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Republicans John Amodeo and Chris Brown lead their Democratic challengers for Assembly in the Nov. 5 elections.

Posted by Anthony Bellano (Editor) , October 22, 2013 at 03:08 PM

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Democratic State Sen. Jim Whelan

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State Sen. Jim Whelan holds a 21-point lead over his Republican challenger and Atlantic County Sheriff Frank X. Balles in the Second Legislative District race, according to a poll released on Tuesday by the Stockton Polling Institute.

Whelan leads Balles among likely voters, 55-34, with 11 percent undecided. This represents a nine-point increase from the Sept. 11 poll, which showed Whelan holding a 51-39 lead.

Last week, reports surfaced that Balles spoke before the New Jersey Second Amendment Society on Oct. 7, and echoed a constituent's call to ["Go Get Your Gun,"](#) when he told them to close the door if they saw Whelan coming.

The State Democratic Committee then called for Balles [to drop out of the race and resign as sheriff](#) due to his comments.

That report surfaced on Oct. 17. This poll was conducted 626 likely voters from Oct. 17-20.

With about two weeks to go before the Nov. 5 elections, incumbent Republican John Amodeo leads the way with 23 percent of the vote. The race is tight, as incumbent Republican Chris Brown holds 22 percent of the vote, followed by Democratic challengers Vincent Mazzeo (21 percent) and Nick Russo (19 percent). A large portion remain uncertain, as 15 percent responded as "undecided."

Gov. Chris Christie holds a 59-29 edge over Democratic challenger Barbara Buono in the latest poll. In the Sept. 11 poll, he led 56-34.

The poll's margin of error is plus or minus 3.9 percentage points.

Live interviewers calling from the Stockton College campus called both landlines and cell phones.

[The Stockton Polling Institute is part of the Hughes Center for Public Policy at the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.](#)



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Terry

Good!!! My son in law is a deputy for the Atlantic County Sheriff's Department and he tells me how Balles is the most cocky and obnoxious person. He won't even sat hello to his own officers in the office. He knows how to run a sheriff's office, but he will not be good for AC with his pompous personality.

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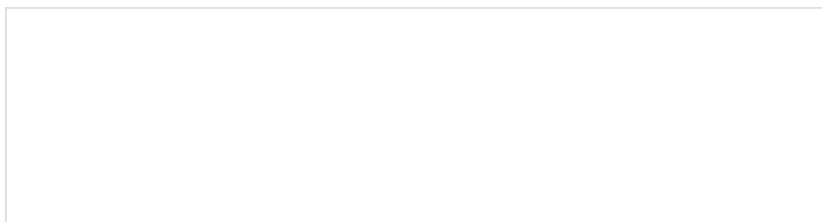


Richard Wilson October 23, 2013 at 07:13 AM

Best wishes to Jim Whelan, clearly the best and most competent candidate.

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