



# 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 \$1,502,080.00 were deposited into public funds bank accounts for 1997 gubernatorial primary election candidates as follows:

James E. McGreevey	\$ 187,850.00
Christine Todd Whitman	1,314,230.00

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 March 24, 1997, was his third. The submission included \$114,425.00 in contributions eligible for match. If all contributions on the third submission had been eligible for match, Candidate McGreevey would have received \$228,850.00. 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. The next matching fund submission date is April 14, 1997. Contributions may be declared ineligible for match for a variety of reasons including an incomplete contributor name or address,

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the need for clarification of the source of a contribution, 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 \$885,959.16, based upon his first and second submissions, and has now received a total of \$1,073,809.16 in 1997 primary election public matching funds.

The public funds deposited today for Candidate Whitman were based upon her second 1997 primary election submission, filed with ELEC on March 24, 1997, which reported \$931,800.00 in contributions eligible for match. Herrmann noted that the \$1,314,230.00 received by the Whitman campaign today was the amount necessary to reach the \$1.86 million maximum 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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