

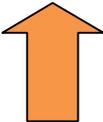
2009 POWER LIST

The **POLITICKERNJ.COM POWER LIST 2009** identifies New Jersey's 100 most politically influential personalities. In developing our list, we eliminated anyone who currently holds elected office, as well as the Judiciary. We also eliminated the living former Governors, United States Senators. We believe that all former statewide officeholders remain highly influential and well respected. We have also not included the GOP gubernatorial nominee, Chris Christie, or former Sen. Bill Gormley, whose power is extraordinary.

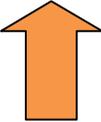
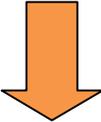
This is an Insiders List. We looked at policy makers, party leaders, fundraisers, lobbyists, labor unions, businesses, and associations and have assembled the ultimate list of New Jerseyans with clout, with an impact on politics and government in the Garden State.

We selected names based on a fairly unscientific curve: we allocated spaces on this list for a dozen different categories within the New Jersey political community -- so #11 on the list of important fundraisers or donors doesn't make the list, but the most influential congressional staffer does. Just remember that our list is purely subjective.

There are no right or wrong answers, and this list is forever changing. Watch for the Power List to be updated frequently. As always, we welcome your comments on this list or anything else on the *PolitickerNJ.com* website. Contact Wally Edge at editor@politickernj.com.

2009 RANK		2008 RANK
1	 <p>WEYSAN DUN SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, FBI NEWARK OFFICE</p> <p>Only in New Jersey is the most powerful person in state politics the head of the FBI's local office. Weysan Dun has been the Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the Newark Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation since 2007. The career FBI agent, who was working in Springfield, Missouri a little more than two years ago, is now on the front lines of the war on corruption in one of the most crooked states in the land. An integral partnership exists between prosecutors and FBI agents. On Dun's watch, seven sitting state legislators have been arrested; the feds have nailed mayors, local officials, and #7 on last year's Power List, Joseph Ferriero. Changes in administrations don't affect him; he has no longtime personal relationships with party bosses, and no partisan agenda. He's New Jersey's Elliot Ness, although years after getting the goods on Al Capone, Ness lost a bid for Mayor of Cleveland.</p>	<p>NEW! #1 in 2008 was Bradley Abelow, Gov. Corzine's Chief of Staff. He's out of state government and off the list.</p>
2	 <p>TOM SHEA ADVISOR TO GOV. CORZINE</p> <p>New Jersey has the most powerful governor in the nation, and that governor, Jon Corzine, doesn't make any major decisions without running it by Tom Shea, his friend and top advisor. Shea, Corzine's first chief of staff, is always in the room when important decisions are made. He may not care who gets a particular appointment, but nobody gets anything if Shea voices an objection. He didn't particularly enjoy his high profile Trenton post; now he is Corzine's svengali, without the encumbrances of working for state government. If Corzine wins, Shea will share in the credit. But Shea, as much an architect of Corzine's first term as anyone, will get considerable blame for a loss.</p>	<p>#16</p> 

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<p>3</p>	 <p>LISA JACKSON U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY ADMINISTRATOR</p>	<p>Lisa Jackson is the only New Jerseyan in the cabinet of a popular new President, but her local political clout comes from her continued influence over the Democratic governor – she was briefly, Jon Corzine’s chief of staff (before Barack Obama stole her away)and spent three years in his cabinet. In a state where environmental policy is more important than it polls, Jackson is now in a position to shape the national agenda and deliver some substantial resources to New Jersey. As a powerbroker, she has it all: the President of the United States takes her calls and the governor hopes she’ll take his.</p>	<p>#69</p> 
<p>4</p>	 <p>JOSH MARGOLIN STAR-LEDGER REPORTER</p>	<p>How does a print reporter, albeit a Pulitzer Prize winning one, remain powerful in the age of new media? Start with a big inventory of sources, add a dogged persistence of the big scoop, never overlook quality, and finish up with an increase in circulation. The <i>Star-Ledger’s</i> Josh Margolin continues to be New Jersey’s dominant statehouse reporter, and now that <i>The Record</i> and the <i>Herald News</i> run his stories, Margolin’s work is now read by voters in what combines to be 71% of the statewide electorate. Working with Ted Sherman, Margolin won an award for helping to take down Robert Mulcahy, the politically powerful Rutgers Athletic Director.</p>	<p>#4</p>
<p>5</p>	 <p>GEORGE NORCROSS SOUTH JERSEY DEMOCRATIC LEADER</p>	<p>There are two George Norcross’. One is the undisputed political boss of South Jersey. He runs county governments untouched by political scandal, handpicks legislators, and frankly, scares the hell out of some people. He is a human fundraising machine, and with the departure of Joe Ferriero, there is no one else like him in the state. His candidate for Congress in District 3 won a district where Democrats had not prevailed since 1884. The other George Norcross is the one that plays in statewide politics; that one is a little less successful. He backed the wrong horse in last year’s U.S. Senate primary, a setback from which he easily recovered. He’s worked to build a stronger relationship with Sen. Bob Menendez, who was Frank Lautenberg’s staunchest supporter. Now the word is (he denies it) that Norcross wants Jon Corzine to end his re-election bid. That’s a bit risky, even for this rather bold politician. But if he were to push Corzine out of the race and keep the governorship in Democratic hands, it would be tough to argue that he’s not the most powerful man in New Jersey.</p>	<p>#3</p> 

