

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Office of Campaign and Political Finance

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Gubernatorial race paces statewide spending to an all-time high

Candidates for statewide office spent a record \$47.1 million in the two-year period leading up to the Nov. 5 general election, with record spending for three offices, according to figures compiled by the Office of Campaign and Political Finance.

OCPF today released fundraising and spending totals for 30 candidates who were on the primary and/or general election ballot for the six offices, based on statements filed by the committees and their depository banks. A copy of the totals is attached.

According to candidates' reports, a total of \$45,970,764 was raised and \$47,099,531 was spent for all races from Jan. 1, 2001, through Nov. 15, 2002. (The imbalance is due to the fact that several candidates had funds on hand at the start of 2001.) Those two totals exceed the previous highs of \$25 million raised and \$27.9 million spent, both reported in the 1998 campaign, and are more than three times the amounts reported in the 1994 campaign. In fact, the 1998 records had already been exceeded by the end of the 2002 primary campaign, when the receipts were \$36.4 million and expenditures stood at \$35.4 million.

The 2002 totals show record receipts and expenditures in the races for Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Treasurer. All three seats were open, and the races featured several candidates with significant campaign finance activity.

The relatively high aggregate figures were caused mainly by a greater number of candidates and substantial activity in the primary campaign period. The 30 candidates in this study is the most ever recorded in such an OCPF report. The primary spending total of \$35.4 million represented an increase over the old record of about 75 percent. The general election spending figure of \$11.7 million was an increase over the old record from 1998 of about 45 percent.

The greatest activity was once again reported in the race for Governor, where nine candidates reported raising \$28,026,089 and spending \$30,601,910. Those two figures are the highest gubernatorial totals ever reported by OCPF and the highest figures for any single statewide race.

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The figures far exceed the previous gubernatorial records of \$16 million raised and \$18.6 million spent, both from the 1998 campaign.

Governor-elect Mitt Romney set individual records for both fundraising and spending by a statewide candidate in 2002. Romney, who won a race for an open seat, reported raising \$9,830,177 and spending \$9,361,004. Both figures are the highest candidate totals ever recorded in an OCPF study of statewide races, which was first issued after the 1990 election.

Romney's totals exceed those of the previous record holder, Paul Cellucci, who raised \$5.5 million and spent \$7 million in a successful campaign in 1998. Cellucci, however, posted his totals over a two-year period, while Romney's figures represented only about nine months of activity.

Record totals were also posted in the race for lieutenant governor, where eight candidates reported raising \$11,597,890 and spending \$11,450,417. Both those figures are more than four times the previous records for the office, which were both set in 1990. Christopher Gabrieli, who won the Democratic nomination but lost in the general election in 2002, recorded the highest receipt and expenditure totals ever for a candidate for that office: \$5,487,294 raised and \$5,434,046 spent.

The third race with a record level of aggregate activity was the contest for the third open statewide seat, Treasurer. In that contest, seven candidates reported an aggregate of \$4,263,009 in receipts and \$4,216,362 in expenditures. The previous records were \$3.2 million raised and \$3.8 million spent, both posted in 1990.

The top fundraiser and spender in the 2002 treasurer's race was the winner, Timothy Cahill, who posted fundraising and spending figures of \$1,062,562 and \$1,209,782, respectively. Those figures were not the highest ever posted for the seat; the records of \$3.2 million raised and \$3.8 million spent were set in 1990.

The other three statewide races showed relatively little activity.

In the race for Secretary of the Commonwealth, the two candidates reported receipts of \$843,570 and expenditures of \$265,304. The winner, incumbent William Galvin, accounted for 70 percent of the spending in the race.

Similar results were reported in the contest for Auditor, where three candidates reported \$307,896 in receipts and \$297,460 in expenditures. Incumbent and winner Joseph DeNucci accounted for the bulk of the activity, including 99.8 percent of the spending. One candidate, John Xenakis, reported no financial activity.

In the sixth race, Attorney General Thomas Reilly was re-elected with no opposition. Reilly reported receipts of \$932,310 and expenditures of \$267,978.

The top spender was also the winner in five of the six contests. In the race for Lieutenant Governor, Gabrieli spent more than any of the other seven candidates, but lost in the general election.

The figures do not include independent expenditures made on behalf of a candidate, which must be reported to OCPF only by the individual or entity making the expenditure. Seven entities reported independent expenditures on behalf of a total of four statewide candidates, for a total of \$897,560. (A breakdown of these expenditures is included in this report for the first time.) The candidates' figures also do not include in-kind contributions, which are made in cooperation or consultation with a campaign and are reported by a campaign committee in their year-end reports, and liabilities paid after Nov. 15 or still outstanding at the end of the year. The later liabilities are reported in committees' year-end reports, which are due Jan. 21, 2003.

A copy of this report is being posted on OCPF's web site, www.mass.gov/ocpf.

The figures for each candidate follow.

