

NYPIRG ANALYSIS OF NEW YORK STATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE FILINGS FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2008

NYPIRG has reviewed the disclosure statements of all the committees that have filed and coded the majority of them by type of committee (party, PAC, individual candidate, etc.) and party. As of close of business on Thursday, August 7th, 3,327 campaign committees had filed July 15th financial disclosure statements with the New York State Board of Elections reporting at least one monetary transaction made over the past six months. Below are the results of our analyses of the campaign finance data filed in July.

FINDING: New York political committees have over \$203 million in their accounts.

In total, these committees report:

- Raising \$110,603,478.65 in the first half of 2008.
- Spending \$70,256,779.30 during that same period.
- Having a total of \$203,079,143.35 on hand.

FINDING: Committees controlled by Democrats have more cash on hand than all other political parties' committees combined.

Out of the \$203,079,143.35 currently in political committees' bank accounts, we have identified¹ the party affiliation of the candidates and committees accounting for \$202,510,764.41, or 99.7% of the cash-on-hand.

Category of Political Committee	Amount
Democrat	\$89,614,632.54
Republican	\$39,455,565.40
Conservative	\$842,773.13
Working Families	\$344,518.61
Independence	\$423,988.92
Other Parties	\$45,795.38
Judicial Candidates	\$2,255,424.22
Political Action Committees	\$69,487,396.73
Unidentified	\$568,378.94
Ballot Issues	\$40,669.48

PARTY COMMITTEES

The Republicans have a much higher concentration of their money in state & local party committees and clubs than the Democrats:

	Democrats	Republicans
\$ by Candidates	\$80,497,768.66	\$26,072,830.44
\$ by Party Committees	\$9,116,863.88	\$13,382,734.96

FINDING: Democrats and Republicans are neck and neck in the senatorial fundraising race.

Note: This does not include Senate Campaign Committees or Senate Candidate Committees controlled by politicians who are not actually running for Senate this year (e.g., Joe Bruno)

Democrat Candidates	\$10,102,115.58
Republican Candidates	\$12,394,490.46

FINDING: COMMITTEES WITH THE MOST CASH ON HAND.***MOST CASH ON HAND- OVERALL***

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSC, AFL-CIO COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL ED ²	\$11,040,836.02
AMERICAN RESORT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION RESORT OWNERS' COALITION PAC	\$8,501,569.52
VOICE OF TEACHERS FOR EDUCATION/COMM. ON POLITICAL EDUC.	\$7,195,946.03
RESPONSIBLE NEW YORK	\$5,000,000.00
WEINER '09	\$4,537,262.82
1199/SEIU NEW YORK STATE POLITICAL ACTION FUND	\$4,038,822.80
NEW YORKERS FOR THOMPSON	\$3,808,655.70
NYS SENATE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$3,802,256.23
DEMOCRATIC ASSEMBLY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$3,364,408.42
FRIENDS OF STEVE LEVY	\$3,299,929.04

MOST CASH ON HAND- PACs

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSC, AFL-CIO COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL ED	\$11,040,836.02
AMERICAN RESORT DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION RESORT OWNERS' COALITION PAC	\$8,501,569.52
VOICE OF TEACHERS FOR EDUCATION/COMM. ON POLITICAL EDUC.	\$7,195,946.03
RESPONSIBLE NEW YORK	\$5,000,000.00
1199/SEIU NEW YORK STATE POLITICAL ACTION FUND	\$4,038,822.80
UNITE HERE TIP STATE & LOCAL FUND	\$1,565,464.53
D.R.I.V.E. - DEMOCRATIC, REPUBLICAN, INDEPENDENT VOTER EDUCATION	\$1,381,630.45
UFT COPE LOCAL	\$906,174.10
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 15 ABCD	\$746,119.42
J. P. MORGAN CHASE & CO. PAC	\$736,166.01

MOST CASH ON HAND- CANDIDATES

WEINER '09	\$4,537,262.82
NEW YORKERS FOR THOMPSON	\$3,808,655.70
FRIENDS OF STEVE LEVY	\$3,299,929.04
FRIENDS OF SILVER	\$3,039,290.90
PATERSON FOR GOVERNOR, INC.	\$3,033,401.29
ANDREW CUOMO 2010	\$3,008,259.86
FRIENDS OF CHRISTINE C. QUINN	\$2,821,540.77
PEOPLE FOR JOHN LIU	\$2,453,480.77
FRIENDS OF CARL	\$1,814,617.46
NEW YORKERS FOR GIANARIS	\$1,765,533.75

MOST CASH ON HAND- PARTY COMMITTEES

NYS SENATE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$3,802,256.23
DEMOCRATIC ASSEMBLY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$3,364,408.42
NYS SENATE REPUBLICAN CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE - HOUSEKEEPING	\$2,127,013.45
NASSAU COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE	\$1,496,072.32
NYS DEMOCRATIC SENATE CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$1,336,330.34
NEW YORK STATE DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE	\$837,539.75
REPUBLICAN ASSEMBLY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE	\$730,338.98
NEW YORK REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE - REPORTING	\$493,159.36
DEMOCRATIC ASSEMBLY CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE-HOUSEKEEPING	\$460,524.17
KINGS COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COUNTY COMMITTEE	\$341,757.08

MOST CASH ON HAND- CANDIDATE COMMITTEES BY GEOGRAPHIC REGION³**Capitol Region/ North Country**

COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT SENATOR BRUNO	\$1,712,656.07
FRIENDS OF FARLEY	\$415,774.46
CANESTRARI FOR ASSEMBLY	\$253,525.11
FRIENDS OF BETTY LITTLE	\$250,691.69
FRIENDS OF ASSEMBLYMAN TEDISCO	\$240,070.92
FRIENDS OF SENATOR BRESLIN	\$148,502.87
FRIENDS OF DAVID SOARES	\$96,117.55
FRIENDS OF PAUL D. TONKO	\$95,837.58
FRIENDS OF JONATHAN B. SMITH	\$88,615.74
FRIENDS OF MIKE BRESLIN	\$86,656.21

Central New York/ Leatherstocking Region/ Eastern Southern Tier

FRIENDS OF SENATOR LIBOUS COMMITTEE (2008)	\$752,279.30
FRIENDS OF SENATOR SEWARD	\$490,559.27
CITIZENS FOR DEFRANCISCO	\$477,553.10
FRIENDS FOR WINNER	\$343,504.30
DEFRANCISCO RE-ELECTION COMMITTEE	\$302,303.18
FRIENDS OF ROANN DESTITO	\$210,586.88
VALESKY FOR SENATE	\$191,670.53
BARCLAY FOR SENATE	\$175,137.27
FRIENDS OF BARBARA FIALA	\$170,306.56
FRIENDS OF JOE GRIFFO	\$131,417.65

Lower Hudson Valley/ Westchester

FRIENDS OF ANDY SPANO	\$1,311,057.79
FRIENDS OF ALEX GROMACK	\$852,238.04
CITIZENS TO ELECT JOHN BONACIC	\$730,858.22
FRIENDS OF RICHARD L. BRODSKY	\$667,695.83
PEOPLE FOR BRODSKY	\$500,983.74
CITIZENS FOR MORAHAN	\$420,442.41
CITIZENS FOR EDWARD DIANA	\$403,346.43
FRIENDS OF AMY PAULIN	\$342,943.78
FRIENDS OF ROB ASTORINO	\$192,993.48
FRIENDS OF ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS	\$180,464.88

Long Island

FRIENDS OF STEVE LEVY	\$3,299,929.04
CITIZENS FOR GULOTTA	\$1,649,031.09
FRIENDS OF TOM SUOZZI	\$1,628,829.90
FRIENDS FOR THE ELECTION OF DEAN SKELOS	\$1,373,811.32
FRIENDS OF HOWARD WEITZMAN	\$887,333.41
FRIENDS FOR FUSCHILLO	\$506,885.42
TOM SPOTA FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY	\$469,084.81
FRIENDS OF CRAIG JOHNSON	\$453,873.22
FRIENDS OF FRANK PETRONE	\$449,721.24
CITIZENS FOR HANNON	\$425,112.32

New York City

WEINER '09	\$4,537,262.82
NEW YORKERS FOR THOMPSON	\$3,808,655.70
FRIENDS OF SILVER	\$3,039,290.90
FRIENDS OF CHRISTINE C. QUINN	\$2,821,540.77
PEOPLE FOR JOHN LIU	\$2,453,480.77
FRIENDS OF CARL*	\$1,814,617.46
NEW YORKERS FOR GIANARIS	\$1,765,533.75
DAVID WEPRIN 2009	\$1,564,316.67
CARRION NYC	\$1,516,961.10
DAVID YASSKY FOR COMPTROLLER	\$1,254,483.49

*Kruger

Western New York

COMMITTEE TO ELECT MAZIARZ STATE SENATE	\$829,856.78
FRIENDS OF JOEL GIAMBRA	\$596,424.68
MIKE NOZZOLIO FOR STATE SENATE	\$570,435.37
COMMITTEE TO RE-ELECT ASSEMBLYMAN JOE MORELLE	\$517,398.90
FRIENDS OF JIM ALESİ	\$508,044.73
FRIENDS OF BOB DUFFY	\$483,698.16
FRIENDS OF ANTHONY MASIELLO	\$425,047.61
CITIZENS FOR SCHIMMINGER	\$370,485.37
BROWN FOR BUFFALO*	\$369,965.94
FRIENDS OF MAGGIE BROOKS	\$353,926.38

*Byron Brown also has a committee called the "Mayor's Council," which has \$215,516.15

¹ Partisan affiliation, which is not available through campaign finance filings, was identified by previous election results available through the state and county boards of elections, county and town party websites, media coverage of races, self-identification through campaign websites, and in some instances through general web searches. While many PACs clearly favor one party over another, most of these still claim non-partisanship, so they were grouped together unless they are explicitly partisan (*e.g.*, the Log Cabin Republicans PAC). Since judicial candidates are so frequently cross-endorsed, they were grouped together. Candidates were identified as members of the Conservative, Working Families, or Independence parties if these are the parties they most closely identify with. Assemblyman Tim Gordon, for example, conferences with the Assembly Democrats, and was therefore labeled with a "D."

² Several of the leading PACs spend significant amounts of money out-of-state. It is likely that only a small percentage of the money belonging to PACs like the International Longshoremen's Association's will go to NY candidates.

³ It is difficult to place many candidates into a specific region, due to the avant-garde district lines that exist- Senator Seward's district, for example, spans four of the eight upstate economic development regions, and borders three others. Also note that this is a list of candidate committees, not candidates; Assemblyman Richard Brodsky made the list twice. It is interesting to note how many politicians no longer running for state or local office are on this list. Former Senator Bruno, former Assemblyman Tonko (now a candidate for Congress), former County Executives Gulotta and Giambra, and former Mayor Masiello are included. A top 25 list of former politicians is available on request.