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*Those who do not know the plans of competitors cannot prepare alliances.
Those who do not know the lay of the land cannot maneuver their forces.
Those who do not use local guides cannot take advantage of the ground.*

Sun-Tzu, *The Art of War*



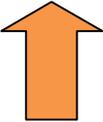
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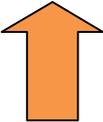
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<p>6</p>	 <p>MAGGIE MORAN CAMPAIGN MANAGER, CORZINE FOR GOVERNOR</p>	<p>Maggie Moran had a choice after the 2001 campaign: become Jon Corzine’s U.S. Senate state director, or go work for the new governor, James E. McGreevey. She made the right call and has spent eight years as Corzine’ senior staffer and chief political aide. She spent most of Corzine’s first term as Deputy Chief of Staff, where she was in charge of just about all things political. Now she’s heading Corzine’s re-election campaign – a job that has put her in the unenviable position of running from behind. But Moran is a tough competitor and she knows every nook and cranny of New Jersey. Corzine likes her, he trusts her, he counts on her loyalty, and he listens to her.</p>	<p>#48</p> 
<p>7</p>	 <p>BILL CASTNER CHIEF COUNSEL TO THE GOVERNOR</p>	<p>After serving as Executive Director of the Assembly Majority staff under Speaker Joe Roberts, Bill Castner was headed to run the lobbying shop of a top law firm when Gov. Jon Corzine called him back into service as Chief Counsel to the Governor. Over the last year, Castner's clout has increased as he merged his talents as a legislative tactician with the power of the Governor's office. He gets credit for filling a huge number of judicial vacancies and moving many gubernatorial appointments that had been vacant for what seemed like forever. He's got the ear of the governor, the speaker, and George Norcross -- that's one potent combination of influence.</p>	<p>#9</p> 
<p>8</p>	 <p>JIM GEARHART RADIO PERSONALITY</p>	<p>When NJ 101.5 morning talk show host Jim Gearhart wants to be powerful, when he wants to exert influence over New Jersey politics, there is just no stopping him. He pays much attention to state and local issues and government officials, and his audience includes some of the most powerful political insiders in New Jersey. Frankly, no one can afford to be on his bad side, largely because he’s taken so seriously by the people who listen to his show every day. He’s one of the few people in New Jersey not on a campaign payroll that talks to real voters every day.</p>	<p>#8</p>
<p>9</p>	 <p>BILL PALATUCCI SENIOR VP, COMMUNITY EDUCATION CENTERS</p>	<p>A fixture in state politics since the early 1980’s, when he managed campaigns for Ronald Reagan, Tom Kean, and George H.W. Bush, Bill Palatucci is now ahead in the Home Run Derby of New Jersey: his close friend and former law partner, Chris Christie, has a double digit lead in the race for governor – a campaign that the two have been planning for years. If Christie wins, it will be tough for anyone inside or outside of state government to claim more clout than Palatucci. The closeness of the gubernatorial race – Christie is the first Republican in 24 years to be over 50% in independent polls (that was Kean, in a race Palatucci ran) – is causing some Trenton powerbrokers to begin hedging their bets. For those people, Palatucci is the man to see.</p>	<p>#47</p> 

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<p>10</p>	 <p>RALPH MARRA, JR. ACTING U.S. ATTORNEY</p>	<p>Don't let the smile fool you – career federal prosecutor Ralph Marra, Jr. is one tough guy. The Acting U.S. Attorney since December, Marra is already a lame duck; he'll be gone as soon as the U.S. Senate confirms the President's nomination of Paul Fishman as his successor. But that doesn't matter in New Jersey, where federal prosecutors, in recent years, have never failed to win a conviction or a plea bargain in a political corruption case. As the First Assistant for seven years, he was Chris Christie's partner in the war on corruption. Marra, who happens to be a Democrat, made history last month with another round of arrests in the Operation Bid Rig probe. He'll be powerful until the moment he leaves.</p>	<p>NEW!</p>
<p>11</p>	 <p>STEPHEN ADUBATO, SR. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NORTH WARD CULTURAL CENTER</p>	<p>Even at age 76, Steve Adubato wields considerable influence in local and state politics. No one with any real ambition would dare skip one of his events, and hugely powerful political insiders continue to show an eagerness to be his friend. He is viewed as a key player in the potential race for Senate President later this year; he has much sway over four Senators. The Mayor of Newark takes Big Steve very seriously. So do the Democratic governor and his Republican opponent.</p>	<p>#11</p>
<p>12</p>	 <p>BOB MASTER COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA LEGISLATIVE & POLITICAL DIRECTOR</p>	<p>By virtue of his position with a labor union that has a considerable presence in New Jersey, Bob Master has always wielded some political clout. But his influence shot way, way up last year when he engineered a coup d'état that ousted Carla Katz, one of the most powerful labor leaders in state history, from her post as president of CWA Local 1034. Master still has some powerful enemies (because Katz has some powerful allies), but it is appropriate to show some respect to a man who has mastered the inside politics of the palace of organized labor. Notably, the CWA got Gov. Jon Corzine to blink by threatening to protest Vice President Joe Biden's appearance on Primary night; Biden would have cancelled rather than cross the powerful union.</p>	<p>#71</p> 

