

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

North Carolinians: NY Mosque Irrelevant to Us

Raleigh, N.C. – A majority of likely North Carolina voters feel that making the proposed “Ground Zero mosque” in New York City a campaign issue in this state is inappropriate. 51% of Tar Heels think the potential location of an Islamic community center near the former site of the World Trade Center is not pertinent to this state’s politics. 37% think it is, and 11% are not sure. Republicans, at 60-29, and Democrats, at 20-68, are of almost reverse opinions, as can be expected. Independents, at 38-50, mirror the overall electorate. National Republicans have stirred up this controversy, and 2nd Congressional District challenger Renee Ellmers has sought and received media attention for her TV ad attacking incumbent Democrat Bob Etheridge over the issue. This poll suggests that effort will not likely be fruitful.

The generic Republican congressional candidate leads the unnamed Democrat, 51-42, essentially unchanged from August’s 50-41. Republicans are nearly unanimous around their candidates, at 96-2, but Democrats have slightly declined in that regard in the last month, from 81-13 to 76-17 now. The factor keeping the Democrats afloat is that undecided independents have moved toward them, giving the GOP a still sizeable 53-27 lead with unaffiliateds, but that is down from 52-19 a month ago.

By a 39-16 margin, though with 45% unsure, voters think Judge Albert Diaz should be confirmed by the Senate as soon as possible. Diaz’s nomination by President Obama to the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals passed out of the Judiciary Committee unanimously eight months ago, but Republicans have held his nomination from receiving a full floor vote. Fellow nominee James Wynn was confirmed on August 5th, but Diaz remains in flux, along with scores of Obama’s other uncontroversial picks for various judicial and executive posts.

“Republicans are trying to use the mosque as a wedge issue,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “But voters aren’t buying it. The campaign tactics that worked in Jesse Helms’ North Carolina aren’t going to be as effective today.”

PPP surveyed 681 likely North Carolina voters from September 23rd to 26th. The survey’s margin of error is +/-3.8%. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

[Complete results are attached, and can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.](http://www.publicpolicypolling.com)



North Carolina Survey Results

Q1 If there was an election for Congress today, would you vote Democratic or Republican?

Democratic..... 42%
Republican..... 51%
Undecided..... 7%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of President Barack Obama's job performance?

Approve 39%
Disapprove..... 57%
Not sure 4%

Q3 Charlotte Judge Albert Diaz has been nominated to the US Court of Appeals. Do you think the Senate should take a vote on his nomination as soon as possible?

Yes..... 39%
No..... 16%
Not sure 45%

Q4 Do you think it is appropriate or inappropriate for political candidates in North Carolina to make the proposed Mosque near Ground Zero a campaign issue?

Appropriate 37%
Inappropriate..... 51%
Not sure 11%

Q5 Who did you vote for President in 2008?

John McCain..... 53%
Barack Obama..... 44%
Someone else/Don't remember 3%

Q6 Would you describe yourself as a liberal, moderate, or conservative?

Liberal..... 17%
Moderate..... 38%
Conservative..... 45%

Q7 Would you describe the community you live in as urban, suburban, rural, or a small town?

Urban..... 16%
Suburban 27%
Rural..... 27%
Small Town 29%

Q8 If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman 52%
Man..... 48%

Q9 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..... 48%
Republican..... 35%
Independent/Other..... 18%

Q10 If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White 77%
African-American 19%
Other..... 4%

Q11 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..... 6%
30 to 45..... 24%
46 to 65..... 45%
Older than 65..... 25%



Q12

252.....	11%
336.....	18%
704.....	18%
828.....	13%
910.....	15%
919.....	25%



Crosstabs

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	4%	87%	32%
Republican	51%	91%	6%	22%
Undecided	7%	5%	7%	46%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	2%	84%	25%
Disapprove	57%	95%	11%	75%
Not sure	4%	2%	6%	-

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Diaz				
Yes	39%	28%	53%	32%
No	16%	25%	6%	14%
Not sure	45%	47%	41%	54%

	Base	2008 Vote		
		John McCain	Barack Obama	Someone else/Don't remember
Ground Zero Mosque				
Appropriate	37%	60%	11%	29%
Inappropriate	51%	29%	79%	42%
Not sure	11%	11%	10%	29%





Crosstabs

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	86%	60%	10%
Republican	51%	9%	30%	84%
Undecided	7%	4%	10%	6%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	83%	57%	8%
Disapprove	57%	13%	37%	90%
Not sure	4%	4%	6%	2%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Diaz				
Yes	39%	51%	46%	29%
No	16%	3%	14%	23%
Not sure	45%	47%	40%	48%

