



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 3, 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

Arizonans want more gun control

Raleigh, N.C. – While the state’s Republicans still are not in favor of stricter gun control laws in general, overwhelming support from Democrats and tepid support from independents makes a majority of Arizonans in favor of further restricting who can buy guns and banning lawmakers from being armed within the state legislative chambers. One thing everyone can agree on is that those determined by the courts to be mentally ill should be barred from purchasing handguns.

Overall, 55% are in favor of more stringent gun control legislation, with 38% opposed. It rises to majority support based on 81% of Democrats and a 48-43 margin with independents. Republicans, however, are a mirror image of the overall electorate, opposing by a 55-36 margin.

92% of the state’s voters want to keep those adjudicated as mentally ill from being able to buy guns, something that is prohibited federally but which depends on compliance from states and private gun dealers. Republicans, at 93%, actually are most strongly in favor of this measure.

But while 77% of Democrats and half of independents do not think legislators should be able to have guns on the floor, 55% of Republicans disagree, again contrary to the overall sentiment, which is 53-37 against Arizona legislators’ current right to do this. A number of Congressmen and local leaders across the country have said they plan to arm themselves in the wake of the attack on Gabrielle Giffords a few weeks ago.

“Arizona has been a national leader in the gun-rights movement, but after the Tucson massacre, a lot of the state’s residents realize something needs to change,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

Arizonans feel similarly about Palin’s role in the shooting as do all Americans. In PPP’s January national poll, 64% thought she was not at all responsible. 68% of Arizonans feel that way. Republicans and independents are pretty strongly in the not-responsible camp both in the state and nationally, while Democrats are split just slightly in the opposite direction.

PPP surveyed 599 Arizona voters from January 28th to 30th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-4.0%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.





Arizona Survey Results

Q1 Do you approve or disapprove of Governor Jan Brewer's job performance?

Approve..... 47% *Not sure* 9%
Disapprove..... 45%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of Senator John McCain's job performance?

Approve 40%
Disapprove..... 49%
Not sure 10%

Q3 In general do you think Arizona should have stricter laws concerning who can buy guns or not?

Should have stricter laws about who can buy guns..... 55%
Should not have stricter laws about who can buy guns..... 38%
Not sure 7%

Q4 Do you think the law should restrict those who have been deemed by the courts to be mentally ill from purchasing a handgun or not?

Law should restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns 92%
Law should not restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns..... 4%
Not sure 4%

Q5 Do you think state senators should be allowed to carry guns in the state legislative chamber or not?

Senators should be allowed to carry guns 37%
Senators should not be allowed to carry guns 53%
Not sure 9%

Q6 Do you think violence against the current American government is justified or not?

Justified..... 9%
Not justified..... 76%
Not sure..... 15%

Q7 Do you think Sarah Palin bears any responsibility for the shooting in Arizona this month or not?

She bears some responsibility 25%
She does not..... 68%
Not sure 7%

Q8 Would you like for Bristol Palin to live in Arizona or would you rather she lived somewhere else?

Would like her to live in AZ..... 31%
Would rather she live somewhere else 26%
Not sure 43%

Q9 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 18%
Moderate..... 44%
Conservative..... 38%

Q10 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 55%
Man..... 45%

Q11 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..... 36%
Republican..... 40%
Independent/Other..... 24%





Q12 If you are Hispanic, press 1. If white, press 2.
If other, press 3.

<i>Hispanic</i>	17%
<i>White</i>	74%
<i>Other</i>	9%

Q13 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.