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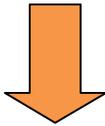
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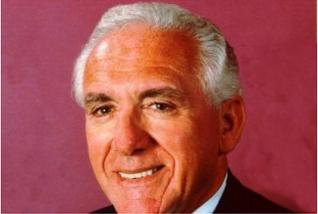


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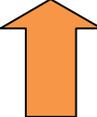
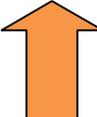
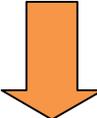
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<p>13</p>	 <p>ANNE MILGRAM ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY</p>	<p>Anne Milgram can blame her independent streak for being dropped from the top ten list, not that there’s anything wrong with it. Milgram’s investigation of Democrats in an election year has made her unpopular with some very influential members of her own party. This year her office indicted a Democratic Assemblyman from Middlesex, and has continued investigations of Union County Democratic Chair Charlotte DeFilippo and an absentee ballot controversy in Essex. There were published reports that Jon Corzine considered the Attorney General as a possible LG candidate; can you imagine what Ray Lesniak and Joe Cryan had to say about that?</p>	<p>#6</p> 
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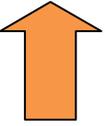
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<p>14</p>	 <p>RAY POCINO NATIONAL VP & EASTERN REGIONAL MANAGER, LABORERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA</p>	<p>Ray Pocino's political power comes from his role as a national and state labor leader (which gives him influence throughout the mid-Atlantic region), and his personal popularity. People seem to like him; considering the controversies that have surrounded his brothers and sisters at the New Jersey AFL-CIO and at the CWA, that's important. Pocino also serves as a Commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which puts him in a key role as the bistate agency funds multi-billion dollar contracts.</p>	<p>#14</p>
<p>15</p>	 <p>DONALD TRUMP DEVELOPER & TV PERSONALITY</p>	<p>Donald Trump doesn't always choose to involve himself in New Jersey politics, but when he does, it's impossible to deny his clout. He's a player in Atlantic City, especially now that he has regained control of Trump Entertainment Resorts, which he will take private. He has projects in North Jersey, and he was able to slap around some politicians when it came to EnCap. Trump feuded with Gov. Jon Corzine last year, but Corzine nearly relied on Trump's judgment when he came close to picking <i>The Apprentice</i>, Randal Pinkett, as his running mate.</p>	<p>#19</p> 
<p>16</p>	 <p>ELNARDO WEBSTER ATTORNEY</p>	<p>Elnardo Webster, once an NFL player and now a power lawyer, counts the mayors of Newark and Jersey City as his close friends and political allies. He is one of Cory Booker's best friends, and Jerramiah Healy considers him as one of his top advisors. Last year, PolitickerNJ.com said that "with a base of Newark and Hudson County, he's making a ton of money, accumulating a tremendous number of chits, and if his guys – Booker , Healy and Obama – win, he'll keep moving up on this list." His guys have won (although there are some twists and turns in Jersey City these days) and he has moved up.</p>	<p>#17</p> 
<p>17</p>	 <p>ANTHONY COSCIA CHAIRMAN, PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY</p>	<p>Tony Coscia has a job of tremendous importance and extraordinary pressure, running a multi-billion bi-state agency that must balance the political needs of two governors, developers, commuters, and perhaps the toughest media in the world. Coscia's unpaid post involves running airports, building a new tunnel between New Jersey and New York, and the redevelopment of the World Trade Center. Don't forget that Coscia hands out more contracts than Jon Corzine, and he's not at all afraid of WTC developer Larry Silverstein.</p>	<p>#18</p> 

