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# ***Rocky Mountain Poll***

NEWS RELEASE [RMP 2007-II-03]

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## JOB PERFORMANCE RATINGS:

### NAPOLITANO SAILS HIGH WHILE LEGISLATURE SPRINGS A LEAK

### BUSH AND MCCAIN SLIP WHILE KYL RECOVERS AFTER THE BRUISING 2006 ELECTION

Phoenix, Arizona , March 28, 2007. Governor Janet Napolitano is given favorable job ratings by 62 percent of Arizonans, including 78 percent of Democrats, 69 percent of Independents and an impressive 51 percent of Republicans. Only ten percent of the public thinks she is doing a poor job, including only 20 percent of Republicans. These are Napolitano's best job ratings ever and stand in strong contrast to the views the public has of the job performance of the State Legislature for which only 28 percent give good ratings.

One of the extraordinary aspects of the Governor's equity with the public is the high levels of approval (all in excess of 65 percent) that she receives from key voter groups such as women, voters over 55 and retirees, middle and upper income families, likely voters, college graduates and from families at the lowest end of the income spectrum. Her appeal with voters registered as Independents is very impressive and suggests that she may be the first major politician in Arizona to pursue policies and have a political style that resonate well with these increasingly important voters.

Job ratings for State Attorney General Terry Goddard are stable: 42 percent favorable to only six percent unfavorable. Over the past 30 years we have measured the job approval ratings of both Democratic and Republican attorney generals and we rarely see positive scores rise above 45 percent. This is due principally to the lesser awareness the public has of people holding this office.

U.S. Senator John McCain lost a little more ground as his approval rating for the first time in 12 years fell below 50 percent. Even so, his ratings remain 2.5 to one favorable (49 to 18%). U.S. Senator John Kyl's positive rating continue to recover after last year's election, now at 46 to 12 percent favorable. Senator John McCain's ratings slipped to 46 percent from 50 percent over the same period. Senator McCain's ratings have been in a semi-freefall since 2004 when 70 percent rated his performance favorably. His current ratings are the lowest since 1986. Constituencies which seem most to be drifting away from McCain include men, retirees, minorities and voters outside of Maricopa county.

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Finally President George W. Bush has the lowest popularity ratings registered for him since he assumed the office. Today, only 32 percent say his performance is “Good” while 40 percent say he is doing a “poor job” in the White House. Mr. Bush’s popularity has simply collapsed among women (28%), upper income families (30%), Democrats (14%), Independents (23%) and ethnic minorities (all under 21%).

-30-

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2007-II-03) is based on 600 telephone interviews with voters across Arizona, conducted from March 10<sup>th</sup> to March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007. In the overall sample, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus **3.9** percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. The Republican sample includes **251** voters and the Democrat sample **214** voters. The margin of error for each of these sub-samples is plus or minus **6.3** percent. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program.

This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

**ENCLOSED:** Statistical data for reference.

**STATISTICAL DATA**

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 RMP 2007-II-03

For this and other polls, see [www.brcpolls.com/results](http://www.brcpolls.com/results).

