

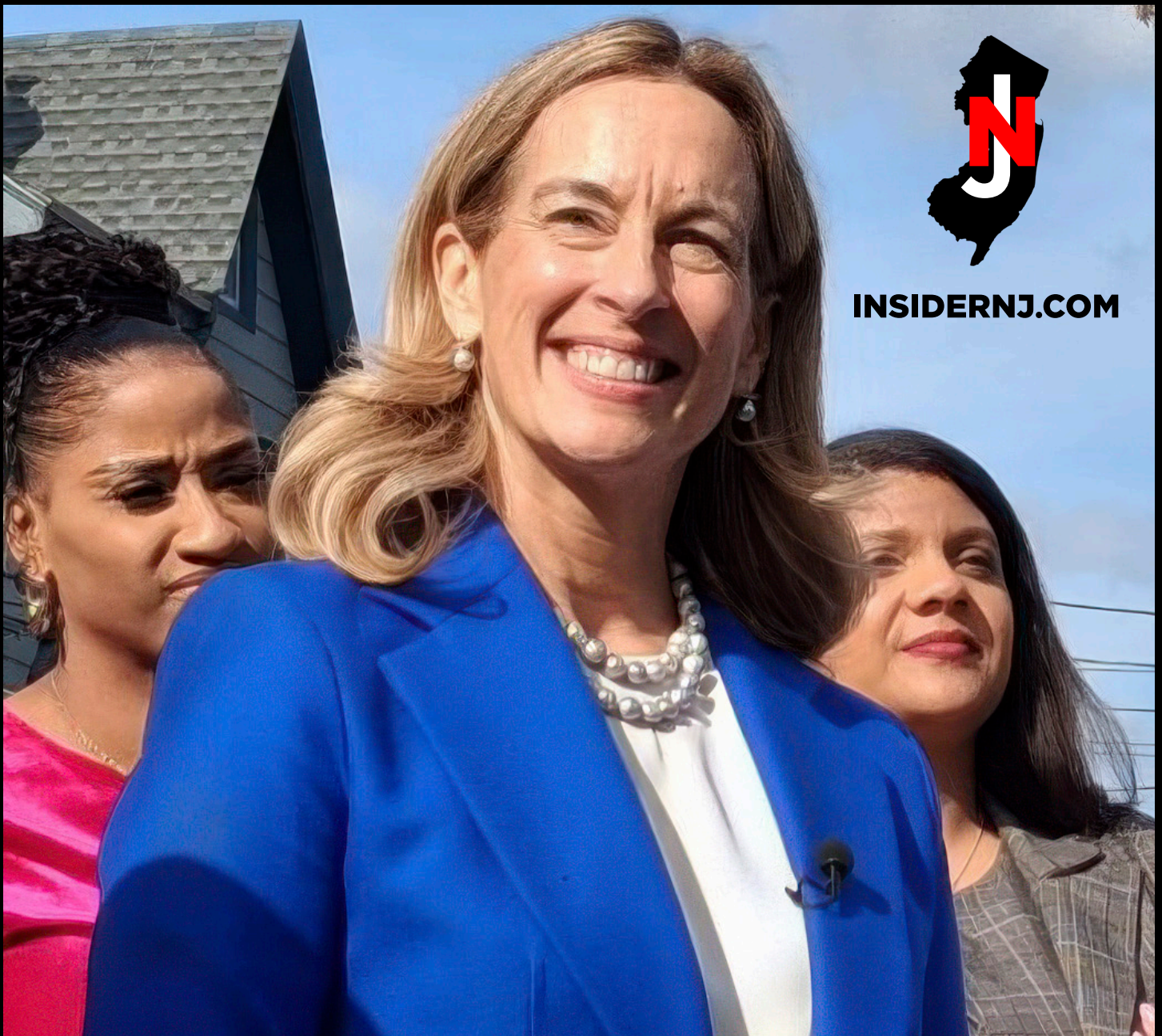
POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

INSIDER 100

POWER LIST 2025



POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER



Powering the future
of New Jersey.

