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Rocky Mountain Poll

NEWS RELEASE
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BUSH RATINGS SAG FOR FIRST TIME BELOW FATHER'S PEAK READINGS
BUT ARE STILL VERY STRONG IN ARIZONA;
NEGATIVE RATINGS ON GOVERNOR HULL CONTINUE TO SWELL

Phoenix, Arizona, April 23, 2002. Seventy-three percent of Arizonans believe President George W. Bush is doing an "excellent" or "good" job in office, compared to 77 percent in January and 79 percent in October. Only ten percent rate his performance as "poor." Notwithstanding the modest downward slope in his ratings over the past two quarters, they remain stratospheric compared to most public officials.

President Bush's ratings are now modestly below the peak his father enjoyed in Arizona during April of 1991 when 76 percent rated his performance as excellent or good. The senior Bush's ratings then cascaded to a record low of 25 percent by July of 1992.

There are signs today of continued divergence in how the rank and file of the various parties see the President. Thus, 90 percent of Republicans, 65 percent of Independents, but only 57 percent of Democrats rate his performance in clearly favorable terms.

The findings outlined in this report are based on a survey of 710 adults across Arizona conducted between April 3rd and April 7th, 2002, by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona as part of the Center's independent and non-partisan Rocky Mountain Poll series. The public is welcome to visit www.brcpolls.com to read this and other recent polls.

At the same time, U.S. Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl resume their climb in public esteem with McCain now enjoying 69 percent positive scores, second only to the 70 percent he reached in October after the September 11th tragedy. Senator McCain is hugely popular among people of all partisan backgrounds; Republicans 72 percent positive, Democrats 69 percent and Independents 68 percent. Similarly, Senator Jon Kyl's favorable ratings now

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sit at 49 percent; as is true for McCain, this reading is second only to the reading Kyl received in October of last year. On the other hand, his image is more partisan than is McCain's. Thus, favorable ratings are 63 percent among Republicans, 42 percent among Democrats and 43 percent within the ranks of Independents. Fewer than ten percent believe either of the two senators are performing poorly in their jobs.

Public views of Governor Jane Hull's performance continue to slide with 29 percent, an historic high, now classifying her performance as "poor." Only 37 percent believe she is doing an "excellent" or "good" job. Despite her decreasing equity with the public, she remains far more popular than former governor Fife Symington at the height of his problems in 1996, when only 19 percent rated his performance favorably, 47 percent said he was doing a poor job and seven in ten thought it a good idea he should resign. Governor Hull's standing with the public is complicated by the fact that negative views of her performance transcend political party lines with 27 percent of Republicans, 32 percent of Democrats and 36 percent of Independents dissatisfied with her performance.

State Attorney General Janet Napolitano continues to enjoy positive job ratings. Forty-eight percent say she is doing an "excellent" or "good" job and only 12 percent rate her unfavorably. More important, even though she is the likely banner carrier for Democrats in this fall's gubernatorial race, she enjoys the respect of a plurality of Republican voters and a majority of Independents and women. Most important, among people most likely to go to the polls in November, 53 percent rate her favorably while only 14 percent give her negative ratings.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll Arizona (2002-II-06) is based on 710 telephone interviews with adults, conducted from April 3rd through April 7th, 2002 throughout Arizona. In the overall sample, one may say with 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.8 percent of what they would have been had the entire adult population been surveyed. 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.

BELOW: Statistical data

For this and other polls. See www.brcpolls.com/results

STATISTICAL DATA

Behavior Research Center

Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona

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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)
<u>President George W. Bush</u>						
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)	
<u>Governor Jane Hull</u>						
April	2002	37%	28%	29%	(+ 8)	
January	2002	34	34	22	(+ 12)	
October	2001	43	29	20	(+ 23)	
July	2001	36	29	23	(+ 13)	
April	2001	38	28	24	(+ 14)	
January	2001	36	29	24	(+ 12)	
October	2000	47	31	12	(+ 35)	
July	2000	51	29	11	(+ 40)	
April	2000	41	32	13	(+ 28)	
January	2000	50	30	10	(+ 40)	
October	1999	55	26	8	(+ 47)	
July	1999	58	23	7	(+ 51)	
April	1999	58	23	5	(+ 53)	
January	1999	65	20	4	(+ 61)	
October	1998	57	23	3	(+ 54)	
July	1998	55	27	5	(+ 50)	
April	1998	57	23	5	(+ 52)	
January	1998	56	20	3	(+ 53)	
October	1997	45	20	4	(+ 41)	
<u>State Attorney General</u>						
<u>Janet Napolitano</u>						
April	2002	48%	23%	12%	(+ 36)	
January	2002	43	28	9	(+ 34)	
October	2001	51	23	9	(+ 42)	
January	2000	51	26	6	(+ 45)	
July	1999	47	22	9	(+ 38)	
April	1999	42	24	5	(+ 37)	
January	1999	42	16	4	(+ 38)	

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		EXCELLENT/ GOOD		FAIR	POOR/VERY POOR (NET POS TO NEG)	
<u>U.S. Senator John McCain</u>						
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)	
<u>U.S. Senator Jon Kyl</u>						
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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