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<p>18</p>	 <p>STEVEN GOLDSTEIN CHAIRMAN, GARDEN STATE EQUALITY</p>	<p>Steven Goldstein runs the largest and most politically powerful civil rights organization in the state. He's smart, articulate, an effective fundraiser, and no one is more passionate about his cause. He has transitioned from operative to activist and scored big legislative victories with domestic partnership and civil union laws. Jon Corzine, Dick Codey and Joe Roberts have promised to post marriage equality for a historic vote later this year – a testament to Goldstein's political skills.</p>	<p>#21</p> 
<p>19</p>	 <p>MIKE DUHAIME REPUBLICAN STRATEGIST</p>	<p>The top strategist for Chris Christie's campaign for governor is a New Jersey native who has become a prominent player in national GOP circles. Christie's primary campaign was no cakewalk, and Mike DuHaime helped him navigate the fine line between the Republican establishment and conservatives who dominate GOP primaries. Christie listens to DuHaime, which might make both of them more powerful in the future.</p>	<p>#22</p> 
<p>20</p>	 <p>ANGELA DELLI SANTI ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORTER</p>	<p>Angela Delli Santi is the beneficiary of bad economic times for the print media. As budget cuts force newspapers to reduce the number of reporters, content from the <i>Associated Press</i> becomes more valuable and more noticeable. There are fewer and fewer Trenton reporters – the statehouse press conference has become a bit prehistoric because the statehouse dinosaurs aren't there to cover them – and that enhances Delli Santi's clout as she covers the governor, the Legislature, and the 2009 campaign.</p>	<p>NEW!</p>
<p>21</p>	 <p>CARL GOLDBERG CHAIRMAN, NEW JERSEY SPORTS AND EXPOSITION AUTHORITY</p>	<p>The millionaire real estate developer and Democratic fundraiser runs the state-owned Meadowlands sports and entertainment complex – perhaps the biggest plumb of all gubernatorial appointments. But the job is high stress as they deal with reduced revenue, increasing debt, competition, and Xanadu – the shopping center that isn't opening anytime soon.</p>	<p>#20</p> 

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<p>22</p>	 <p>ED MCBRIDE CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE GOVERNOR</p>	<p>Ed McBride is a serious and competent player, and you hear relatively few complaints about him from his fellow Democrats – a badge of honor in New Jersey. But he doesn’t make the top 20 because he’s not especially political in a state where partisanship sometimes means everything.</p>	<p>#61</p> 
<p>23</p>	 <p>BILL MATSIKOUDIS JERSEY CITY CORPORATION COUNSEL</p>	<p>Recent events do not diminish the clout of Bill Matsikoudis, who plays a major role in the day to day operations in the running of Jersey City, which after the next census will replace Newark as New Jersey’s largest city. He showed impressive political skills by lining up most of the state’s Democratic infrastructure behind his interest in a federal post.</p>	<p>#27</p> 
<p>24</p>	 <p>CHARLES WOWKANECH PRESIDENT, NEW JERSEY AFL-CIO</p>	<p>The head of the New Jersey AFL-CIO goes up one on the Power List after healing some wounds from the 2007 campaign, when he bucked South Jersey Democrats to back some Republicans in key State Senate races, and for his failure to deliver the AFL-CIO endorsement to an incumbent Democratic U.S. Senator in 2008. But Wowkanech is still barely in the top quarter of this list, a spot that in the old days would never have been occupied by his uncle.</p>	<p>#25</p> 
<p>25</p>	 <p>STEVE DEMICCO & BRAD LAWRENCE DEMOCRATIC STRATEGISTS</p>	<p>The Message & Media partners are the dominant political consultants in New Jersey; after a short delay, they got a contract with Gov. Jon Corzine’s re-election campaign. After a big loss in a 2007 State Senate race, the two Democrats came back to help Frank Lautenberg win a fifth term last in 2008 with relative ease. This year, they helped re-elect Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy without a runoff. In New Jersey, where the governorship is everything, if Corzine loses, watch their clout to go down – along with some of their public sector contracts.</p>	<p>#32</p> 

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26	JEFF VANDERBEEK OWNER, NEW JERSEY DEVILS	The savvy Wall Streeter-turned-sports franchise owner opened the Prudential Center and is now working at closing Izod, his competitor to the north. His influence is growing, especially among those who take the state's fiscal mess seriously.	#29 ↑
27	ALFRED DOBLIN EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR AND COLUMNIST, THE RECORD	His power comes from a combined role of writing editorials for The Record and from his enormously entertaining columns. And a shout out for The Record, where Doblin, Charlie Stile and Herb Jackson combine as the best team of political columnists in the state.	#35 ↑
28	CHARLOTTE DEFILIPPO UNION COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CHAIR	Down from #13 on the 2008 Power List, the Union County Democratic leader has been hurt by a prolonged probe by the state Attorney General. Less important: her candidate for Mayor of Hillside, the base of her local political influence, lost by six votes in a runoff.	#13 ↓
29	STEVE LONEGAN CONSERVATIVE ACTIVIST	For a time, it looked like he could win the Republican nomination for Governor. He is the pied piper of conservatives, and the GOP can't afford to lose him from the general election coalition.	#30 ↑



