b>\$12.4 Million</b>	<b>-36</b>

**SPENT**

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Republican State Committee	\$2.2 Million	\$1.5 Million	-32
Senate Republican Majority	\$644,656	\$343,243	-47
Assembly Republican Victory	\$2.5 Million	\$1.2 Million	-51
<b>Subtotal (GOP)</b>	<b>\$5.3 Million</b>	<b>\$3.1 Million</b>	<b>-43</b>
Democratic State Committee	\$6.5 Million	\$6.1 Million	-7
Senate Democratic Majority	\$1 Million	\$931,887	-8
Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee	\$6.8 Million	\$2.8 Million	-58
<b>Subtotal (Dem)</b>	<b>\$14.4 Million</b>	<b>\$9.9 Million</b>	<b>-31</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$19.7 Million</b>	<b>\$12.9 Million</b>	<b>-34</b>

Brindle added that the State Committees and Legislative Leadership Committees are required to report their financial activity to the Commission on a quarterly basis.

“For calendar year 2009,” said Brindle, “the three Republican committees reported \$794,513 still remaining, while the three Democratic committees reported cash-on-hand amounting to \$502,945.”

The reports are available on ELEC’s website at [www.elec.state.nj.us](http://www.elec.state.nj.us).