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Rocky Mountain Poll

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ARIZONA VOTERS EVALUATE JOB PERFORMANCE OF PRESIDENT OBAMA AND U.S. SENATORS MCCAIN AND KYL

Phoenix, Arizona, September 29, 2009. From 44 to 48 percent of Arizona voters with an opinion toward top federal officials such as President Obama, and U.S. Senators John McCain and Jon Kyl, assess their performance favorably. In the case of President Barack Obama (for whom 94 percent do have an opinion) assessments are favorable yet reveal deep partisan divisions. Thus, 47 percent of voters with an opinion assess Mr. Obama's performance as "excellent or good", including 75 percent of Democrats, 46 percent of Independents but only 17 percent of Republicans. Similarly, evidence of the deep partisan separation in views can be seen in the negative job ratings given depending upon one's political affiliation: thus only nine percent of Democrats, but 31 percent of Independents and fully 58 percent of Republicans who have an opinion of the President's performance in the White House say he is doing a "poor" job.

The President's favorable job ratings run in close parallel to those of both of Arizona's Republican U.S. Senators. For example, among voters with an opinion, favorable job ratings for Senator Kyl total 44 percent and for Senator McCain, 48 percent. Negative job assessments of both senators is lower than that for the President, but not hugely so ... 21 percent for Senator McCain and 24 percent for Senator Kyl. And for both, while partisan overtones are evident in voter assessments, they are not as intense as for the President.

As noted above, President Obama's job ratings reveal strong partisan overtones that undoubtedly reflect the fierce attacks from the GOP toward nearly all aspects of his policies. It also appears that these attacks have been most successful among voters over 55 years of age, middle income voters and Caucasians. On the other hand, groups in which Mr. Obama remains favorably evaluated by a majority include ethnic minorities (especially Hispanics) both lower and upper income voters and voters under the age of 55.

STATISTICAL DATA

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For this and other polls, see www.brcpolls.com/results.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This Rocky Mountain Poll - Arizona (2009-III-03), is based on 800 interviews with adult heads of household across Arizona conducted between September 9 and 18, 2009 including 629 registered voters. Where necessary, figures for age, sex, race and political party were weighted to bring them into line with their actual proportion in the population. In a sample of this size, one can say with a 95 percent certainty that the results have a statistical precision of plus or minus 3.5 percent of what they would have been had the entire population been surveyed. Among the voter sample the statistical precision is plus or minus 4.0 percent. The Rocky Mountain Poll is conducted by the Behavior Research Center of Arizona and is an independent and non-partisan research program sponsored by the Center. This statement conforms to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls.

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ENCLOSED: Statistical data for reference.

“Would you say that (name of public official) is doing an excellent, good, fair, poor or very poor job in office?”

**Expressed as Percent of those with an opinion
of each public official**

	Excellent/ Good	Fair	Poor/ Very Poor	(Net Pos to Neg)	% Evaluating
STATEWIDE					
<u>PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA</u>					
All Voters	47%	21%	32%	(+15)	(94%)
Democrats	75	16	9	(+66)	(95)
Independents	46	23	31	(+15)	(98)
Republicans	17	25	58	(-41)	(96)
<u>U.S. SENATOR JOHN MCCAIN</u>					
All Voters	48%	31%	21%	(+27)	(94%)
Democrats	37	32	31	(+6)	(93)
Independents	38	34	28	(+10)	(98)
Republicans	56	31	13	(+43)	(96)
<u>U.S. SENATOR JON KYL</u>					
All Voters	44%	32%	24%	(+20)	(75%)
Democrats	26	31	43	(-17)	(72)
Independents	29	35	36	(-7)	(72)
Republicans	63	29	8	(+55)	(84)

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| <u>President Obama</u> | <b>Expressed as a Percent of those with an opinion<br/>on President Obama.</b> |             |                            |                             |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                        | <u>Job Rating</u>                                                              |             |                            | <u>(Net Pos<br/>to Neg)</u> |
|                        | <u>Excellent/<br/>Good</u>                                                     | <u>Fair</u> | <u>Poor/<br/>Very Poor</u> |                             |
| <u>Gender</u>          |                                                                                |             |                            |                             |
| Men                    | 48%                                                                            | 20%         | 32%                        | (+16)                       |
| Women                  | 46                                                                             | 23          | 31                         | (+15)                       |
| <u>Age</u>             |                                                                                |             |                            |                             |
| Under 35               | 54                                                                             | 24          | 22                         | (+32)                       |
| 35 to 54               | 52                                                                             | 23          | 25                         | (+27)                       |
| 55 +                   | 44                                                                             | 16          | 40                         | (+4)                        |
| <u>Income (Annual)</u> |                                                                                |             |                            |                             |
| Under \$45,000         | 49                                                                             | 23          | 28                         | (+21)                       |
| \$45,000 to \$84,999   | 34                                                                             | 24          | 42                         | (-8)                        |
| \$85,000 or more       | 55                                                                             | 17          | 28                         | (+27)                       |
| <u>Ethnicity</u>       |                                                                                |             |                            |                             |
| Caucasian              | 42                                                                             | 23          | 35                         | (+7)                        |
| Hispanic               | 76                                                                             | 15          | 9                          | (+67)                       |
| Other                  | 49                                                                             | 20          | 31                         | (+18)                       |

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