	Base	Ideology		
		Liberal	Moderate	Conservative
Ground Zero Mosque				
Appropriate	37%	13%	23%	58%
Inappropriate	51%	76%	67%	29%
Not sure	11%	10%	10%	13%





Crosstabs

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Generic Congressional Ballot					
Democratic	42%	59%	43%	32%	41%
Republican	51%	36%	51%	59%	51%
Undecided	7%	5%	5%	9%	8%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Obama Approval					
Approve	39%	54%	44%	27%	37%
Disapprove	57%	40%	53%	70%	59%
Not sure	4%	6%	4%	3%	4%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Diaz					
Yes	39%	55%	40%	36%	32%
No	16%	11%	18%	19%	16%
Not sure	45%	35%	43%	45%	52%

	Base	Community Type			
		Urban	Suburban	Rural	Small Town
Ground Zero Mosque					
Appropriate	37%	35%	32%	46%	35%
Inappropriate	51%	60%	58%	39%	52%
Not sure	11%	5%	10%	15%	12%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Generic Congressional Ballot			
Democratic	42%	48%	36%
Republican	51%	46%	56%
Undecided	7%	6%	8%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Obama Approval			
Approve	39%	44%	33%
Disapprove	57%	51%	63%
Not sure	4%	4%	3%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Diaz			
Yes	39%	37%	42%
No	16%	12%	21%
Not sure	45%	51%	37%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
Ground Zero Mosque			
Appropriate	37%	34%	40%
Inappropriate	51%	52%	51%
Not sure	11%	14%	9%





Crosstabs

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	76%	2%	27%
Republican	51%	17%	96%	53%
Undecided	7%	6%	2%	20%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	69%	1%	34%
Disapprove	57%	26%	96%	64%
Not sure	4%	5%	3%	2%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Diaz				
Yes	39%	47%	27%	42%
No	16%	8%	26%	20%
Not sure	45%	46%	47%	37%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Independent/Other
Ground Zero Mosque				
Appropriate	37%	20%	60%	38%
Inappropriate	51%	68%	29%	50%
Not sure	11%	12%	11%	11%





Crosstabs

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Generic Congressional Ballot				
Democratic	42%	32%	84%	33%
Republican	51%	61%	9%	63%
Undecided	7%	7%	7%	4%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Obama Approval				
Approve	39%	29%	82%	31%
Disapprove	57%	68%	11%	67%
Not sure	4%	3%	7%	3%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Diaz				
Yes	39%	37%	48%	36%
No	16%	17%	11%	24%
Not sure	45%	46%	41%	39%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
Ground Zero Mosque				
Appropriate	37%	41%	21%	51%
Inappropriate	51%	51%	57%	39%
Not sure	11%	9%	22%	10%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Generic Congressional Ballot					
Democratic	42%	55%	38%	44%	39%
Republican	51%	41%	51%	49%	56%
Undecided	7%	5%	11%	6%	5%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Obama Approval					
Approve	39%	45%	35%	42%	36%
Disapprove	57%	50%	61%	53%	61%
Not sure	4%	5%	4%	5%	3%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Diaz					
Yes	39%	50%	41%	39%	35%
No	16%	18%	17%	16%	16%
Not sure	45%	32%	41%	45%	50%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	Older than 65
Ground Zero Mosque					
Appropriate	37%	32%	32%	39%	41%
Inappropriate	51%	50%	57%	52%	45%
Not sure	11%	18%	11%	9%	14%





Crosstabs

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Generic Congressional Ballot							
Democratic	42%	36%	47%	41%	44%	30%	48%
Republican	51%	60%	42%	50%	48%	62%	50%
Undecided	7%	4%	11%	8%	9%	8%	3%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Obama Approval							
Approve	39%	35%	44%	38%	37%	28%	46%
Disapprove	57%	65%	52%	54%	62%	67%	51%
Not sure	4%	-	4%	8%	1%	6%	3%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Diaz							
Yes	39%	25%	38%	40%	45%	34%	45%
No	16%	17%	16%	15%	10%	18%	20%
Not sure	45%	58%	46%	45%	45%	49%	35%

	Base	Area Code					
		252	336	704	828	910	919
Ground Zero Mosque							
Appropriate	37%	44%	35%	33%	40%	45%	34%
Inappropriate	51%	43%	50%	52%	55%	47%	56%
Not sure	11%	13%	15%	16%	5%	7%	10%

