



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 15, 2008

INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312

McCain, Graham lead in South Carolina

Raleigh, N.C. – Barack Obama’s candidacy may make South Carolina more competitive than it has been in recent years, but John McCain still has a solid lead in the state, according to the newest survey from Public Policy Polling.

McCain leads Obama 45-39. An additional 5% say they plan to support Libertarian Bob Barr.

Obama is doing well with the groups that fueled his blowout win in the South Carolina Democratic primary. He leads 77-10 with black voters, and 54-32 with voters between the ages of 18 and 29. McCain leads pretty much every other demographic group.

“It would take an exceptional turnout from young voters and black voters, as well as a lot of disaffected conservatives voting for Bob Barr, to make a win in South Carolina possible for Barack Obama,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “He does seem likely to outperform John Kerry, but a victory in the Palmetto State is still a long shot.”

Lindsey Graham appears primed for an easy reelection. If former Myrtle Beach Mayor Mark McBride makes the ballot Graham gets 52% to 21% for Democrat Bob Conley and 10% for McBride. If it’s just Graham and Conley, Graham has a 54-32 advantage.

PPP also took a look ahead to the 2010 race for Governor, and found the contest wide open. Henry McMaster ties Democrats Jim Rex and Inez Tenenbaum in possible matches, while Gresham Barrett trails Rex but has a small lead over Tenenbaum.

PPP surveyed 542 likely voters from July 9th-11th. The survey’s margin of error is +/- 4.2%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

PPP was the only company to correctly forecast that Barack Obama would win the South Carolina primary by 20 points or more. If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

###





South Carolina Poll

Q1 The candidates for President are Libertarian Bob Barr, Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Bob Barr, press 1. If John McCain, press 2. If Barack Obama, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

Barr..... 5% *Obama*.....39%
McCain.....45% *Undecided*.....10%

Q2 If the choices for US Senate were Democrat Bob Conley, Republican Lindsey Graham, and Independent Mark McBride, who would you vote for? If Bob Conley, press 1. If Lindsey Graham, press 2. If Mark McBride, press 3. If you're undecided, press 4.

Conley.....21% *McBride*.....10%
Graham.....52% *Undecided*.....18%

Q3 If the choices for US Senate were just Democrat Bob Conley and Republican Lindsey Graham, who would you vote for? If Bob Conley, press 1. If Lindsey Graham, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Conley..... 32%
Graham..... 54%
Undecided..... 14%

Q4 If the candidates for Governor in 2010 were Republican Gresham Barrett and Democrat Jim Rex, who would you vote for? If Gresham Barrett, press 1. If Jim Rex, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Barrett..... 31% *Undecide*..... 33%
Rex..... 36%

Q5 If the candidates for Governor in 2010 were Republican Gresham Barrett and Democrat Inez Tenenbaum, who would you vote for? If Gresham Barrett, press 1. If Inez Tenenbaum, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

Barrett.....40% *Undecided*.....21%
Tenenbaum.....39%

Q6 If the candidates for Governor in 2010 were Republican Henry McMaster and Democrat Jim Rex, who would you vote for? If Henry McMaster, press 1. If Jim Rex, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

McMaster..... 36%
Rex..... 36%
Undecided..... 28%

Q7 If the candidates for Governor in 2010 were Republican Henry McMaster and Democrat Inez Tenenbaum, who would you vote for? If Henry McMaster, press 1. If Inez Tenenbaum, press 2. If you're undecided, press 3.

McMaster..... 39%
Tenenbaum..... 39%
Undecided..... 23%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Woman 57%
Man..... 43%

Q9 If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 39%
Republican..... 43%
Other..... 18%

Q10 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White 68%
African-American 29%
Other..... 3%





Q11 If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

<i>18 to 29</i>	17%
<i>30 to 45</i>	30%
<i>46 to 65</i>	41%
<i>Older than 65</i>	13%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
President			
Barr	5%	3%	9%
McCain	45%	45%	46%
Obama	39%	43%	34%
Undecided	10%	9%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Conley/Graham/McBride			
Conley	21%	21%	21%
Graham	52%	52%	52%
McBride	10%	9%	10%
Undecided	18%	19%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Conley/Graham			
Conley	32%	32%	32%
Graham	54%	55%	53%
Undecided	14%	13%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Barrett/Rex			
Barrett	31%	29%	33%
Rex	36%	37%	34%
Undecide	33%	34%	32%





