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James Lee, President

TO: General Media Release

FROM: Jim Lee, President

RE: **New PA Poll: Obama Loses His Post-Osama "Bounce"**

DATE: 6/9/11

President Obama's job approval rating in Pennsylvania is a negative 48% to 41% (disapprove to approve), which reflects an even further decline in the percentage of those who approve of his job performance when compared with his 45% job approval score from our March Statewide Omnibus Poll. This drop in the President's job performance score virtually erases any positive "bump" he may have enjoyed since the killing of Osama Bin Laden, which according to national surveys has been an average of approximately five points.\* Moreover, the drop in his job approval can primarily be attributed to a loss in support among Democrats, who now approve by a 61-30 margin compared to a stronger 69-21 ratio in March (a 17 point swing). By comparison, his job approval among both Republicans and Independents is virtually unchanged from March.

In the current survey, the drop in the President's numbers can best be explained by the rash of bad economic news released the same week the poll was "in the field". During the week of 5/30 – 6/3, voters heard a growing drumbeat of bad economic news, all of which has manifested itself in the poll since by a staggering 50-16 margin voters now say they believe the economy today in Pennsylvania has gotten WORSE than it was 12 months ago (the remaining 35% say it has remained about the same). Among those who say the economy has gotten worse only 31% approve of the job he is doing, while 61% say they disapprove. Conversely, voters who say the economy is in better shape today than it was 12 months ago approve of the President's job performance by a solid 71-22 margin, while those who say it has remained about the same are divided 43-41.

When asked if they think Obama deserves reelection, 43% say he has done well enough to deserve reelection, while 50% say it is time to give a new person a chance. The fact that 1 in 2 voters are looking for someone else suggests Obama has very little room to grow and that Pennsylvania will again be a toss-up state in next year's presidential election, particularly if the slow economic recovery continues to haunt the president.

\*Based on a summary of polling on [realclearpolitic.com](http://realclearpolitic.com),

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**Methodology:** This statewide poll was conducted May 30 – June 2 with 1,406 registered voters for internal analysis, SP&R clients and Premium Access Members. Only voters with prior vote history in general elections 2010, 2009, 2008 and/or 2007 were contacted. Interviews are randomly selected and conducted from a statewide voter file using our IVR (or automated) polling software system which uses a pre-recorded voice to ask the questions, with respondents then instructed to score their answers by using their telephone key pads. Interviews are closely monitored to ensure a representative sample of Pennsylvania's electorate is achieved based on geography, party affiliation, gender, age and other demographics; results are sometimes statistically weighted for key demographics. The margin of error for a sample size of 1,406 interviews is +/-2.6% at the 95% confidence level, but higher for subgroups of respondents.

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**TOP LINE SURVEY RESULTS**  
**STATEWIDE AUTOMATED SURVEY**  
**CONDUCTED 5/30 – 6/2**  
**SAMPLE SIZE 1,406 INTERVIEWS**  
**(WITH COMPARISON TO MARCH AND DECEMBER POLLS)**

Hello, this is Susquehanna Polling and Research conducting a 2-minute survey in Pennsylvania....

Q1. Do you think the economy here in Pennsylvania has gotten better or worse during the last 12 months, or has it remained about the same?

- |                   |     |     |
|-------------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Gotten better  | 219 | 16% |
| 2. Gotten worse   | 697 | 50% |
| 3. About the same | 489 | 35% |

**CROSS TABULATIONS FOR KEY DEMOGRAPHICS**

	<u>Party Registration</u>			<u>Gender</u>		<u>Geographic Region</u>							
	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Oth</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>T/Cen</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Phil</u>
Gotten better	12%	18%	16%	19%	13%	16%	15%	13%	14%	14%	14%	25%	19%
Gotten worse	55%	46%	43%	49%	50%	57%	47%	56%	54%	54%	45%	46%	42%
About the same	33%	35%	41%	33%	37%	26%	38%	31%	32%	33%	40%	30%	39%

Q2. Do you approve or disapprove of the job Barack Obama is doing as president?

- |               |     |     | <u>3/11</u> | <u>12/10</u> | <u>%Ch</u> |
|---------------|-----|-----|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1. Approve    | 582 | 41% | 45%         | 44%          | -3         |
| 2. Disapprove | 677 | 48% | 46%         | 50%          | -2         |
| 3. Undecided  | 147 | 10% | 09%         | 06%          | +4         |

**CROSS TABULATIONS FOR KEY DEMOGRAPHICS**

	<u>Party Registration</u>			<u>Gender</u>		<u>Geographic Region</u>							
	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Oth</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>T/Cen</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Phil</u>
Approve	17%	61%	42%	39%	44%	48%	27%	26%	42%	32%	44%	44%	75%
Disapprove	72%	30%	43%	52%	44%	43%	65%	58%	48%	58%	45%	47%	17%
Undecided	12%	09%	15%	09%	12%	09%	08%	16%	10%	10%	10%	09%	08%

Q3. Do you think Barack Obama has done his job as president well enough to deserve reelection, or do you think it is time to give a new person a chance?

- |               |     |     |
|---------------|-----|-----|
| 1. Reelect    | 619 | 44% |
| 2. New person | 706 | 50% |
| 3. Undecided  | 81  | 06% |

**CROSS TABULATIONS FOR KEY DEMOGRAPHICS**

	<u>Party Registration</u>			<u>Gender</u>		<u>Geographic Region</u>							
	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>Oth</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Fem</u>	<u>NW</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>T/Cen</u>	<u>NE</u>	<u>SC</u>	<u>SE</u>	<u>All</u>	<u>Phil</u>
Reelect	18%	65%	44%	41%	47%	49%	26%	31%	45%	33%	46%	44%	83%
New Person	77%	29%	46%	53%	47%	45%	70%	61%	48%	62%	48%	47%	13%

Q4. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or something else?

1. Republican	576	41%
2. Democrat	703	50%
3. Independent	127	09%

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Q5. Are you a male or a female?

1. Male	675	48%
2. Female	731	52%

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION. YOU MAY HANG UP TO END THIS CALL.**

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Q6. Age (from record)

1. 18-29	197	14%
2. 30-44	309	22%
3. 45-59	450	32%
4. 60+	450	32%

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Q7. Area (from record)

1. Northwest	70	05%	5. South Central	211	15%
2. Southwest	155	11%	6. Southeast	309	22%
3. T Central	211	15%	7. Allegheny	112	08%
4. Northeast/Lehigh Valley	169	12%	8. Philadelphia	169	12%

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Q8. Vote history (G10, G09, G08, G07)

1X	376	27%
2X	323	23%
3X	284	20%
4X	423	30%

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