Christie, Van Drew Maintain Large 1st District Leads; Assembly Race Remains T05

Maryjane.Briant@stockton.edu
(609) 652-4593

Galloway Township, NJ – Incumbent Democratic Sen. Jeff Van Drew leads his Republican challenger Susan Adelizzi-Schmidt by 29 percentage points, according to a Stockton Polling Institute poll released today.

The state Assembly race remains much tighter, with only four to five percentage points separating the GOP challengers from incumbent Bob Andrzejczak, who places second after Assemblyman Nelson Albano.

In both races, the results are substantially similar to a Stockton Poll taken late in September, although Van Drew has lost 4 percent.

“In the 2011 race for state Senate, Van Drew had large lead in first poll, a reduced lead in a second poll, but managed a 54 to 46 percent margin of victory on Election Day,” said Daniel J. Douglas, director of the William J. Hughes Center.

Republican Gov. Chris Christie has increased his lead in the Republican-leaning district to nearly 40 points (from 32 points) over Democrat Barbara Buono, a state senator. The governor leads Buono 66 percent to 27 percent, with 7.5 percent undecided or refusing to answer.

But Christie’s popularity is not translating into a coattails effect. Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) say an endorsement of a legislative candidate by Christie would have no effect on their vote. Van Drew leads Adelizzi-Schmidt 58 percent to 29 percent, only four percentage points less than the 33-point spread found in September. Six percent are unsure, with another 6 percent saying they will vote for someone else/nobody or refusing to identify their candidate.

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