CONTACT: JEFF BRINDLE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FOR RELEASE:
July 20, 2021

ELEC Selects Sponsors for 2021
Gubernatorial General Election Debates

The New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC) today selected partnerships led by NJ Performing Arts Center and Public Media NJ Inc. (NJ PBS) to each host a gubernatorial general election debate this fall.

The Commission also picked NJ Globe and partners to sponsor the lieutenant gubernatorial debate.

The gubernatorial debates will feature Democratic Governor Phil Murphy, who is running for reelection, and Republican nominee Jack Ciattarelli. Both candidates are participants in a long-standing state program that provides public matching funds to candidates who limit their spending and agree to participate in two debates.

Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver is running for reelection along with Murphy. Ciattarelli has not yet named a running mate.

Debates must be held between September 21 and October 22. Final dates and times will be disclosed after debate sponsors confer with the candidates.

The first gubernatorial debate will be held at NJ Performing Arts Center in Newark. Its partners include WABC-TV, WPVI-TV, 6-ABC Philadelphia, Twitter, Univision, WBGO-FM, NJ Advance Media (www.nj.com), and Rutgers Eagleton Institute of Politics and Rutgers School of Public Affairs and Administration at Rutgers University.

The second gubernatorial debate will be held at Rowan University in Glassboro and sponsored by Public Media NJ, Inc. (NJ PBS), NJ Spotlight News, Rowan Institute for Public Policy and Citizenship at Rowan University, New York Public Radio, WNYC & The Gothamist.

The lieutenant governor's debate will be hosted at Rider University in Lawrenceville by New Jersey Globe, News 12 New Jersey, Rebovich Institute of Politics at Rider University, and Project Ready.

The three winners were chosen from five applicants.

###