<i>18 to 29</i>	12%
<i>30 to 45</i>	22%
<i>46 to 65</i>	46%
<i>Older than 65</i>	20%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Brewer Approval				
Approve	47%	19%	32%	77%
Disapprove	45%	77%	59%	12%
Not sure	9%	3%	8%	12%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
McCain Approval				
Approve	40%	24%	39%	48%
Disapprove	49%	73%	50%	38%
Not sure	10%	3%	11%	13%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Stricter Gun Control Laws for AZ?				
Should have stricter laws about who can buy guns	55%	84%	69%	24%
Should not have stricter laws about who can buy guns	38%	12%	25%	65%
Not sure	7%	4%	6%	11%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Should Law Keep Mentally Ill from Buying Guns?				
Law should restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	92%	87%	95%	91%
Law should not restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	4%	6%	3%	5%
Not sure	4%	7%	2%	5%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Should St. Senators Be Allowed to Carry in Leg. Chamber?				
Senators should be allowed to carry guns	37%	18%	28%	58%
Senators should not be allowed to carry guns	53%	79%	60%	33%
Not sure	9%	3%	12%	9%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Violence Against Current Gov't Justified?				
Justified	9%	11%	7%	12%
Not justified	76%	80%	79%	70%
Not sure	15%	9%	14%	18%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Does Palin Bear Responsibility for Shooting?				
She bears some responsibility	25%	42%	39%	2%
She does not	68%	42%	54%	96%
Not sure	7%	16%	7%	2%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Bristol Palin Live in AZ or Somewhere Else?				
Would like her to live in AZ	31%	14%	26%	44%
Would rather she live somewhere else	26%	50%	30%	9%
Not sure	43%	36%	44%	47%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Brewer Approval			
Approve	47%	47%	46%
Disapprove	45%	44%	45%
Not sure	9%	9%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
McCain Approval			
Approve	40%	41%	39%
Disapprove	49%	46%	54%
Not sure	10%	13%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Stricter Gun Control Laws for AZ?			
Should have stricter laws about who can buy guns	55%	65%	43%
Should not have stricter laws about who can buy guns	38%	28%	50%
Not sure	7%	8%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should Law Keep Mentally Ill from Buying Guns?			
Law should restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	92%	95%	88%
Law should not restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	4%	2%	7%
Not sure	4%	3%	6%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Should St. Senators Be Allowed to Carry in Leg. Chamber?			
Senators should be allowed to carry guns	37%	29%	49%
Senators should not be allowed to carry guns	53%	61%	44%
Not sure	9%	11%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Violence Against Current Gov't Justified?			
Justified	9%	10%	8%
Not justified	76%	72%	81%
Not sure	15%	17%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Does Palin Bear Responsibility for Shooting?			
She bears some responsibility	25%	27%	23%
She does not	68%	67%	70%
Not sure	7%	7%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Bristol Palin Live in AZ or Somewhere Else?			
Would like her to live in AZ	31%	27%	35%
Would rather she live somewhere else	26%	28%	23%
Not sure	43%	45%	42%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Brewer Approval				
Approve	47%	21%	74%	39%
Disapprove	45%	74%	15%	51%
Not sure	9%	5%	12%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
McCain Approval				
Approve	40%	27%	53%	38%
Disapprove	49%	67%	35%	46%
Not sure	10%	5%	12%	15%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Stricter Gun Control Laws for AZ?				
Should have stricter laws about who can buy guns	55%	81%	36%	48%
Should not have stricter laws about who can buy guns	38%	14%	55%	43%
Not sure	7%	4%	9%	9%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should Law Keep Mentally Ill from Buying Guns ?				
Law should restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	92%	92%	93%	89%
Law should not restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	4%	3%	3%	8%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Should St. Senators Be Allowed to Carry in Leg. Chamber?				
Senators should be allowed to carry guns	37%	16%	55%	40%
Senators should not be allowed to carry guns	53%	77%	34%	50%
Not sure	9%	8%	11%	10%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Violence Against Current Gov't Justified?				
Justified	9%	9%	11%	8%
Not justified	76%	78%	73%	78%
Not sure	15%	13%	16%	14%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Does Palin Bear Responsibility for Shooting?				
She bears some responsibility	25%	46%	6%	28%
She does not	68%	44%	94%	62%
Not sure	7%	11%	1%	11%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Bristol Palin Live in AZ or Somewhere Else?				
Would like her to live in AZ	31%	17%	44%	29%
Would rather she live somewhere else	26%	45%	10%	23%
Not sure	43%	38%	45%	49%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Brewer Approval				
Approve	47%	38%	50%	37%
Disapprove	45%	50%	42%	57%
Not sure	9%	13%	8%	7%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
McCain Approval				
Approve	40%	43%	40%	37%
Disapprove	49%	49%	49%	54%
Not sure	10%	8%	11%	10%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Stricter Gun Control Laws for AZ?				
Should have stricter laws about who can buy guns	55%	66%	53%	52%
Should not have stricter laws about who can buy guns	38%	29%	40%	34%
Not sure	7%	5%	7%	14%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Should Law Keep Mentally Ill from Buying Guns?				
Law should restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	92%	87%	94%	83%
Law should not restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	4%	5%	3%	14%
Not sure	4%	8%	3%	3%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Should St. Senators Be Allowed to Carry in Leg. Chamber?				
Senators should be allowed to carry guns	37%	35%	39%	32%
Senators should not be allowed to carry guns	53%	54%	52%	58%
Not sure	9%	11%	9%	9%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Violence Against Current Gov't Justified?				
Justified	9%	5%	10%	9%
Not justified	76%	81%	75%	74%
Not sure	15%	14%	15%	17%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Does Palin Bear Responsibility for Shooting?				
She bears some responsibility	25%	33%	23%	29%
She does not	68%	63%	71%	54%
Not sure	7%	4%	6%	18%

	Base	Race		
		Hispanic	White	Other
Bristol Palin Live in AZ or Somewhere Else?				
Would like her to live in AZ	31%	23%	33%	27%
Would rather she live somewhere else	26%	33%	23%	33%
Not sure	43%	44%	44%	39%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Brewer Approval					
Approve	47%	41%	47%	49%	44%
Disapprove	45%	50%	44%	43%	45%
Not sure	9%	9%	9%	8%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
McCain Approval					
Approve	40%	38%	44%	39%	39%
Disapprove	49%	59%	44%	49%	50%
Not sure	10%	3%	12%	11%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Stricter Gun Control Laws for AZ?					
Should have stricter laws about who can buy guns	55%	78%	41%	53%	62%
Should not have stricter laws about who can buy guns	38%	22%	49%	40%	30%
Not sure	7%	-	10%	7%	8%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should Law Keep Mentally Ill from Buying Guns?					
Law should restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	92%	91%	81%	95%	97%
Law should not restrict those determined by courts to be mentally ill from purchasing handguns	4%	6%	9%	3%	1%
Not sure	4%	3%	10%	2%	2%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Should St. Senators Be Allowed to Carry in Leg. Chamber?					
Senators should be allowed to carry guns	37%	38%	41%	40%	26%
Senators should not be allowed to carry guns	53%	56%	49%	50%	63%
Not sure	9%	6%	10%	9%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Violence Against Current Gov't Justified?					
Justified	9%	16%	12%	6%	10%
Not justified	76%	69%	79%	77%	73%
Not sure	15%	16%	9%	16%	17%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Does Palin Bear Responsibility for Shooting?					
She bears some responsibility	25%	41%	15%	25%	29%
She does not	68%	47%	79%	70%	65%
Not sure	7%	13%	6%	6%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Bristol Palin Live in AZ or Somewhere Else?					
Would like her to live in AZ	31%	16%	24%	37%	33%
Would rather she live somewhere else	26%	53%	18%	23%	26%
Not sure	43%	31%	59%	40%	40%

