

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**June 15, 2010**

**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**

## **Vitter is Ahead; Melancon is Unknown**

Five months away from the Louisiana Senatorial election Senator David Vitter is ahead of Democratic Congressman Charlie Melancon 46 to 37%. Vitter's strength is partly due to his name recognition. Vitter is well known throughout the state, only 11% of voters have no opinion of the Senator.

Far fewer Louisianans know of Melancon, 37% have yet to form an opinion of the Congressman. Melancon is less known within the Democratic Party than amongst Republicans or Independents; 38% of Democrats have no opinion of the Congressman, in comparison to 37% of Republicans and 33% of Independents.

Of those who know Melancon, most have an unfavorable opinion. It is unclear if the heaps of national media exposure Melancon has received from the oil spill have paid off in his home-state.

Currently 22% of Democrats prefer Vitter over Melancon. Though a majority of Democrats, 56%, support Melancon, and 21% remain undecided, Vitter is still drawing a lot of support from the opposing party and away from Melancon.

"Melancon must do well amongst his own party," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "In a state that is a Republican stronghold, Melancon cannot win the election without at least winning over the Democratic Party outright and more importantly getting them out to the polls."

PPP surveyed 492 Louisiana voters from June 12<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup>. The survey's margin of error is +/- 4.42%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

If you would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.



## Louisiana Survey Results

**Q1** Do you approve or disapprove of Senator David Vitter's job performance?

*Approve* .....45% *Not Sure*.....11%  
*Disapprove*.....43%

**Q2** Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Charlie Melancon?

*Favorable*.....29%  
*Unfavorable* .....34%  
*Not Sure*.....37%

**Q3** The candidates for US Senate are Democrat Charlie Melancon and Republican David Vitter. If the election was today, who would you vote for?

*Charlie Melancon*.....37%  
*David Vitter* .....46%  
*Undecided*.....17%

**Q4** Do you approve or disapprove of David Vitter's actions in response to the oil spill?

*Approve* .....42%  
*Disapprove*.....34%  
*Not sure*.....23%

**Q5** Who did you vote for president last year?

*John McCain*.....56%  
*Barack Obama*.....35%  
*Someone else/Don't remember* .....9%

**Q6** Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative? If liberal, press 1. If moderate, press 2. If conservative, press 3.

*Liberal*.....11%  
*Moderate*.....44%  
*Conservative*.....46%

**Q7** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Woman* .....53%  
*Man*.....47%

**Q8** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If you are a Republican, press 2. If you are an independent or identify with another party, press 3.

*Democrat*.....43%  
*Republican*.....39%  
*Independent/Other*.....18%

**Q9** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* .....76%  
*African-American* .....20%  
*Other*.....4%

**Q10** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

*18 to 29*.....11%  
*30 to 45*.....27%  
*46 to 65*.....43%  
*Older than 65*.....20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Vitter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	62%	19%	42%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	26%	71%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	12%	10%	12%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Melancon Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	20%	43%	37%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	43%	21%	26%
<b>Not Sure</b>	37%	38%	35%	37%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Vitter/Melancon</b>				
<b>Charlie Melancon</b>	37%	14%	74%	39%
<b>David Vitter</b>	46%	72%	7%	33%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	14%	20%	28%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
<b>Vitter Oil Spill Response</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	42%	57%	20%	39%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	18%	62%	30%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	26%	18%	31%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Vitter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	33%	32%	61%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	61%	59%	24%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	6%	9%	15%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Melancon Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	44%	39%	17%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	20%	24%	45%
<b>Not Sure</b>	37%	35%	36%	38%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Vitter/Melancon</b>				
<b>Charlie Melancon</b>	37%	58%	51%	19%
<b>David Vitter</b>	46%	20%	29%	67%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	22%	20%	14%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
<b>Vitter Oil Spill Response</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	42%	22%	31%	57%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	58%	47%	17%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	20%	22%	25%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Vitter Approval</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	45%	44%	47%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	41%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	15%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Melancon Favorability</b>			
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	26%	33%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	32%	35%
<b>Not Sure</b>	37%	41%	32%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Vitter/Melancon</b>			
<b>Charlie Melancon</b>	37%	34%	41%
<b>David Vitter</b>	46%	46%	45%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	20%	14%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Vitter Oil Spill Response</b>			
<b>Approve</b>	42%	41%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	33%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	27%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Vitter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	29%	65%	40%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	59%	24%	48%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	11%	11%	13%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Melancon Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	36%	18%	37%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	26%	44%	30%
<b>Not Sure</b>	37%	38%	37%	33%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Vitter/Melancon</b>				
<b>Charlie Melancon</b>	37%	56%	15%	40%
<b>David Vitter</b>	46%	22%	76%	37%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	21%	10%	23%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
<b>Vitter Oil Spill Response</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	42%	31%	59%	35%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	48%	15%	42%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	21%	26%	23%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Vitter Approval</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	45%	51%	24%	44%
<b>Disapprove</b>	43%	39%	60%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	11%	10%	16%	10%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Melancon Favorability</b>				
<b>Favorable</b>	29%	31%	24%	36%
<b>Unfavorable</b>	34%	35%	26%	46%
<b>Not Sure</b>	37%	34%	50%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Vitter/Melancon</b>				
<b>Charlie Melancon</b>	37%	29%	68%	44%
<b>David Vitter</b>	46%	55%	10%	38%
<b>Undecided</b>	17%	16%	22%	18%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Vitter Oil Spill Response</b>				
<b>Approve</b>	42%	46%	28%	46%
<b>Disapprove</b>	34%	29%	56%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	23%	26%	16%	18%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Vitter Approval</b>					
Approve	45%	32%	44%	45%	54%
Disapprove	43%	39%	45%	45%	40%
Not Sure	11%	29%	11%	10%	6%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Melancon Favorability</b>					
Favorable	29%	16%	36%	26%	35%
Unfavorable	34%	29%	30%	38%	31%
Not Sure	37%	55%	34%	36%	34%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Vitter/Melancon</b>					
Charlie Melancon	37%	31%	42%	36%	37%
David Vitter	46%	39%	44%	46%	51%
Undecided	17%	30%	14%	18%	13%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
<b>Vitter Oil Spill Response</b>					
Approve	42%	37%	38%	45%	47%
Disapprove	34%	33%	35%	34%	33%
Not sure	23%	30%	27%	21%	20%