*“Next, I’d like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.”*

		EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR	(NET POS TO NEG)
<b>Governor Janet Napolitano</b>					
<b>March</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>(+ 53)</b>
January	2007	61	21%	12%	(+ 49)
January	2006	57	20	14	(+ 43)
October	2005	52	30	12	(+ 40)
July	2005	53	21	18	(+ 35)
April	2005	57	22	15	(+ 42)
January	2005	55	24	13	(+ 42)
October	2004	51	25	16	(+ 35)
July	2004	52	25	18	(+ 34)
April	2004	43	30	20	(+ 23)
January	2004	49	26	17	(+ 32)
October	2003	46	30	16	(+ 30)
April	2003	49	24	10	(+ 39)
<b>Arizona State Legislature</b>					
<b>March</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>(+ 16)</b>
January	2007	35	34	12	(+ 23)
January	2006	30	37	14	(+ 16)
October	2005	25	35	18	(+ 7)
July	2005	34	35	13	(+ 21)
April	2005	27	33	17	(+ 10)
January	2005	34	34	13	(+ 21)
October	2004	26	35	19	(+ 7)
July	2004	34	33	18	(+ 17)
April	2004	25	37	20	(+ 5)
January	2004	27	34	22	(+ 5)
October	2003	22	38	20	(+ 2)
April	2003	29	31	20	(+ 9)
January	2003	19	33	30	(- 11)
October	2002	17	35	29	(- 12)
October	2001	29	34	16	(+ 13)
April	2001	28	37	17	(+ 11)
January	2001	25	32	25	( -0- )
January	2000	30	36	18	(+ 12)
January	1999	37	33	11	(+ 26)
January	1998	31	35	18	(+ 13)
January	1997	28	40	17	(+ 11)
January	1996	22	46	17	(+ 5)
January	1995	22	41	15	(+ 7)
January	1994	23	39	22	(+ 1)

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*“Next, I'd like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor.”*

**Attorney General Terry Goddard**

|              |             |            |            |           |               |
|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| <b>March</b> | <b>2007</b> | <b>42%</b> | <b>27%</b> | <b>6%</b> | <b>(+ 36)</b> |
| January      | 2007        | 45         | 24         | 8         | (+ 37)        |
| October      | 2005        | 42         | 26         | 8         | (+ 34)        |
| July         | 2005        | 45         | 26         | 7         | (+ 38)        |
| April        | 2005        | 43         | 24         | 6         | (+ 37)        |
| October      | 2004        | 37         | 29         | 6         | (+ 31)        |
| July         | 2004        | 42         | 28         | 6         | (+ 36)        |

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*"Next, I'd like to read you the names of some public officials. As I read each one, please just tell me if you think the job they are doing in office is excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor."* (READ EACH; ROTATE LIST)

		EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR	(NET POS TO NEG)
<b>U.S. Senator John McCain</b>					
<b>March</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>18%</b>	<b>(+ 31)</b>
January	2007	50	25	17	(+ 33)
January	2006	62	20	9	(+ 53)
October	2005	60	27	7	(+ 53)
July	2005	63	19	9	(+ 54)
April	2005	61	22	10	(+ 51)
January	2005	73	15	6	(+ 67)
October	2004	70	17	8	(+ 62)
July	2004	72	17	6	(+ 66)
April	2004	65	18	9	(+ 56)
January	2004	64	20	9	(+ 55)
October	2003	61	22	7	(+ 54)
July	2003	68	18	8	(+ 60)
April	2003	66	20	6	(+ 60)
January	2003	57	24	9	(+ 48)
October	2002	61	23	10	(+ 51)
July	2002	66	21	8	(+ 58)
April	2002	69	15	9	(+ 60)
January	2002	65	21	9	(+ 56)
October	2001	70	16	9	(+ 61)
July	2001	54	22	13	(+ 41)
April	2001	63	22	8	(+ 55)
January	2001	63	21	7	(+ 56)
October	2000	67	18	8	(+ 59)
July	2000	63	21	8	(+ 55)
April	2000	56	24	9	(+ 47)
January	2000	63	20	7	(+ 56)
January	1999	63	17	9	(+ 54)
January	1998	55	25	8	(+ 47)
January	1997	50	28	9	(+ 41)
January	1996	47	28	11	(+ 36)
January	1995	47	29	11	(+ 37)
January	1994	38	33	14	(+ 24)
January	1993	46	30	14	(+ 32)
January	1992	33	35	17	(+ 16)
January	1991	24	34	19	(+ 05)

