



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2008

CONTACT: DEAN DEBNAM
888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888

McCain continues to lead in South Carolina

Raleigh, N.C. – Two days before the South Carolina Republican primary, John McCain continues to hold a solid lead over the rest of the field, according to a new survey by Public Policy Polling.

The poll, conducted Wednesday night, shows McCain with 28% in the state. Mike Huckabee is second with 20%. Mitt Romney does not appear to have received any bounce from his victory in Michigan, finishing third at 18%, just ahead of Fred Thompson at 17%.

Thompson, who has been campaigning heavily in the state, is the only candidate to fare better than he did in a South Carolina poll PPP conducted late last week. He was at 14% then. Rudy Giuliani and Ron Paul each have 4% and 9% remain undecided.

“Barring some major turn of events in the next 48 hours, John McCain appears likely to win the primary on Saturday,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “That should give him a huge boost as the first of the Republican candidates to win a second important contest.”

PPP also surveyed this summer’s primary for the Senate in South Carolina. Incumbent Lindsey Graham has already attracted four primary opponents, mostly from folks to the right of him who feel his record in Washington has not been sufficiently conservative.

Graham is polling at 52%. Former Myrtle Beach mayor Mark McBride is the strongest of the challengers at just 8%. The other three range from 3-5%, with 28% of respondents still undecided.

PPP surveyed 772 likely Republican primary voters on January 16th. The survey’s margin of error is +/- 3.5%. 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.

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

###





SC Republican Primary Survey Results

Q1 The Republican candidates still running for President are Rudy Giuliani, Mike Huckabee, John McCain, Ron Paul, Mitt Romney, and Fred Thompson. If the primary was today, who would you vote for? If you would vote for Rudy Giuliani, press 1. If for Mike Huckabee, press 2. If for John McCain, press 3. If for Ron Paul, press 4. If for Mitt Romney, press 5. If for Fred Thompson, press 6. If you're undecided press 7.

Giuliani..... 4% *Romney*18%
Huckabee.....20% *Thompson*.....17%
McCain.....28% *Undecided*..... 9%
Paul 4%

Q2 This summer there will be a primary election for US Senate. So far the candidates include Tim Carnes, John Cina, Lindsey Graham, Mark McBride, and Buddy Witherspoon. If the election was today, who would you vote for? If Tim Carnes, press 1. If John Cina, press 2. If Lindsey Graham, press 3. If Mark McBride, press 4. If Buddy Witherspoon, press 5. If you're undecided, press 6.

Tim Carnes 4%
John Cina..... 3%
Lindsey Graham52%
Mark McBride..... 8%
Buddy Witherspoon 5%
Undecided.....28%

Q3 I am going to name 7 issues. Which of these is most important to you? The War in Iraq, education, the economy and jobs, taxes, moral or family values, health care, or immigration. If the War in Iraq is most important, press 1. If education, press 2. If the economy and jobs, press 3. If taxes, press 4. If moral and family values, press 5. If health care, press 6. If immigration, press 7. If some other issue is most important, press 8.

War in Iraq22% *Moral and family values*..... 12%
Education..... 4% *Health care*..... 5%
Economy and jobs.26% *Immigration* 24%
Taxes 6% *Other*..... 2%

Q4 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Women44% *Men*.....56%

Q5 If you are a Democrat, press 1, if a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat..... 4% *Other*.....14%
Republican.....82%

Q6 If you are white, press 1, if African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

White94% *Other*..... 4%
African American 2%

Q7 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 than 65, press 4.

