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Siena New York Poll:

NYers Think Spitzer Knew What His Aides Were Up To Spitzer Still Popular, But Gets “C” Average on Enacting Agenda, Dealing with Legislature & Everything Changes on Day 1 Promise *Cuomo’s Standing With Voters Jumps; Bruno & Silver Stay Low*

Loudonville, NY, More than half of New York voters who have read or heard about the Attorney General’s report issued last week believe that Governor Eliot Spitzer was aware of what his top aides were doing, despite the fact that he says he did not, according to a new Siena (College) Research Institute poll of registered voters released today. The Siena New York poll also shows that Spitzer still has a better than two-to-one favorable rating, although his job performance rating has fallen significantly. While voters overwhelmingly believe he has been the most effective state leader over the last six months, they give him only average grades on getting his agenda enacted, dealing with the Legislature and following through on his promise that everything changes in Albany on Day 1.

“In the last month, Spitzer’s favorability rating has fallen from three-to-one positive, to two-to-one positive. His job performance rating is negative for the first time since he took office. And he is developing a credibility problem with voters since he continues to maintain that he had no knowledge of what his aides were up to, yet by a margin 51-28 percent, voters think he did know,” said Steven Greenberg, Siena New York Poll spokesman. “At the same time, however, voters overwhelmingly think he has been the most effective state leader over the first half of 2007 and, despite the scandal, voters believe the Governor is committed to reforming Albany, by a margin of 58-28 percent.”

Spitzer’s favorable rating is 59-28 percent (down from 62-22 percent in June and 75-10 percent in January). While 46 percent say he is doing an excellent/good job, 48 percent say he is doing a fair/poor job (55-37 percent in June). Andrew Cuomo’s favorable rating is the highest ever in a Siena poll, 55-26 percent, as is his job performance rating (52-33 percent, up from 46-36 percent in June).

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“On virtually every measure the Governor and Cuomo do best with upstate voters,” Greenberg said. “While Spitzer scores better with Democrats than with Republicans or independents, and New York City has the highest concentration of Democrats, Spitzer does better with upstate voters than New York City or downstate suburban voters on his favorability and job performance ratings, on whether voters believed he knew what his aides were doing, and on his commitment to reforming Albany.

“On three questions where voters were asked to give the Governor a letter grade from A through F, voters only give the Ivy League grad a ‘C’ average,” Greenberg said. “On enacting his agenda nearly half the voters give him an A or B, but his ‘cum’ is a 2.2 (on the 4 point scale). On dealing with the Legislature, as many voters give the Governor a C as give him an A or a B, for a ‘cum’ of 2.0. And on his promise to change everything Day 1, only one in five voters give him an A or B, while one in three give him a C, and another one in three give him a D or F, for a cum of 1.8.”

Senate Majority Leader Joe Bruno has a negative favorability rating of 23-42 percent (it was 17-37 percent in March). Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver has a negative favorability rating of 24-34 percent (virtually unchanged from 23-35 percent in March). New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg has a favorability rating of 65-19 percent (up from 62-20 percent last month).

Among Democratic primary voters, Senator Hillary Clinton extended her commanding lead, garnering 48 percent in a primary match-up. Senator Barack Obama finished second with 14 percent. Among Republican primary voters, Rudy Giuliani still has a nearly three-to-one edge over Senator John McCain, 40-13 percent. Former Senator Fred Thompson, still undeclared, gets 11 percent.

In head-to-head general elections matchups, Clinton stretched her lead to 21 points over Giuliani and 34 points over Thompson. Obama has an 11 point lead over Giuliani and 31 points over Thompson.

“If Mayor Mike gets in the race as an independent, Hillary maintains a solid lead but falls below 50 percent,” Greenberg said. “She has a comfortable 18 point lead (44-26 percent) over Rudy but Bloomberg is only four points behind Rudy, and beats him among Democrats and independents, as well as in New York City. With six months to the New York primary, the race is Hillary’s to lose.”