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30	ORIN KRAMER CHAIRMAN, NEW JERSEY STATE INVESTMENT COUNCIL	Losing \$30 billion dollars in state pension funds in the stock market comes with a price as the mega Democratic fundraiser drops from #10 to #30.	#10 ↓
31	MICHAEL SOLIMAN STATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SEN. ROBERT MENENDEZ	From a political perspective, he's the most powerful state director since Maggie Moran and is Bob Menendez's Ambassador to the New Jersey Democratic party. And with Menendez focused on 2010 U.S. Senate races, Soliman is the Senator's eyes and ears in New Jersey.	#65 ↑
32	JEFF CARROLL CHIEF OF STAFF TO U.S. REP. FRANK PALLONE	The chief legislative and political strategist for the state's most influential congressman, Frank Pallone, who chairs the Energy and Commerce Health subcommittee. Carroll helped Pallone avoid a challenge from John Dingell, and helped push Democrats to call Chris Christie to testify before Congress on federal monitors. By the way, Pallone has more than \$3 million in his war chest.	#34 ↑
33	RALPH IZZO PRESIDENT/CEO, PSE&G	He runs the New Jersey's largest public utility, he's close to legislative and party leaders on both sides of the aisle, and he's now on the Rutgers Board of Governors.	#37 ↑
34	REV. JOHN MYERS ARCHBISHOP OF NEWARK	The Archbishop of Newark is not as politically potent as he was in Peoria, and shows no real inclination to play a role in state politics. He continues to drop on the Power List, despite the size and potential influence of his organization.	#28 ↑
35	ERIC SCOTT NEWS DIRECTOR, NJ 101.5	Hands down the best moderator of the gubernatorial primary debates, he gets more air time these days and he's not afraid of anyone.	NEW!
36	BARI MATTES SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE MAYOR OF NEWARK	Everyone knows Cory Booker trusts her and listens to her. She's the staffer the traveling mayor likes to spotlight when he's doing the national thing.	#61 ↑
37	KRIS KOLLURI CEO, NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY	While moving from the Department of Transportation to run what used to be the embattled School Construction Corporation was a promotion, it doesn't seem like he has the clout he once did. Did anyone else notice that Kolluri received no consideration for LG?	#15 ↓
38	HAROLD HODES/ BILL MAER LOBBYISTS	Brendan Byrne's ex-chief of staff retains his influence in a world where the faces are constantly changing, especially as a mentor of young Democrats, like Bill Maer and #6.	#38
39	PHIL ALAGIA CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE ESSEX COUNTY EXECUTIVE	The politically savvy chief of staff to the Essex County Executive, and political confidante of #11 is the guy Democrats call on to make sure their base voters turn out. He is slated to become the political director of the governor's re-election campaign.	#45 ↑

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40	BOB DECOTIIS ATTORNEY	The managing partner at one of New Jersey's most influential law firms; he looks to be in good shape even if Democrats lose this year.	#40
41	GEORGE GILMORE OCEAN COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN	He's the most powerful of the GOP county bosses, with a firm lock over county government. He's lost a few local races, but he's picked up a few too. If the GOP takes the statehouse, this guy will catapult upward.	#41
42	JERRY ZARO CHIEF, N.J. OFFICE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH	We haven't heard anyone, not anyone, who does not see the veteran lawyer as an upgrade to his predecessor, Gary Rose.	NEW!
43	FRANK SPENCER EASTERN DISTRICT VICE PRESIDENT, UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF CARPENTERS	The head of the state Carpenters Union leader is now playing on a national stage as an officer of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters.	#43
44	BOB FRANKS PRESIDENT, HEALTH CARE INSTITUTE OF NEW JERSEY	The former Republican congressman, who nearly beat Jon Corzine for the Senate in 2000, now runs the trade group for state's pharmaceutical industry.	#44
45	SUSAN BASS LEVIN DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY	The former Cherry Hill mayor and state Community Affairs Commissioner has a big job at the Port Authority (see #17). Her drop from #39 to #45 is largely because she was the Acting Executive Director during part of 2008.	#39 ↓
46	AL DECOTIIS ATTORNEY	Along with his brother, #40, the former Ambassador and Democratic National Committeeman runs a law firm with a tremendous ability to influence state, county and local government.	#46
47	ANGELO GENOVA ATTORNEY	The election law expert and veteran fixer must drop a few spots on the list thanks to the alleged greed and clear political downfall of his protégé, Peter Cammarano. Cammarano spent just 22 days in office before the FBI arrested him for taking bribes.	#42 ↓
48	REV. REGINALD JACKSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BLACK MINISTERS COUNCIL OF NEW JERSEY	The Power List represents a snapshot in time. On August 4, 2009, the relationship between Jackson, the governor, and his administration is a bit strained. Jackson, more than anyone on this list, could find his rank changing – much higher or much lower – as early as today.	#24 ↓
49	MICHAEL KEMPNER PUBLIC AFFAIRS EXECUTIVE	He runs a major lobbying and public relations firm and as an '08 Clinton fundraiser, he was well connected enough to stand next to Oprah Winfrey at Barack Obama's election night celebration in Chicago.	#49