COMCAST
BUSINESS



P.O. Box 66
Verona, NJ 07044
InsiderNJ@gmail.com
InsiderNJ.com



Max Pizarro
Editor-in-Chief
Max@InsiderNJ.com



Pete Oneglia
General Manager
Pete@InsiderNJ.com



John Van Vliet
Director of Operations
JohnVV@InsiderNJ.com

Michael Graham
CEO

John F.X. Graham
Publisher

Ryan Graham
Associate Publisher

WELCOME

to the **2025 InsiderNJ Power List**



The following list reflects the backbone of government and political power in the state of New Jersey, minus judges, former governors, and current elected officials. In its compilation, we paid particular attention to the consequences of this year's statewide election, in which Democrat Mikie Sherrill defeated Republican Jack Ciattarelli. Beyond that core defined by a strong (but not immutable) NJ establishment, the most significant change from last year, therefore, reflects political power shifted from the departing administration of Governor Phil Murphy to the players around Governor-elect Sherrill. The list also recognizes the special role progres-

sive Democrats played in the election's outcome.

Given the power of the New Jersey Governor, we prioritized players critical to the success of Sherrill's campaign, finding the leaders, operatives, activists, workers, and wonks who helped her craft a crushing 13-point victory. In addition, we gave weight to those seen as either on their way into her new administration or likely beneficiaries of her fledgling governorship. We found relevant grassroots and organization people who empowered Sherrill and dealt a blow to the perceived abuse of power by President Donald J. Trump.

Suffering voter backlash against the President and his policies, and unable to adjust, Republicans in New Jersey had a terrible year. A firm ally of Trump, Ciattarelli vowed to carry GOP legislative candidates to Trenton on his coattails. Instead, Assembly Minority Leader John DiMaio (R-23) lost five seats. The campaign itself revealed Ciattarelli's efforts to connect with both the most obvious MAGA wing of the GOP, and non-ideological strapped taxpayers. In the end, he could not bridge that divide, as Trump extremists not only galvanized Democrats, but reminded independent and unaffiliated voters to oppose the President at the ballot box. Trump badly damaged Ciattarelli, especially down the stretch of the general campaign season, as he announced the termination of the Gateway Tunnel project, failed to control inflation, grew unemployment, presided over a costly government shutdown, aggressively weaponized ICE, cheapened the presidency with hateful rhetoric, and demonized political enemies. In the end it boiled down to voter anxiety about the economy, and Ciattarelli's inability to appear in any way independent from the President.

Sherrill, for her part, made history as the first female Democrat in the state of New Jersey to be elected governor. The Congresswoman from Montclair, a former Navy helicopter pilot and former prosecutor, proved her toughness on the trail – and proved her courage. Now the hard work of governing begins. Certainly, voters will closely watch Sherrill, particularly on day one, to see if she delivers on a campaign promise to freeze utility rates. Within a political atmosphere nationalized with tremendous intensity because of Trump, the Governor will have to focus (“like a laser,” in her words) on New Jersey, the real needs of New Jerseyans, and

tackling an affordability crisis in this state, not the fast-developing 2028 race for president.



The people spoke. Now, we will hold Sherrill to the speech she made in victory on Nov. 4th: “I hear you, New Jersey – good government doesn’t just manage problems. It solves them. And I will continue to listen and work with you to move our state forward. Because I have learned so much as I have traveled the state. Our innovations, our businesses, our inventors and entrepreneurs have amazed me. But it is the people who have left the biggest mark. Especially those who are fighting for prosperity for their communities.”



Max Pizarro
Editor-in-Chief

Congratulations

*to the 2025 InsiderNJ Power List and
Avoq's Adam Steinberger and Chris Donnelly!*



A national firm with a deep presence in New Jersey that helps organizations elevate their voice, brand or issue.