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|                                    |             | EXCELLENT/<br>GOOD | FAIR       | POOR/VERY<br>POOR | (NET Pos<br>To NEG) |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b><u>U.S. Senator Jon Kyl</u></b> |             |                    |            |                   |                     |
| <b>March</b>                       | <b>2007</b> | <b>46%</b>         | <b>25%</b> | <b>12%</b>        | <b>(+ 34)</b>       |
| January                            | 2007        | 48                 | 24         | 16                | (+ 32)              |
| January                            | 2006        | 42                 | 26         | 9                 | (+ 33)              |
| October                            | 2005        | 40                 | 23         | 10                | (+ 30)              |
| July                               | 2005        | 47                 | 21         | 9                 | (+ 38)              |
| April                              | 2005        | 42                 | 21         | 10                | (+ 32)              |
| January                            | 2005        | 49                 | 22         | 7                 | (+ 42)              |
| October                            | 2004        | 47                 | 23         | 8                 | (+ 39)              |
| July                               | 2004        | 48                 | 22         | 9                 | (+ 39)              |
| April                              | 2004        | 42                 | 25         | 9                 | (+ 33)              |
| January                            | 2004        | 41                 | 28         | 10                | (+ 31)              |
| October                            | 2003        | 43                 | 27         | 7                 | (+ 36)              |
| July                               | 2003        | 49                 | 23         | 9                 | (+ 40)              |
| April                              | 2003        | 45                 | 22         | 7                 | (+ 38)              |
| January                            | 2003        | 42                 | 28         | 8                 | (+ 34)              |
| October                            | 2002        | 43                 | 26         | 10                | (+ 33)              |
| July                               | 2002        | 50                 | 23         | 8                 | (+ 42)              |
| April                              | 2002        | 49                 | 21         | 9                 | (+ 40)              |
| January                            | 2002        | 48                 | 26         | 5                 | (+ 43)              |
| October                            | 2001        | 57                 | 22         | 7                 | (+ 50)              |
| July                               | 2001        | 46                 | 24         | 7                 | (+ 39)              |
| April                              | 2001        | 46                 | 27         | 8                 | (+ 38)              |
| January                            | 2001        | 47                 | 23         | 9                 | (+ 38)              |
| October                            | 2000        | 46                 | 26         | 7                 | (+ 39)              |
| July                               | 2000        | 39                 | 32         | 7                 | (+ 32)              |
| April                              | 2000        | 37                 | 26         | 10                | (+ 27)              |
| January                            | 2000        | 40                 | 26         | 8                 | (+ 32)              |
| October                            | 1999        | 38                 | 26         | 9                 | (+ 29)              |
| July                               | 1999        | 43                 | 28         | 8                 | (+ 35)              |
| April                              | 1999        | 39                 | 27         | 9                 | (+ 30)              |
| January                            | 1999        | 42                 | 25         | 8                 | (+ 34)              |
| January                            | 1998        | 42                 | 28         | 9                 | (+ 33)              |
| January                            | 1997        | 36                 | 32         | 8                 | (+ 28)              |
| January                            | 1996        | 33                 | 31         | 13                | (+ 20)              |

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*"Would you say George W. Bush is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job as President of the United States?" (READ EACH; ROTATE LIST)*

<b>President George W. Bush</b>		EXCELLENT/ GOOD	FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR	(NET POS TO NEG)
<b>March</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>(- 8)</b>
January	2007	34	20	42	(- 8)
January	2006	40	18	39	(+ 1)
Oct.	2005	35	21	41	(- 6)
July	2005	43	18	37	(+ 6)
April	2005	41	19	38	(+ 3)
Jan.	2005	53	16	28	(+ 25)
Oct.	2004	50	15	31	(+ 19)
July	2004	52	15	30	(+ 22)
April	2004	45	16	36	(+ 9)
January	2004	50	16	29	(+ 21)
October	2003	51	19	27	(+ 24)
July	2003	56	20	21	(+ 35)
April	2003	69	13	14	(+ 55)
January	2003	57	21	18	(+ 39)
October	2002	58	19	20	(+ 38)
July	2002	63	21	15	(+ 48)
April	2002	73	15	10	(+ 63)
January	2002	77	15	7	(+ 70)
October	2001	79	14	5	(+ 74)
July	2001	44	27	21	(+ 23)
April	2001	49	24	19	(+ 30)

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