



## WINNERS and LOSERS: Week of Marriage Equality

By PolitickerNJ Staff | October 25th, 2013 - 8:38am

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WINNERS

**Steven Goldstein** and **Troy Stevenson**

The founder and executive director of Garden State Equality and his successor rejoiced this week with the formal be

The state senators from Union and Bergen respectively could take special pride in lending their presence to the wedding lawmakers who led the case for same-sex marriage in the Senate. Gusciora was prime sponsor of A-1 in the Assembly.

### **Larry Lustberg**

The attorney who won the same-sex marriage case for Garden State Equality argued his case from the standpoint of

### **Tim Eustace**

The Bergen County Democratic Assemblyman from the 38th District wed his longtime partner Thursday night. Eustace the State Legislature after Assemblyman Reed Gusciora (D-15).

### **Vincent Prieto and Lou Greenwald**

The assemblyman from the 32nd District and assemblyman from the 6th district issued a letter signed by 41 Democratic positions in Assembly leadership. Barring a breaching of the Democrats' legislative map on Nov. 5th, Prieto will be held onto his position as Assembly majority leader.

### **Steve Sweeney**

State Senate Minority Leader Tom Kean (R-21) has positioned a willing candidate against the Democratic Senate pre Gov. Chris Christie appeared this week for the first time in LD 3 and bear-hugged Sweeney, not his Republican challenger.

### **John Graham**

The Somerset County Democratic Committee paid homage to its special guest this week: "The Mayor of New Jersey, Christodolou: Democratic fundraiser.

### **LOSERS**

#### **Chris Christie**

He's romping in statewide polls, but same-sex marriage occurring on his watch will hurt him with movement conservative that post-Obama 2012 love-fest he wasn't going to corral those voters anyway, but this makes it even easier to mobilize pragmatist.

#### **Frank Balles**

A Stockton Poll this week showed the likable Republican Sheriff from Atlantic County with no traction in his fight against Atlantic City. Despite Christie leading Barbara Buono by 30 points at the top of the ticket, Whelan has a 21-point edge.

#### **Jose Munoz**

A spokesman from the Hudson County Democratic Organization (HCDO) says the organization is focused on this election opposition, by the way), but the Freeholder is convinced he's on the organization's chopping block following revelation

## Nikki Trunk

The GOP candidate for state Senate in LD 3 couldn't even get the back of a plainclothes state trooper behind a rope l Republican Gov. Christie with Trunk's Democratic opponent, state Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-3).

## NJ Voters

The explosion of independent expenditures in the years following the Supreme Court's Citizens United decision has r obnoxious dumb advertising on steroids that has little to do with the people running for office and less to do with the p

## Clean Elections

Remember that pilot program in the 14th and 37th districts back in 2007? Remember when candidates went from vote more), and were required to participate in ten debates around the district and if an outside independent expenditure tr that candidate received rescue funds? Maybe you don't, and if so that's a shame – because that was great.

## Barbara Buono

Yes, we also see Christie at the top of this list, but his appearance here has everything to do with 2016. Buono contin the state's paper of record, the Star-Ledger, from endorsing Christie for governor.

## Cory Booker

This snuck up on people and showed an underbelly of social media vulnerability with the virtual senator-elect. Booker lagging behind – of all people - Stuart Smalley, the guy who once intoned, "I'm good enough, I'm smart enough, and c page has a little less than 200,000 "likes." It's not a bad following if you put it up against New York's Democratic Sens and Chuck Schumer (30,424). But it ranks significantly behind the Facebook account of Minnesota's Democratic sena Franken.

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