INDUSTRY EXPERTISE:



Land Use & Infrastructure



Energy & Environment



Utilities



Healthcare



Transportation



Higher Education

Learn more about how Avoq is rooted in insights, communications, advocacy and creativity at TeamAvoq.com

Avōq

#1



Leroy Jones

Chairman, Democratic State Committee

Down at halftime, Jones came back with time ticking down and found Mikie Sherrill in the end-zone for the win. Politically tough - but seemingly spiritually serene - the statewide leader doubles as Essex County Democratic Committee chair. On primary night, his friend and ally Sherrill lost to Newark Mayor Ras Baraka countywide - 31,759 to 37,835 - while winning statewide. The county loss rankled Jones, but while Jack Ciattarelli could never bring second place GOP Primary finisher Bill Spadea into the general election fold, Democrats under the chairman's leadership secured a Sherrill-Baraka alliance. It wasn't pretty early, but getting the governorship for Essex in the end (in no small part on the strength of a 121K general election voter plurality in Essex) proved legacy-making for Jones of East Orange, and a national-sized statement for his rebuild-mode party in the second Trump era. A real leader with deep institutional (he served in the Assembly, and runs 1868 Public Affairs) and organizational roots (he was around to learn the job from, among others, Phil Thigpen and Steve Adubato, Sr.), Jones knows how to authoritatively command, while always building others around him. Leans on his faith and family, especially wife, Jackie, an Essex legend in her own right. He has a gift - and many gifts. "On November 4th, when we elect Mikie Sherrill to serve our state as the first Democratic woman, that is history in the making, and you are all going to be a part of that," Jones told Newarkers in the West Ward with two weeks until Election Day. It happened. Or rather - they *did* it, foremost among them, Jones, a New Jersey political leader of distinction. If it was ugly or gritty early, by the time the world was finally watching, it was beautiful.



H S G HOBOKEN STRATEGY GROUP, INC.
DYNAMIC APPROACH. SEAMLESS EXECUTION. PROVEN RESULTS.
HOBOKENSTRATEGY.COM



JASON BERGMAN | NADYA KHAN | KAY LICAUSI | MICHAEL COMBA | JESS MURRAY

#2



Charlie Wowkanech

President, New Jersey AFL-CIO

A proud operating engineer by trade (International Union of Operating Engineers Local 68), Wowkanech stepped up with statewide support for Mikie Sherrill when his Building Trades brothers and sister opted to issue no endorsement, among fractured reactions by different outfits (the Laborers went for Sherrill, the Operating Engineers backed Ciattarelli). Not only did Wowkanech's shop issue a steady diet of substantive statements throughout the election cycle, defining labor's needs, the statewide leader routinely made himself visible in the streets. "I think there's a lot of uncertainty and obviously here in New Jersey Trump is polling very low, which is a good thing for us in this cycle," the AFL-CIO Prez told InsiderNJ at a Newark Labor Walk in September. "I'm sure we're going to take full advantage of that." Of Sherrill awarded AFL-CIO's 100% Labor rating, "She's earned our support," Wowkanech said.

#3



Eddie Donnelly

President, Firefighters Mutual Benevolent Association (FMBA)

Donnelly turned the firehose on full blast, repeatedly improvising augmented ways of showing support for Sherrill. In early October, he welcomed the Democratic nominee into a union hall in the Ironbound, where, to the FMBA ranks of backing for Sherrill, he added Jack Collins of the Jersey City Firefighters, Mike Giunta of the Newark Firefighters, Tim Colacci of the North Hudson Firefighters, and Scott Marione of the North Hudson Fire Officers. "The FMBA is a very big supporter of Mikie Sherrill," said Donnelly. "We have been with her since day one and we will be with her throughout her tenure. It's refreshing to stand with a woman who has been with us 100% of the time." Donnelly's gamble paid off.



#4

Mike Hellstrom

Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA)



Like Donnelly (see above) Hellstrom led his labor organization to an early and vociferous show of support for Sherrill. When President Trump announced the termination of the Gateway Tunnel project, the leader appeared the next day at the Democratic nominee's side in Secaucus and tore into Ciattarelli. "He voted against the project when it was the ARC Tunnel [while serving in the Assembly], now the project's operational, employing thousands of hard-working men and women, the President whom he never disagrees with terminates the project, and he tells us that he supports workers," Hellstrom grouched. Never in doubt through the cycle: Hellstrom's support for Labor and for Sherrill, and the high-volume visibility of orange shirts in the streets behind him.