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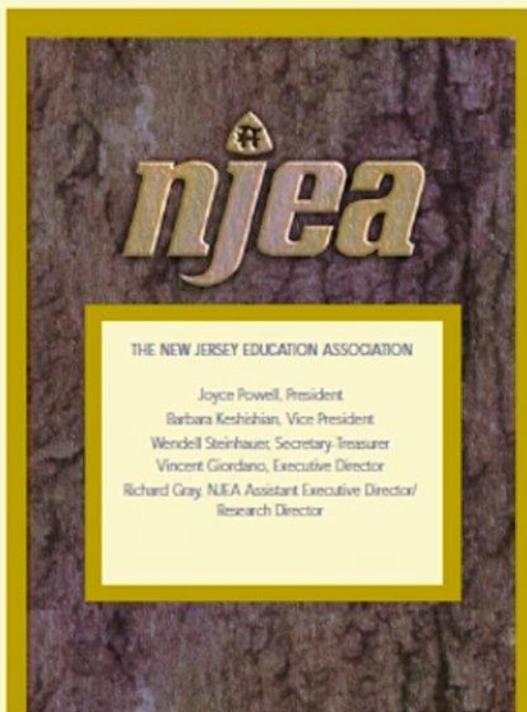
50	JAMIE FOX & ERIC SHUFFLER LOBBYISTS	The two state/federal government veterans, close to Jon Corzine, have built a successful lobbying practice. Jamie Fox's political skills are legendary, and Eric Shuffler is the guy Corzine turns to when he needs to look good making a speech.	#50
51	STEVE LENOX STATE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SEN. FRANK LAUTENBERG	The rising star, who made the Irish Echo 40 Under 40 list, is using his skills as a Democratic operative and AFL-CIO staffer to make Frank Lautenberg look good – maybe even to run for a sixth term.	NEW!
52	ED BRANNIGAN PRESIDENT, FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE OF NEW JERSEY	The independent boss of the state FOP union has more influence than his state PBA counterpart. Democrats can't take him for granted.	#52
53	ALBERT PORRONI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	OLS has incredible influence over what laws get passed in New Jersey, and while he's no Sam Alito, Sr., he's done well learning to make the majority party happy.	#53
54	PAUL JOSEPHSON COUNSEL TO THE NEW JERSEY DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE	The former Chief Counsel to Gov. Jim McGreevey is a partner at an influential law firm, Hill Wallak, where he runs their lobbying shop. He was Barack Obama's N.J. lawyer in 2008 and now runs the legal operation for the state Democrats.	#62 ↑
55	JEFF MICHAELS LOBBYIST/POLITICKERNJ COLUMNIST	The former Chief of Staff to the Governor is the highest ranked Republican lobbyist on the list. He's part of Chris Christie's inner circle and has been there for a long time.	NEW!
56	NATHAN DASCHLE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEMOCRATIC GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION	The son of Jon Corzine's former Senate colleague could be the #2 donor to the campaign to keep the governorship in the hands of the Democrats.	NEW!
57	DAVID NORCROSS REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEEMAN	The former GOP State Chairman and U.S. Senate candidate has been elected Republican National Committeeman seven times.	#57
58	BRIAN THOMPSON WNBC-TV REPORTER	The veteran journalist can spend 2 minutes on New Jersey and more voters will see his story than all the print reporters combined.	#58
59	MO BUTLER CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE MAYOR OF NEWARK	Cory Booker's top lieutenant has strengthened his boss' relations with the City Council and forged key alliances that make next year's mayoral race a yawner. It hasn't hurt Butler's credibility that his leadership at the Housing Authority could take the \$100+ million agency off of the federal "troubled" list soon.	NEW!