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This SRI survey was conducted July 24-28, 2007 by telephone calls to 620 registered New York State voters. It has a margin of error of ± 3.9 percentage points. The margin of error for 290 Democrats is ± 5.8 percentage points. The margin of error for 176 Republicans is ± 7.4 percentage points. For more information, please call Steven Greenberg at 518-469-9858. Survey cross-tabulations and frequencies can be found at: www.siena.edu/sri/snyjuly.



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Siena New York Poll Trends – July 2007

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Eliot Spitzer?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 59 | 28 | 14 |
| June 2007 | 64 | 22 | 15 |
| May 2007 | 67 | 21 | 12 |
| April 2007 | 67 | 20 | 13 |
| March 2007 | 62 | 20 | 18 |
| February 2007 | 74 | 12 | 14 |
| January 2007 | 75 | 10 | 16 |
| November 15, 2006 | 75 | 14 | 12 |
| November 3, 2006 | 74 | 17 | 10 |
| October 2006 | 69 | 20 | 12 |
| September 2006 | 74 | 16 | 10 |
| August 2006 | 71 | 15 | 15 |
| June 2006 | 68 | 16 | 16 |
| May 2006 | 63 | 19 | 19 |
| March 2006 | 62 | 18 | 20 |
| January 2006 | 59 | 19 | 23 |
| November 2005 | 65 | 15 | 20 |
| October 2005 | 61 | 19 | 20 |
| August 2005 | 60 | 14 | 26 |
| July 2005 | 62 | 15 | 22 |
| June 2005 | 59 | 15 | 25 |
| May 2005 | 58 | 17 | 25 |
| April 2005 | 53 | 18 | 29 |
| March 2005 | 50 | 18 | 32 |
| February 2005 | 48 | 17 | 34 |

How would you rate the job that Eliot Spitzer is doing as Governor – excellent, good, fair, or poor?

| DATE | EXCELLENT | GOOD | FAIR | POOR | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|---------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 7 | 39 | 34 | 14 | 6 |
| June 2007 | 9 | 46 | 30 | 7 | 8 |
| May 2007 | 11 | 46 | 27 | 9 | 7 |
| April 2007 | 10 | 45 | 31 | 7 | 7 |
| March 2007 | 8 | 39 | 31 | 8 | 13 |
| February 2007 | 15 | 43 | 21 | 3 | 20 |
| January 2007 | 11 | 37 | 15 | 4 | 33 |

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Thomas DiNapoli?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 14 | 12 | 74 |
| June 2007 | 7 | 13 | 80 |
| May 2007 | 7 | 18 | 75 |
| April 2007 | 11 | 14 | 76 |
| March 2007 | 9 | 14 | 78 |
| February 2007 | 9 | 15 | 76 |

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Andrew Cuomo?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 55 | 26 | 19 |
| June 2007 | 49 | 31 | 20 |
| May 2007 | 51 | 32 | 18 |
| April 2007 | 52 | 31 | 18 |
| March 2007 | 50 | 32 | 19 |
| February 2007 | 45 | 35 | 20 |
| January 2007 | 48 | 29 | 23 |
| November 15, 2006 | 50 | 36 | 15 |
| November 3, 2006 | 49 | 36 | 15 |
| October 2006 | 44 | 42 | 15 |
| September 2006 | 50 | 35 | 15 |
| August 2006 | 44 | 35 | 21 |
| June 2006 | 47 | 29 | 24 |
| January 2006 | 45 | 31 | 24 |

How would you rate the job that Andrew Cuomo is doing as Attorney General – excellent, good, fair, or poor?

| DATE | EXCELLENT | GOOD | FAIR | POOR | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 11 | 41 | 27 | 6 | 14 |
| June 2007 | 7 | 39 | 27 | 9 | 18 |
| May 2007 | 9 | 41 | 26 | 9 | 16 |
| April 2007 | 8 | 39 | 29 | 9 | 15 |
| March 2007 | 5 | 35 | 29 | 8 | 23 |
| January 2007 | 11 | 37 | 15 | 4 | 33 |

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Joe Bruno?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 23 | 42 | 36 |
| March 2007 | 17 | 37 | 46 |
| January 2007 | 17 | 36 | 47 |
| May 2006 | 21 | 29 | 50 |
| July 2005 | 26 | 30 | 44 |
| April 2005 | 18 | 30 | 52 |