#5

Alex Ball

Chief-of-Staff, Mikie Sherrill



Amid the inevitable negativity among a jaded Democratic Party establishment, Ball kept her eye on the... Sorry. Ball showed up. Ball showed poise. Ball refused to see the election as a Sherrill-Ciattarelli jump ball. The handwringing around her apparently never got to her, as her candidate surprised a lot of people on Primary night, with a concussive victory that revealed Sherrill support among suburban women around the state. Sherrill won Camden that night (Camden!). And Ball's central contention, expressed on the trail by Sherrill down the stretch of the trail – that New Jersey, after all, is a blue state – finally justified the cool of Ball. The general election result proved she's a gamer, after all.

EDUCATION | RESOURCES | ADVOCACY | NETWORKING | EVENTS



NJAA is Home to New Jersey!

The New Jersey Apartment Association is the premier statewide organization representing all facets of the multifamily rental housing industry, advancing the success and professionalism of its membership through government affairs advocacy, education, training, and industry events.



www.njaa.com

#6

Jason Hedberg

First Husband



A former Navy intelligence officer, Captain of the Navy's 1994 Rugby team, now a UBS broker, and father of four, Hedberg gives off a squared-away civilized tough guy vibe – a rarity in Democratic Party circles these days, let's face it. But maybe not for long, given the GOP's humiliating swamping on Election Night.

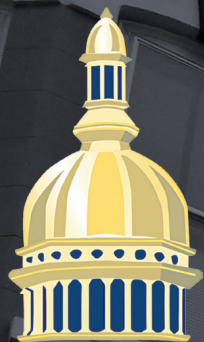
#7

Dale Caldwell

New Jersey Lieutenant Governor-elect



The President of Centenary University proved a likeable, relaxed, and serious ally for Mikie Sherrill on the campaign trail. A church pastor from Plainfield, son of a Civil Rights diehard who marched with MLK, Caldwell outdueled James Gannon in the rivals' single debate, and never backed away from the media when cornered for questions.



MBI

35 Years of Excellence

Delivering insight, influence, and results backed by more than 250 years of combined experience in state and local government relations, regulatory strategy, and public affairs.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Rudy Garcia and all of this year's honorees named to the 2025 InsiderNJ Power List.

AN OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT!



212 WEST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08608



PHONE 609.392.3100
FAX 609.392.6347



INFO@MBI-GS.COM



MBI-GS.COM

#8

Kevin McCabe

Chair, Middlesex County Democratic Committee



On General Election Night, Middlesex went sizably for Sherrill over Ciattarelli: 162K to 98k. Other counties outperformed the juggernaut – especially surprisingly in the Democratic Primary – on the strength of Mikie Sherrill’s unique biography and suburban service record (Morris and Monmouth, for example, racked more votes than McCabe’s domain). But Middlesex retains Speaker Craig Coughlin on the throne of power, and Senate President Nick Scutari correspondingly serves at Middlesex’s discretion. In addition to strong vote totals, McCabe presides on the strength of massive intra-county alliance building and a strong Trenton power base.

#9

Paul Fishman

Attorney, Arnold & Porter



The former U.S. Attorney now heads up A&P’s Crisis Management and Strategic Response team. Focuses on counseling executives and boards of directors on complex and sensitive issues, and handles internal and government investigations, white collar criminal defense, commercial litigation, corporate compliance and governance, and appellate advocacy. Significantly in NJ, Fishman took on U.S. Rep. LaMonica’s high profile case, now ongoing. McIver pleaded not guilty in June to the three criminal charges stemming from an incident Delaney Hall in May, when she tried to protect Newark Mayor Ras Baraka. Armed and masked ICE agents had thrown the mayor in handcuffs as he and a congressional team, including McIver, U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, and U.S. Rep. Rob Menendez sought information about detainees inside the immigration detention facility. “The legal process will expose this prosecution for what it truly is — political retaliation against a dedicated public servant who refuses to shy away from her oversight responsibilities,” said Fishman.

POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

#10



Tom Kelly

President, Passaic County Labor Council

“We’re under attack,” Kelly told a crowd at an early morning Clifton canvassing event. “We are under attack. Everybody got that picture? You, me, we are under attack. Over 300,000 federal employees have been illegally terminated. A psychopath, the richest man in the world, takes a chainsaw to people’s jobs, and they think it’s funny.” It’s not funny, Kelly said. It’s time to fight back, the labor leader yelled as the workers’ voices rose in support. They did.