	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Barrett/Tenenbaum			
Barrett	40%	39%	42%
Tenenbaum	39%	40%	36%
Undecided	21%	21%	21%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McMaster/Rex			
McMaster	36%	34%	38%
Rex	36%	38%	33%
Undecided	28%	27%	29%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McMaster/Tenenbaum			
McMaster	39%	38%	40%
Tenenbaum	39%	39%	38%
Undecided	23%	23%	22%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
President				
Barr	5%	3%	3%	14%
McCain	45%	8%	82%	38%
Obama	39%	78%	8%	32%
Undecided	10%	10%	7%	16%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Conley/Graham/McBride				
Conley	21%	40%	5%	19%
Graham	52%	24%	80%	43%
McBride	10%	7%	8%	20%
Undecided	18%	30%	7%	18%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Conley/Graham				
Conley	32%	57%	10%	34%
Graham	54%	22%	85%	48%
Undecided	14%	22%	5%	19%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Barrett/Rex				
Barrett	31%	11%	51%	25%
Rex	36%	59%	16%	35%
Undecide	33%	31%	33%	39%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Barrett/Tenenbaum				
Barrett	40%	14%	66%	35%
Tenenbaum	39%	70%	12%	35%
Undecided	21%	16%	21%	30%





	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
McMaster/Rex				
McMaster	36%	9%	62%	32%
Rex	36%	66%	10%	33%
Undecided	28%	25%	28%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
McMaster/Tenenbaum				
McMaster	39%	10%	66%	37%
Tenenbaum	39%	69%	12%	37%
Undecided	23%	21%	23%	26%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
President				
Barr	5%	5%	6%	5%
McCain	45%	60%	10%	49%
Obama	39%	24%	77%	38%
Undecided	10%	11%	7%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Conley/Graham/McBride				
Conley	21%	16%	33%	19%
Graham	52%	63%	26%	38%
McBride	10%	9%	10%	19%
Undecided	18%	12%	30%	24%





	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Conley/Graham				
Conley	32%	24%	51%	36%
Graham	54%	66%	26%	44%
Undecided	14%	10%	22%	19%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Barrett/Rex				
Barrett	31%	37%	14%	39%
Rex	36%	31%	48%	33%
Undecided	33%	32%	38%	28%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Barrett/Tenenbaum				
Barrett	40%	50%	17%	44%
Tenenbaum	39%	27%	65%	42%
Undecided	21%	23%	17%	14%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McMaster/Rex				
McMaster	36%	46%	13%	36%
Rex	36%	26%	61%	33%
Undecided	28%	29%	26%	31%





	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
McMaster/Tenenbaum				
McMaster	39%	50%	12%	43%
Tenenbaum	39%	27%	67%	35%
Undecided	23%	23%	22%	22%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
President					
Barr	5%	6%	3%	5%	8%
McCain	45%	32%	45%	49%	54%
Obama	39%	54%	44%	35%	25%
Undecided	10%	7%	8%	11%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Conley/Graham/McBride					
Conley	21%	24%	18%	21%	21%
Graham	52%	34%	51%	57%	59%
McBride	10%	8%	16%	8%	3%
Undecided	18%	33%	15%	14%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Conley/Graham					
Conley	32%	45%	28%	32%	26%
Graham	54%	39%	55%	57%	59%
Undecided	14%	16%	17%	10%	15%





	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Barrett/Rex					
Barrett	31%	29%	36%	29%	24%
Rex	36%	37%	36%	35%	36%
Undecide	33%	34%	27%	36%	39%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Barrett/Tenenbaum					
Barrett	40%	30%	44%	41%	43%
Tenenbaum	39%	50%	40%	35%	33%
Undecided	21%	20%	16%	24%	24%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McMaster/Rex					
McMaster	36%	26%	40%	38%	35%
Rex	36%	47%	37%	32%	34%
Undecided	28%	28%	23%	30%	31%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McMaster/Tenenbaum					
McMaster	39%	27%	42%	40%	44%
Tenenbaum	39%	55%	42%	33%	28%
Undecided	23%	19%	16%	27%	28%