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60	DIANE GUTIERREZ-SCACCETTI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY TURNPIKE AUTHORITY	This is the first time the E.D. of the Turnpike Authority (which now includes the Garden State Parkway) is on the list, and the first time the state Commissioner of Transportation is not. Also, you can call 732-750-5300 for house seats to the PNC Arts Center. Tell them you saw Diane on the PolitickerNJ.com Power List.	NEW!
61	HEATHER HOWARD COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES	Jon Corzine's longtime policy advisor now runs one of state government's most important departments.	NEW!
62	DAVID ANDERSON DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL AND GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES, NEW JERSEY JUDICIARY	He's the man who can make or break judges.	NEW!
63	JOYCE POWELL PRESIDENT, NEW JERSEY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION	2007: "Still new at the job after replacing Edith Fulton; watch for her rapid climb up the list." 2008: From #99 to #70 2009: Now at #63	#70 
64	MIKE MURPHY AND RAJ MUKHERJI LOBBYISTS	The former Morris County prosecutor (and brother of the Mercer County Executive) and the Chairman of the Jersey City Housing Authority are the hired guns and gatekeepers for Jerry Healy and Cory Booker, mayors of the state's two largest cities. And they have been able to forge relationships with Jon Corzine and George Norcross.	#98 
65	DONALD SCARINCI ATTORNEY	The North Jersey mega lawyer has seen his rank decline, but only because he has voluntarily stepped away from politics and seeks a lower profile these days.	#54 
66	MAURICE CARROLL DIRECTOR, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLLING INSTITUTE	The former <i>New York Times</i> reporter runs the independent poll that people care about the most.	#66
67	MARVIN JIGGETS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES	When legislators need special help in crafting creative legislation, they call Marvin Jiggets.	NEW!
68	FRED BEAVER DIRECTOR, STATE DIVISION OF PENSIONS AND BENEFITS	He's the decision maker when it comes to awarding state employees (and sometimes convicted ones) their pensions.	NEW!
69	PAUL FADER ATTORNEY	The former Chief Counsel to two Democratic governors seems to be moving to the right – his firm has brought on some GOP partners, and some Dems view that as preparation of a change in power.	#63 

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70	BILL CARUSO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ASSEMBLY MAJORITY STAFF	He was Rob Andrews' chief of staff before taking the Assembly job. He's on his way up!	NEW!
71	KEN KURSON REPUBLICAN STRATEGIST/ AUTHOR	From co-author of Rudy Giuliani's best-selling book to Assembly candidate to COO of Rudy's presidential campaign, he continues to impress Republicans with his integrity and skills. He's now a partner at Jamestown Associates, which gets most of the top GOP races in New Jersey, including the current gubernatorial campaign.	#77 ↑
72	DAVID PRINGLE CAMPAIGN DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY ENVIRONMENTAL FEDERATION	He runs New Jersey's most powerful environmental organization, and he benefits from his competition with the state's other environmental activist Jeff Tittell, who is not taken as seriously by legislators and policymakers.	#72
73	JIM HARKNESS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SENATE MINORITY STAFF	His predecessor, John Samerjan, never made the Power List. Harkness is well-liked by his caucus and respected by the majority staff.	#73
74	DALE FLORIO SOMERSET COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN	He runs the Somerset County GOP organization and a major bi-partisan lobbying firm. Sometimes it's hard for him to balance his role as a County Chairman and his business partnership with John Russo and Bill Pascrell 3d.	#74
75	JOSPEPH HAYDEN CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY	If you hold public office in New Jersey, you should tattoo his business card on the top of your hand.	#75
76	DAVID SAMSON FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY	A Republican who became Attorney General under a Democratic governor, Samson's political fortune is again on the rise, thanks to his relationship with Democrats and with a Republican candidate for governor who has a double digit lead in the polls.	#81 ↑
77	ADAM KAUFMAN LOBBYIST	The lobbyist is very well liked and has tremendous influence in Democratic circles.	#79 ↑
78	SHERYL GORDON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL 1 OF AFSCME	Unlike the CWA, this labor leader doesn't seem to generate controversy, although that ought never be confused with a lack of intensity.	#78
79	NICK ACOCELLA EDITOR, POLITIFAX	If it were up to us, Nick Acocella would run for mayor of Hoboken. He knows more about Hudson County politics than anyone we know. But before we endorsed him, he'd have to promise to keep writing every Wednesday.	#80 ↑

