

Massachusetts Office of Campaign and Political Finance

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CONTACT: Jason Tait

Director of Communications

617-979-8300

Mayoral candidates reported spending more than \$3.5 million in 2011

Mayoral candidate finalists in 38 cities reported expenditures of \$3,549,375 in 2011, an average of \$49,991 per candidate, according to an OCPF study released today.

The spending total in 2011 was less than half that of 2009, a mayoral election year in Boston, when candidates spent a record \$7,542,006. There was no mayoral election in Boston in 2011.

The 2011 OCPF study (available on-line at www.mass.gov/ocpf/studies) examined campaign finance activity during the calendar year by 71 finalists for mayor in elections throughout Massachusetts. Mayoral candidates in cities with populations between 40,000 and 100,000, as well as mayoral candidates in Springfield and Worcester, filed campaign finance reports with OCPF in 2011. Other mayoral candidates in cities with populations of less than 40,000 filed disclosure reports with their local election officials.

The most expensive mayoral races in 2011 were in New Bedford and Fall River, where the two finalists in each city reported total expenditures of \$484,896 and \$392,334, respectively. Other races exceeding \$300,000 were in Quincy and Revere.

Once again, winning candidates as a whole raised and spent significantly more than those who lost in 2011. Winners spent \$63,311 on average, while unsuccessful candidates averaged \$34,652. The top spenders in the 31 contested elections won 26 times, or 86 percent of the contests in 2011. The five candidates who outspent their opponents and lost were in Agawam, Holyoke, New Bedford, Pittsfield and Taunton.

Fall River Mayor William Flanagan reported the highest total expenditures for the year at \$300,972, followed by Quincy Mayor Thomas Koch at \$290,969 – both were successful.

Candidates in 2011 reported receipts of \$3,386,403 for the calendar year, the second lowest total since OCPF began issuing mayoral campaign finance studies in 1997. The lowest total,

\$3.2 million, was recorded in 1999. The receipts total for 2011 is lower than the expenditures total because many candidates started the calendar year with money in their campaign accounts from 2010.

The top mayoral fundraisers in 2011 were Fall River Mayor Flanagan with \$275,567, Quincy Mayor Koch with \$274,033, and Jonathan Mitchell of New Bedford with \$227,645. All three candidates won their elections.

The average amount spent per vote by a candidate in 2011 was \$11.01, a decrease of \$5.51 over 2009.

OCPF is an independent state agency that administers Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 55, which provides for disclosure and regulation of campaign finance activity by candidates for state, county and municipal office.

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Expenditures by Mayoral Candidate Finalists by City in 2011

New Bedford (C)	\$484,896	Attleboro (C)	\$53,020
Fall River (C)	\$392,334	Fitchburg (C)	\$46,346
Quincy (C)	\$331,750	Braintree (C)	\$41,614
Revere (C)	\$308,568	Chicopee (C)	\$37,891
Springfield (C)	\$220,673	West Springfield (C)	\$35,770
Peabody (C)	\$154,272	Weymouth (C)	\$34,067
Malden (C)	\$136,680	Haverhill (C)	\$32,508
Taunton (C)	\$131,255	Brockton (C)	\$30,473
Holyoke (C)	\$127,657	Gloucester (C)	\$30,229
Somerville	\$117,298	North Adams (C)	\$22,276
Everett (C)	\$104,151	Westfield	\$22,142
Northampton (C)	\$85,308	Easthampton (C)	\$18,013
Pittsfield (C)	\$83,601	Waltham (C)	\$18,013
Beverly (C)	\$69,346	Newburyport	\$15,794
Agawam (C)	\$69,292	Amesbury (C)	\$10,437
Medford (C)	\$64,264	Woburn	\$9,451
Worcester (C)	\$64,252	Melrose	\$7,115
Marlborough (C)	\$64,019	Gardner	\$5,763
Methuen (C)	\$63,306	Leominster	\$4,803

C = Contested