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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CLINTON AND OBAMA BOTH LEAD MCCAIN IN PA GENERAL ELECTION,  
BUT MCCAIN MORE COMPETITIVE AGAINST OBAMA DUE TO SOUTHWEST PA**

**Harrisburg, PA (Friday, May 9)** - A new statewide poll with Pennsylvania likely voters conducted by Harrisburg-based Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc., shows Hillary Clinton beating John McCain in a hypothetical general election match-up by a 49/38 margin if she is the Democratic nominee, while Barack Obama leads McCain by a closer 46/39 margin. The current poll was conducted May 1-6 with 800 registered likely voters and has a margin of error of 3.4% at the 95% confidence level; the calls were made from our telephone call center in downtown Harrisburg using live survey interviewers. Survey results are attached with this release.

“Both Clinton and Obama lead McCain at this stage of the game, but the fact that Obama’s margin over McCain is 7 points compared to 11 points for Clinton shows how much more competitive the state is for McCain with Obama as the Democratic nominee,” said President Jim Lee. The key difference in the poll seems to be Clinton’s strength in the Southwest region of the state, where she leads McCain by a 51/34 margin, but with an Obama ticket in November McCain leads 45/34, which is a 28-point swing in support. This means the Southwest region of the state, where Democrats are more culturally conservative on social issues like gun control, abortion and gay marriage and have voting patterns similar to so-called “Reagan Democrats”, can really be the deciding factor in November because this is an area that in past elections has been reliably good for Republicans at the statewide level for both former and current President Bush, former US Senator Rick Santorum and others.

Most other areas of the state don’t show much of a disparity whether Obama or Clinton is the Democratic nominee. For instance, both Clinton and Obama beat McCain in the Southeast and Philadelphia by near equal margins, while the Northeast and “T”/Central parts of the state are dead heats regardless of who is the Democratic nominee. However, McCain leads both

*A proven winner in survey research and public opinion polling*

Clinton and Obama in the conservative, Republican South Central/Harrisburg region which includes counties like Lancaster, Cumberland, Perry, Adams and York.

Clinton also does better against McCain with white, working class voters than does Obama, a point she has stressed all along in key battleground states, which is a core demographic group in the Southwest and accounts for 43% of all voters polled in the survey. For instance, among all white voters in the poll with no college degree, Clinton beats McCain 47/41, whereas in an Obama/McCain match-up McCain holds an impressive 47/33 lead with these same voters, a swing of 20 points. Among whites with a college degree or more, McCain and Clinton are nearly tied at 44/43, respectively, while Obama leads significantly over McCain by a 49/39 margin with this same group. This means Obama has a lot of work to do to repair his image with white, working class voters before he can put Pennsylvania in the win column, Lee added.

Susquehanna Polling and Research, Inc. is based in Harrisburg, PA and conducts surveys primarily in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Nevada and California and conducts surveys for both political clients (Republican only) and corporate firms (bipartisan). More information about our company can be found at [www.susquehannapolling.com](http://www.susquehannapolling.com).



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**Final Top Line Survey Results**  
**Susquehanna Polling – May 2008 Statewide Poll**  
**Sample Size: 800 Registered Likely Voters**  
**Conducted: May 1-6, 2008**

**INTRODUCTION:** We are conducting a survey of attitudes and opinions concerning some important issues facing Pennsylvania today. May we have a few minutes of your time to complete the survey?

F1. Thinking ahead to the general election for president in November, please rank your chances of voting in this election on a scale from 1 to 10 with "1" meaning you are not planning to vote and "10" meaning you will definitely be voting? (IF 5 OR LOWER, TERMINATE CALL)

1. Six-nine	47	06%
2. Ten	753	94%

Q1. What would you say is the single most important problem facing Pennsylvania today? That is, the one that you would like to see resolved by your state elected officials. (DO NOT READ CHOICES – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

1. Taxes	110	14%
2. Drugs/crime/violence	40	05%
<b>3. Economy/jobs/unemployment</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>31%</b>
4. Growth/development/traffic	1	00%
5. Government spending/budget	7	01%
6. Politicians/government	29	04%
7. Streets/roads/transportation	25	03%
8. Healthcare/prescription drugs	60	08%
9. Medicare/social security	5	01%
10. Education/schools	31	04%
11. Gas/energy prices	138	17%
12. Terrorism/National Security	1	00%
13. War in Iraq	8	01%
14. Morality/family values	16	02%
15. Illegal aliens/Immigration	7	01%
16. Environment/global warming	10	01%
17. Undecided/none	34	04%
18. Other	32	04%

## Turning to the upcoming general election for president in November...

(ROTATE Q2-Q3)

Q2. If the race for president were being held today, and the candidates were John McCain, the Republican candidate, and Hillary Clinton, the Democratic candidate, for whom would you vote?  
(ROTATE NAMES)