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80	MICHAEL ARON SENIOR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT AND ACTING NEWS DIRECTOR, NEW JERSEY NETWORK	Every year we say the same thing, but it's still true: the venerable political reporter and weekend TV host makes the list not as much for the number of people that watch him on television, but for who those people are. There's no shortage of public officials and candidates who judge the success or failure of a press conference on whether he shows up. And important people will spend ½ day with him on a Friday if he invites him on his show. Now he's the news director, technically a double dipper, but with the combined clout of his old job and the one Bill Jobs held.	#92 
81	STEVE AYSCUE DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIST	He's George Norcross' right hand man, the guy who implements the boss's orders. He is also a smart and savvy strategist, and ferociously loyal to his friends.	#82 
82	RICK SHAFTAN CONSERVATIVES STRATEGIST	Sometimes controversial and rarely a winner, he's hugely influential among conservatives who might be more prone to follow this veteran consultant's lead than some of the candidates he works for. Like #81, he's not a guy you want to piss off.	#83 
83	BEN RICH CHIEF OF STAFF TO U.S. REP. BILL PASCRELL	His influence went up when Bill Pascrell got a seat on the House Ways and Means Committee, and his stock went up when Pascrell and Frank Pallone took on Chris Christie when most Democrats were afraid to do so.	#87 
84	BOB DECHEINE CHIEF OF STAFF TO U.S. REP. STEVE ROTHMAN	He's on the list because he's chief of staff to the only New Jersey Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, but he loses ground after his defeat in a campaign to run Barack Obama's campaign in New Jersey last year.	#55 
85	GERALD KROVATIN CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY	It's a great time to be a white collar criminal defense attorney in New Jersey, and Krovatin is at the very top of his game. Put his cell phone number on your speed dial, just in case.	#85
86	JON BOGUCHWAL CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE SENATE PRESIDENT	The talented young operative is moving up the political ladder fast as the new top staffer to the Senate President.	NEW!
87	BILL STEPIEN CAMPAIGN MANAGER, CHRISTIE FOR GOVERNOR	The impressive no-B.S. Republican operative ran the only '03 legislative race where the GOP ousted an incumbent in Jim McGreevey's midterm election. He moved to the national scene before returning to N.J. to run Christie's campaign. Field operations are his particular strength.	NEW!
88	JULIE ROGINSKY DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIST AND CNBC COMMENTATOR	The fiercely partisan Democratic operative was Frank Lautenberg's campaign spokeswoman in 2008, and more people see her on TV every day than anyone above her on this list.	#95 
89	LAUREL BRENNAN SECRETARY, NEW JERSEY AFL-CIO	The highly regarded labor leader started as an intern at the New Jersey State Federation of Teachers. Even people who don't like Charlie Wowkanech seem to speak well of her.	#94 

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90	KATHY ELLIS CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, NEW JERSEY NATURAL GAS	The former communications director to the governor, and the First Lady of Belmar, is now the first woman to serve as a COO of a major utility company in New Jersey.	#91 
91	AJ SABATH LOBBYIST	Nothing personal, AJ. It's just that being a lobbyist isn't as powerful as being Dick Codey's chief of staff.	#69 
92	RICHARD MCCORMICK PRESIDENT, RUTGERS UNIVERSITY	The president of the State University of New Jersey has become politically influential, but budget cuts and declining ratings (see the most recent Princeton Review) account for his drop in influence. He also lost his political power player when #4 took down Bob Mulcahy.	#83 
93	HARRY HURLEY ATLANTIC CITY RADIO PERSONALITY AND STATION EXECUTIVE	The political intelligencia in Atlantic City care a great deal about what he has to say on his radio show and on his website. Now a station executive, he's earned his place on the Power List without having to win a Reader's Choice poll, like he did in 2007 and 2008.	#100 
94	MICHAEL KASPARIAN BERGEN COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CHAIRMAN	All kidding aside, it can't be easy filling Joe Ferriero's shoes. Ferriero dominated Bergen County politics and played a pivotal role in the electoral success of Bergen County Democrats over the last decade. Kasparian needs to raise nearly as much money and win almost as many elections to be in the top half of the Power List.	NEW!
95	JOHN FARMER, SR. EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR, THE STAR-LEDGER	The elder statement of New Jersey journalism is now writing editorials for the state's largest newspaper. He may have been the one to stop Jon Corzine from picking Randal Pinkett for LG.	NEW!
96	BILL LAYTON BURLINGTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN CHAIRMAN	The leader of the Burlington GOP machine drops a few notches after Republican control of the Freeholder board went from 5-0 to 3-2. For Layton, all politics is local and holding control of county government is the whole ballgame.	#90 
97	FRANK DOMINGUEZ SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE MINORITYS STAFFER	As Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee become more aggressive on the advise and consent front, their staffer has become a major player in the confirmation of gubernatorial appointees.	NEW!
98	HENRY MENDEZ HEAD WAITER, SETTIMO CIELO	Replacing Marsillio's, Settimo Cielo is the hot new gathering place for Trenton insiders, and the head waiter there gets to decide who gets what table, and how long people wait.	NEW!
99	CARLA KATZ FORMER LABOR LEADER/RADIO PERSONALITY	Her ouster as president of the CWA Local 1034, which represented 16,000 state workers, is the reason for her dramatic drop from the list. But the politically savvy ex-labor leader, now on NJ 101.5 during drive time, still has lots of influential friends in politics, and the stuff she knows could stop a team of oxen in their tracks.	#12 

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100	 <p>STEPHEN COLBERT POLITICAL SATIRIST/AUTHOR</p> <p><i>Reader's Choice: Colbert defeated potential first-brother Todd Christie in an online poll</i></p>	<p>If Al Franken can be a U.S. Senator, Stephen Colbert of Montclair can be on the <i>PolitickerNJ.com</i> Power List. In terms of national political clout, he's got higher name ID than anyone on the list, and he's there is nobody in New Jersey politics that would like it if <i>The Colbert Report</i> decided to cover them. We can't wait for the show to return from summer hiatus and hear Colbert say the name "Solomon Dwek."</p>	NEW!
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