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Sheldon Silver?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|--------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 24 | 34 | 42 |
| March 2007 | 23 | 35 | 42 |
| January 2007 | 20 | 37 | 43 |
| May 2006 | 24 | 31 | 45 |
| July 2005 | 28 | 34 | 38 |
| April 2005 | 19 | 30 | 50 |

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Michael Bloomberg?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 65 | 19 | 17 |
| June 2007 | 62 | 20 | 18 |

Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Hillary Clinton?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 59 | 35 | 6 |
| June 2007 | 54 | 39 | 7 |
| May 2007 | 56 | 39 | 5 |
| April 2007 | 50 | 42 | 7 |
| March 2007 | 56 | 37 | 8 |
| February 2007 | 56 | 40 | 5 |
| January 2007 | 60 | 33 | 7 |
| November 15, 2006 | 65 | 29 | 6 |
| November 3, 2006 | 61 | 33 | 6 |
| October 2006 | 56 | 38 | 6 |
| September 2006 | 60 | 37 | 4 |
| August 2006 | 54 | 38 | 7 |
| June 2006 | 54 | 38 | 8 |
| May 2006 | 58 | 36 | 6 |
| March 2006 | 55 | 39 | 6 |
| January 2006 | 60 | 37 | 3 |
| November 2005 | 60 | 34 | 6 |
| October 2005 | 59 | 35 | 6 |
| August 2005 | 59 | 37 | 4 |
| July 2005 | 60 | 34 | 6 |
| June 2005 | 60 | 33 | 7 |
| May 2005 | 58 | 35 | 7 |
| April 2005 | 60 | 33 | 6 |
| March 2005 | 58 | 34 | 8 |
| February 2005 | 61 | 33 | 6 |

– more –

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Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion about Rudy Giuliani?

| DATE | FAVORABLE | UNFAVORABLE | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------------------|
| July 2007 | 53 | 40 | 7 |
| June 2007 | 50 | 42 | 8 |
| May 2007 | 51 | 43 | 6 |
| April 2007 | 56 | 38 | 6 |
| March 2007 | 60 | 33 | 8 |
| February 2007 | 59 | 34 | 7 |
| January 2007 | 63 | 29 | 9 |
| November 15, 2006 | 63 | 32 | 5 |
| April 2005 | 63 | 26 | 10 |
| February 2005 | 61 | 28 | 11 |

If the Democratic Primary were held today and the candidates for the presidential nomination were (rotate choices) Barack Obama, Hillary Clinton, John Edwards, Bill Richardson, Chris Dodd, Dennis Kucinich, Joe Biden, or Al Gore who would you vote for? *(Note: Democrats only; choices rotated. Not all candidates were included in each poll; NA indicates where a candidate was not included.)*

| DATE | OBAMA | CLINTON | EDWARDS | RICHARDSON | DODD |
|---------------|-------|---------|---------|------------|------|
| July 2007 | 14 | 48 | 7 | 2 | 1 |
| June 2007 | 11 | 43 | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| May 2007 | 13 | 42 | 7 | 3 | < 1 |
| April 2007 | 17 | 39 | 11 | 4 | 0 |
| March 2007 | 11 | 43 | 7 | 4 | 0 |
| February 2007 | 13 | 44 | 8 | 2 | 1 |
| January 2007 | 11 | 58 | 9 | 4 | 0 |

| | KUCINICH | BIDEN | GORE | DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION |
|---------------|----------|-------|------|---------------------------|
| July 2007 | 2 | 3 | 10 | 13 |
| June 2007 | 1 | 2 | 19 | 13 |
| May 2007 | 4 | 3 | 13 | 15 |
| April 2007 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 13 |
| March 2007 | 3 | 1 | 14 | 17 |
| February 2007 | 2 | 4 | 11 | 15 |
| January 2007 | 1 | 4 | NA | 13 |

