



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 11, 2011

**INTERVIEWS: DEAN DEBNAM 888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888 (serious media inquiries only please, other questions can be directed to Tom Jensen)**

**QUESTIONS ABOUT THE POLL: TOM JENSEN 919-744-6312**

## **NM won't support Richardson again, Martinez very popular**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Based on a poll PPP took late last September, Bill Richardson left office as the third least popular governor in the country after Republicans Arnold Schwarzenegger and Nevada's scandal-plagued Jim Gibbons. He had a measly 27-64 approval rating with likely voters in last fall's election.

Looking back at his two terms as a whole, though, voters are a little more charitable. In PPP's latest poll of the state, 34% now rate his eight years in the governor's mansion positively, while 55% disapprove. Republicans unsurprisingly line up almost unanimously against his tenure, and independents split, 30-50, in disapproval. He suffers most, though, because his fellow Democrats, who make up over half the electorate, are only barely, at 48-38, in his corner.

Now half of New Mexicans say they would definitely not vote for Richardson if he ran for office again, while only 13% would be solidly in his corner, and 35% would give it some thought. More Democrats (31%) have closed the door on him than the 19% who still support him. 55% of independents are against another Richardson bid.

Given these numbers, it is no surprise that Governor Susana Martinez would seem a breath of fresh air to voters. She starts her term with 53% approving of her performance so far, and only 29% disapproving, which makes her tied for the fifth most popular governor of 39 executives PPP has polled about in the last year or so.

Martinez's standing is probably more impressive than any of the few governors with higher net approval margins because they are all either Republicans in red states or Democrats in blue states. Indeed, Martinez almost breaks even across the aisle, at 39-41. Independents approve, 46-19. Martinez probably benefits from her ethnicity. Hispanics make up 39% of the electorate here, and though they normally prefer Democrats to Republicans by large margins, they give Martinez a 49-34 mark, compared to their 40-49 for fellow Hispanic Richardson.

Tom Udall's 56-31 approval rating makes him the 7<sup>th</sup> most popular of 78 senators PPP has polled on. Senior colleague Jeff Bingaman is the 5<sup>th</sup>, as Tuesday's release showed.

PPP surveyed 545 New Mexico voters from February 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/-4.2%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.





## New Mexico Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Susana Martinez's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 53%  
*Disapprove*..... 29%  
*Not sure* ..... 18%

**Q2** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator Tom Udall's job performance?

*Approve* ..... 56%  
*Disapprove*..... 31%  
*Not sure* ..... 13%

**Q3** Do you approve or disapprove of the work Bill Richardson did during his eight years as Governor?

*Approve* ..... 34%  
*Disapprove*..... 55%  
*Not sure* ..... 11%

**Q4** If Bill Richardson ran for political office again in the future, would you definitely vote for him, consider voting for him, or definitely not vote for him?

*Would definitely vote for him*..... 13%  
*Would consider voting for him*..... 35%  
*Would definitely not vote for him*..... 50%  
*Not sure* ..... 2%

**Q5** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

*Liberal*..... 23%  
*Moderate*..... 46%  
*Conservative*..... 32%

**Q6** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

*Woman* ..... 54%  
*Man*..... 46%

**Q7** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat*..... 55%  
*Republican*..... 29%  
*Independent/Other*..... 16%

**Q8** If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Hispanic*..... 39%  
*White* ..... 53%  
*Other*..... 8%

**Q9** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1. If 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If you are older than 65, press 4.

*18 to 29*..... 12%  
*30 to 45*..... 24%  
*46 to 65*..... 44%  
*Older than 65*..... 20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Martinez Approval</b>				
Approve	53%	22%	46%	85%
Disapprove	29%	63%	27%	7%
Not sure	18%	14%	27%	8%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Udall Approval</b>				
Approve	56%	85%	62%	26%
Disapprove	31%	6%	22%	61%
Not sure	13%	9%	16%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Richardson 8 Years Approval</b>				
Approve	34%	58%	37%	11%
Disapprove	55%	24%	50%	85%
Not sure	11%	18%	13%	4%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Vote for Richardson if Ran Again?</b>				
Would definitely vote for him	13%	23%	14%	4%
Would consider voting for him	35%	56%	39%	12%
Would definitely not vote for him	50%	18%	44%	82%
Not sure	2%	3%	2%	1%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Martinez Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	53%	50%	56%
<b>Disapprove</b>	29%	31%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	19%	17%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Udall Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	56%	59%	52%
<b>Disapprove</b>	31%	25%	38%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	16%	10%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Richardson 8 Years Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	34%	38%	28%
<b>Disapprove</b>	55%	50%	61%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	12%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Vote for Richardson if Ran Again?</b>			
<b>Would definitely vote for him</b>	13%	14%	12%
<b>Would consider voting for him</b>	35%	36%	33%
<b>Would definitely not vote for him</b>	50%	47%	55%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	3%	1%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Martinez Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	53%	39%	83%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	29%	41%	12%	19%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	20%	5%	35%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Udall Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	56%	77%	18%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	31%	14%	67%	24%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	10%	15%	24%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Richardson 8 Years Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	34%	48%	9%	30%
<b>Disapprove</b>	55%	38%	89%	50%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	14%	2%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Vote for Richardson if Ran Again?</b>				
<b>Would definitely vote for him</b>	13%	19%	4%	9%
<b>Would consider voting for him</b>	35%	47%	10%	35%
<b>Would definitely not vote for him</b>	50%	31%	84%	55%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	2%	2%	1%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Martinez Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	53%	49%	57%	43%
<b>Disapprove</b>	29%	34%	26%	26%
<b>Not sure</b>	18%	17%	18%	31%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Udall Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	56%	66%	49%	53%
<b>Disapprove</b>	31%	23%	37%	25%
<b>Not sure</b>	13%	11%	14%	22%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Richardson 8 Years Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	34%	40%	30%	29%
<b>Disapprove</b>	55%	49%	59%	58%
<b>Not sure</b>	11%	11%	11%	13%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
<b>Vote for Richardson if Ran Again?</b>				
<b>Would definitely vote for him</b>	13%	19%	10%	8%
<b>Would consider voting for him</b>	35%	37%	33%	35%
<b>Would definitely not vote for him</b>	50%	42%	56%	52%
<b>Not sure</b>	2%	2%	2%	5%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Martinez Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>53%</b>	64%	40%	51%	65%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>29%</b>	24%	37%	30%	21%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>18%</b>	12%	24%	19%	14%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Udall Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>56%</b>	52%	57%	59%	49%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>31%</b>	27%	26%	30%	40%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>13%</b>	21%	16%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Richardson 8 Years Approval</b>					
<b>Approve</b>	<b>34%</b>	33%	43%	31%	28%
<b>Disapprove</b>	<b>55%</b>	42%	48%	61%	59%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>11%</b>	24%	9%	9%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Vote for Richardson if Ran Again?</b>					
<b>Would definitely vote for him</b>	<b>13%</b>	16%	22%	9%	11%
<b>Would consider voting for him</b>	<b>35%</b>	34%	34%	37%	31%
<b>Would definitely not vote for him</b>	<b>50%</b>	50%	41%	53%	57%
<b>Not sure</b>	<b>2%</b>	-	3%	2%	2%

