



# NEWS RELEASE

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## PRESS RELEASE

Jeffrey M. Brindle, Deputy Director of the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission (ELEC), announced today that gubernatorial public matching funds totaling \$1,011,152.4 were deposited into public funds bank accounts for 1997 gubernatorial general election candidates as follows:

James E. McGreevey	\$ 544,831.00
Christine Todd Whitman	466,321.40

Brindle 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 September 2, 1997, was his third. The submission reported \$297,840.50 in contributions eligible for match. If all contributions on the third submission had been eligible for match, Candidate McGreevey would have received \$595,681.00. Brindle 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.

Brindle indicated that Candidate McGreevey has already received public funds in the amount of \$1,237,804.00, based upon his first and second submissions, and has now received a total of \$1,782,635.00 in 1997 general election public matching funds. The maximum in public matching funds which may be received by a 1997 general election gubernatorial candidate is \$4.6 million.

The \$466,321.40 in public funds deposited today for Candidate Whitman were based upon her fourth 1997 general election submission, which was filed with ELEC on September 2, 1997, and reported \$285,005.70 in contributions eligible for match. If all contributions had been found eligible for match, the Whitman campaign would have received \$570,011.40. Brindle noted that Candidate Whitman has already received public funds in the amount of \$3,124,105.74, based upon her first, second, and third submissions, and has now received a total of \$3,590,427.14 in 1997 general election public matching funds.

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

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