– more –

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If the Republican Primary were held today and the candidates for the presidential nomination were (rotate choices) Rudy Giuliani, John McCain, Sam Brownback, Mitt Romney, George Pataki, and Newt Gingrich, who would you vote for? (*Note: Republicans only; choices rotated*)

| DATE | GIULIANI | MCCAIN | BROWNBACK | ROMNEY | PATAKI | GINGRICH | GILMORE |
|---------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|--------|----------|---------|
| July 2007 | 40 | 13 | NA | 7 | NA | 9 | NA |
| June 2007 | 48 | 13 | NA | 6 | NA | 4 | NA |
| May 2007 – 1 | 52 | 14 | 1 | 7 | 0 | NA | 1 |
| May 2007 – 2 | 50 | 12 | NA | 7 | NA | 7 | NA |
| April 2007 | 47 | 16 | 0 | 8 | 6 | 8 | NA |
| March 2007 | 48 | 16 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 8 | NA |
| February 2007 | 45 | 17 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 11 | NA |
| January 2007 | 47 | 20 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 9 | NA |

| | HUCKABEE | HUNTER | PAUL | TANCREDO | FRED THOMPSON | TOMMY THOMPSON | DON'T KNOW/ NO OPINION |
|---------------|----------|--------|------|----------|---------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| July 2007 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 11 | NA | 21 |
| June 2007 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 11 | NA | 19 |
| May 2007 – 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | NA | 4 | 17 |
| May 2007 – 2 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 8 | NA | 15 |
| April 2007 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 16 |
| March 2007 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 14 |
| February 2007 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 19 |
| January 2007 | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | 13 |

If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line and Rudy Giuliani on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

| DATE | CLINTON | GIULIANI | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|---------|----------|-----------------------|
| July 2007 | 57 | 36 | 8 |
| June 2007 | 53 | 40 | 7 |
| May 2007 | 52 | 39 | 9 |
| April 2007 | 48 | 43 | 8 |
| March 2007 | 51 | 39 | 9 |
| November 15, 2006 | 53 | 39 | 8 |
| August 2006 | 42 | 48 | 9 |
| October 2005 | 43 | 48 | 9 |

If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Hillary Clinton on the Democratic line and Fred Thompson on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

| DATE | CLINTON | THOMPSON | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-----------|---------|----------|-----------------------|
| July 2007 | 62 | 28 | 11 |
| May 2007 | 57 | 29 | 14 |

– more –

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If the 2008 presidential election were held today and the candidates were Barack Obama on the Democratic line and Rudy Giuliani on the Republican line, who would you vote for (ROTATE CHOICES)?

| DATE | OBAMA | GIULIANI | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 51 | 40 | 9 |
| June 2007 | 45 | 43 | 12 |
| May 2007 | 50 | 40 | 10 |
| April 2007 | 47 | 43 | 10 |
| March 2007 | 42 | 45 | 13 |
| November 15, 2006 | 41 | 47 | 12 |

Is New York State on the right track, or is it headed in the wrong direction?

| DATE | RIGHT TRACK | WRONG DIRECTION | DON'T KNOW/NO OPINION |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|
| July 2007 | 37 | 38 | 25 |
| June 2007 | 45 | 28 | 27 |
| May 2007 | 46 | 29 | 25 |
| April 2007 | 47 | 29 | 24 |
| March 2007 | 37 | 37 | 26 |
| February 2007 | 49 | 26 | 25 |
| January 2007 | 45 | 26 | 30 |
| November 15, 2006 | 52 | 30 | 18 |
| November 3, 2006 | 36 | 43 | 21 |
| October 2006 | 29 | 47 | 23 |
| September 2006: | 33 | 39 | 28 |
| August 2006 | 29 | 47 | 25 |
| June 2006 | 29 | 45 | 26 |
| May 2006 | 27 | 52 | 21 |
| March 2006 | 35 | 39 | 26 |
| January 2006 | 34 | 43 | 24 |
| November 2005 | 38 | 41 | 22 |
| October 2005 | 34 | 42 | 24 |
| August 2005 | 36 | 44 | 20 |
| July 2005 | 33 | 41 | 26 |
| June 2005 | 30 | 44 | 26 |
| May 2005 | 29 | 46 | 25 |
| April 2005 | 29 | 44 | 27 |
| March 2005 | 26 | 47 | 27 |
| February 2005 | 32 | 44 | 24 |