18-29..... 6% *46-65*.....46%
30-45.....16% *Older than 65*.....31%





Crosstabs

	Base	Issue							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
President									
Giuliani	4%	5%	5%	5%	2%	-	5%	4%	7%
Huckabee	20%	15%	24%	18%	22%	43%	18%	13%	18%
McCain	28%	38%	42%	35%	13%	19%	23%	20%	34%
Paul	4%	3%	3%	5%	14%	5%	3%	2%	4%
Romney	18%	16%	10%	18%	25%	14%	12%	27%	-
Thompson	17%	14%	8%	13%	16%	13%	19%	27%	11%
Undecided	9%	10%	8%	7%	8%	7%	19%	7%	26%

	Base	Issue							
		War in Iraq	Education	Economy and jobs	Taxes	Moral and family values	Health care	Immigration	Other
Senate									
Tim Carnes	4%	1%	-	4%	3%	4%	-	9%	-
John Cina	3%	3%	16%	3%	2%	-	10%	4%	-
Lindsey Graham	52%	57%	58%	63%	49%	55%	39%	37%	48%
Mark McBride	8%	4%	5%	7%	3%	5%	11%	15%	7%
Buddy Witherspoon	5%	3%	-	3%	17%	6%	-	6%	-
Undecided	28%	30%	21%	20%	25%	30%	40%	30%	45%





Crosstabs

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
President			
Giuliani	4%	5%	4%
Huckabee	20%	23%	17%
McCain	28%	32%	26%
Paul	4%	3%	5%
Romney	18%	18%	18%
Thompson	17%	12%	21%
Undecided	9%	9%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
Senate			
Tim Carnes	4%	3%	5%
John Cina	3%	3%	4%
Lindsey Graham	52%	58%	48%
Mark McBride	8%	6%	9%
Buddy Witherspoon	5%	2%	7%
Undecided	28%	28%	28%

	Base	Party Affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
President				
Giuliani	4%	3%	4%	3%
Huckabee	20%	21%	20%	15%
McCain	28%	28%	28%	31%
Paul	4%	10%	3%	8%
Romney	18%	5%	20%	12%
Thompson	17%	15%	17%	16%
Undecided	9%	18%	7%	15%

	Base	Party Affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
Senate				
Tim Carnes	4%	10%	4%	3%
John Cina	3%	10%	3%	6%
Lindsey Graham	52%	44%	53%	47%
Mark McBride	8%	8%	7%	11%
Buddy Witherspoon	5%	-	5%	4%
Undecided	28%	28%	28%	29%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
President				
Giuliani	4%	4%	9%	7%
Huckabee	20%	20%	18%	17%
McCain	28%	30%	-	7%
Paul	4%	4%	13%	12%
Romney	18%	18%	22%	17%
Thompson	17%	16%	35%	14%
Undecided	9%	8%	4%	26%

	Base	Race		
		White	African American	Other
Senate				
Tim Carnes	4%	4%	9%	5%
John Cina	3%	4%	4%	-
Lindsey Graham	52%	53%	39%	24%
Mark McBride	8%	7%	9%	19%
Buddy Witherspoon	5%	4%	-	14%
Undecided	28%	27%	39%	38%





Crosstabs

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
President					
Giuliani	4%	6%	6%	3%	4%
Huckabee	20%	29%	16%	22%	16%
McCain	28%	32%	21%	26%	35%
Paul	4%	3%	10%	4%	2%
Romney	18%	9%	12%	18%	23%
Thompson	17%	14%	24%	20%	9%
Undecided	9%	8%	10%	7%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18-29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
Senate					
Tim Carnes	4%	8%	3%	5%	2%
John Cina	3%	12%	3%	3%	2%
Lindsey Graham	52%	41%	50%	52%	56%
Mark McBride	8%	2%	8%	9%	7%
Buddy Witherspoon	5%	2%	6%	5%	4%
Undecided	28%	36%	30%	26%	28%

	Base	Area Code		
		803	843	864
President				
Giuliani	4%	4%	4%	4%
Huckabee	20%	23%	16%	21%
McCain	28%	30%	30%	25%
Paul	4%	4%	2%	6%
Romney	18%	17%	23%	15%
Thompson	17%	18%	14%	18%
Undecided	9%	5%	10%	10%

	Base	Area Code		
		803	843	864
Senate				
Tim Carnes	4%	4%	3%	5%
John Cina	3%	2%	4%	4%
Lindsey Graham	52%	52%	48%	56%
Mark McBride	8%	8%	8%	7%
Buddy Witherspoon	5%	8%	4%	2%
Undecided	28%	26%	32%	26%