1. McCain	304	38%
2. Clinton	389	49%
3. Undecided	61	08%
4. None/other	39	05%
5. Refuse	7	01%

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	<u>All</u>	<u>N-west</u>	<u>S-west</u>	<u>T/Cen</u>	<u>N-east</u>	<u>S-Cen</u>	<u>S-east</u>	<u>Alleg</u>	<u>Phila</u>
McCain	38%	43%	34%	40%	45%	49%	36%	36%	21%
Clinton	49%	41%	51%	36%	44%	40%	52%	51%	67%

	<u>All</u>	<u>White No Coll</u>	<u>White Yes Coll</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
McCain	38%	41%	44%	73%	11%	42%	04%	47%	30%
Clinton	49%	47%	43%	15%	78%	45%	85%	41%	56%

Q3. If the race for president were being held today, and the candidates were John McCain, the Republican candidate and Barack Obama, the Democratic candidate, for whom would you vote?  
(ROTATE NAMES)

1. McCain	310	39%
2. Obama	367	46%
3. Undecided	71	09%
4. None/other	43	05%
5. Refuse	8	01%

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	<u>All</u>	<u>N-west</u>	<u>S-west</u>	<u>T/Cen</u>	<u>N-east</u>	<u>S-Cen</u>	<u>S-east</u>	<u>Alleg</u>	<u>Phila</u>
McCain	39%	34%	45%	42%	43%	48%	35%	40%	21%
Obama	46%	44%	34%	39%	40%	36%	51%	50%	69%

	<u>All</u>	<u>White No Coll</u>	<u>White Yes Coll</u>	<u>Rep</u>	<u>Dem</u>	<u>White</u>	<u>Black</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
McCain	39%	47%	39%	70%	15%	43%	04%	45%	33%
Obama	46%	33%	49%	18%	70%	41%	93%	41%	50%

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**Now, I just have a few more questions for demographic purposes and we'll be through...**

Q4. Are you registered to vote as a Republican, Democrat, Independent or something else?

1. Republican	323	40%
2. Democrat	396	50%
3. Independent/other	73	09%
4. Refuse	7	01%

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Q5. What is your approximate age according to the following brackets: 18 - 29, 30 - 44, 45 - 59 or 60 and over?

1. 18-29	29	04%
2. 30-44	149	19%
3. 45-59	324	41%
4. 60+	292	36%

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Q6. Do you consider yourself to be conservative or liberal when thinking about your social, economic and political views? (**TEST INTENSITY**)

1. Very conservative	144	18%	<b>Total Conservative: 50%</b>
2. Somewhat conservative	254	32%	
3. Very liberal	77	10%	
4. Somewhat liberal	169	21%	
5. Moderate	135	17%	
6. Undecided	12	02%	

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Q7. What is the last grade you completed in school? (**DO NOT READ CHOICES**)

1. K-8	3	00%
2. Some high school but did not graduate	13	02%
3. Graduated high school	211	26%
4. Technical or vocational school (2-year degree)	46	06%
5. Some college	135	17%
6. Graduated college (4-year degree)	218	27%
7. Graduate/professional school	168	21%

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Q8. Is your main racial heritage of Caucasian, African-American, Hispanic, Asian American or another background? (**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**)

1. Caucasian	687	86%
2. African American	65	08%
3. Hispanic	9	01%
4. Asian or Pacific Islander	8	01%
5. Native American	3	00%
6. Other	17	02%
7. Refuse	15	02%

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Q9. What was your total household income for 2007 according to the following income brackets – less than \$15,000, \$15 to \$30,000, \$31 to \$50,000, \$51 to \$75,000, \$76,000 - \$99,000, \$100,000 to \$200,000 or over \$200,000?

1. Less than \$15,000	36	05%
2. \$15,000 - \$30,000	77	10%
3. \$31,000 - \$50,000	151	19%
4. \$51,000 - \$75,000	149	19%
5. \$76,000 - \$99,000	110	14%
6. \$100,000 - \$200,000	125	16%
7. \$200,000+	22	03%
8. Undecided	10	01%
9. Refuse	118	15%

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. HAVE A GOOD DAY.**

Gender:

1. Male	381	48%
2. Female	419	52%

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Area:

- 38 (05%) 1. **Northwest** [Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren, Forest]
- 82 (10%) 2. **Southwest** [Lawrence, Beaver, Washington, Greene, Fayette, Westmoreland, Indiana, Armstrong, Butler]
- 94 (12%) 3. **The "T"/Central** [Jefferson, Elk, McKean, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Centre, Cambria, Somerset, Bedford, Fulton, Franklin, Huntingdon, Blair, Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Sullivan, Lycoming, Clinton, Union, Snyder, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Mifflin, Juniata]
- 98 (12%) 4. **Northeast/Lehigh Valley** [Luzerne, Carbon, Monroe, Schuylkill, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Northampton, Pike, Wayne]
- 130 (16%) 5. **South Central** [Perry, Cumberland, Adams, York, Lancaster, Lebanon, Dauphin, Berks]
- 166 (21%) 6. **Southeast** [Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks]
- 93 (12%) 7. **Allegheny County**
- 99 (12%) 8. **Philadelphia**

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The margin of error for a sample size of 800 is +/-3.46%

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