#11



Rich Maroko

President of the Hotel Gaming Trades Council, AFL-CIO

Politically active leader of a relatively new union transformed out a failing local, Maroko took his organization from representing four hotels in 2013 to 101 at present. Endorsed Steve Fulop. Backed Mikie Sherrill in the general. The union represents 40,000 workers in the hotel and gaming industries in New York and New Jersey. Maroko also serves as Business Manager for UNITE HERE Local 6, and as the Recording Secretary of UNITE HERE International Union, which represents 300,000 workers across the United States and Canada.



Congratulations

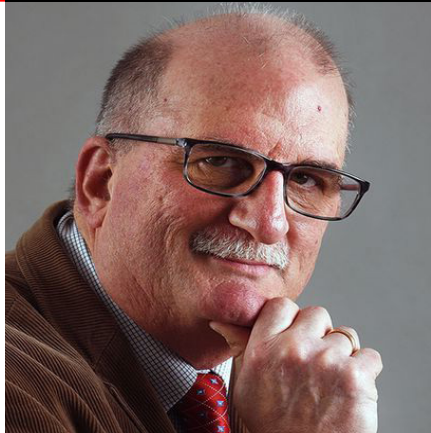
2025 InsiderNJ 100 Power List Honorees!

moxie
strategies

Unique depth. Bold impact.

moxiestrategies.com

#12



Charlie Stile

Columnist, [NorthJersey.com](https://www.northjersey.com)

If roboticized, doom-scrolling news consumers at this point lack the attention span to read, Stile in his eloquent, humorous, and ultimately deadly serious political columns has finally actually become the New Jersey equivalent of Victor Hugo – his incisive Pete Hamill American writing the equivalent of that most prodigious of novels, *Les Miserables*.

#13



Amol Sinha

Executive Director, ACLU NJ

As the Trump Administration targets undocumented workers, Sinha and his organization work to ensure “access to due process for detained people, curbing immigration detention in New Jersey, and holding detention centers accountable.” Notably, the executive director found himself called to action on May 9th following the arrest of Mayor Ras Baraka by the Department of Homeland Security. Sinha called Baraka’s arrest an example of Trump’s agenda “vengeance, not governance,” and “a shameful escalation of [an] intimidation campaign against officials who refuse to do [the Trump Administration’s] bidding. Mayor Baraka was at Delaney Hall to join a tour of the detention facility with a congressional delegation as part of their authorized oversight responsibilities. Mayor Baraka – and lawmakers across New Jersey and the country – are being targeted by the Trump administration for refusing to be complicit with its ongoing violations of due process. ... The Trump administration must end its assault on the fundamental rights at the core of our democracy.”

Congratulations Team PPAG.

Named to the Insider 100: Power List



Dale Florio



Bill Pascrell, III
(BP3)



Al Gaburo



Federal & State Public Affairs
Marketing & Crisis Communications | Association Management

PPAG.com | WSWDC.com | PrincetonSC.com

#14



Phil Alagia

Chief-of-Staff, Essex County Executive
Joe DiVincenzo

The brainy operator from Essex maintained high visibility through the election cycle, always in support of Mikie Sherrill. The numbers whiz kid also crunched critical data behind the scenes. Schooled in Newark's North Ward by the late Steve Adubato, Sr. and a longtime county achiever going back to before DiVincenzo's 2002 win and the Ramos-Corchado wars, Alagia would inevitably get his shot to be a major player in a statewide election. It came in 2025. And Alagia was ready.

#15



Tim Lydon

Chief Counsel, Mikie Sherrill

Policy Director and General Counsel on the Mikie Sherrill for Governor campaign. Longtime public servant. Former Executive Director of the New Jersey Senate Majority Office, Director of Cabinet Affairs for Gov. Jon Corzine, and Chief of Staff to Rep. John Adler. Former New Jersey Superior Court Judge.

GIBBONS

Government & Regulatory Affairs Group

For 23 years, our lawyer-lobbyists have provided cutting-edge advocacy to ensure that our clients' voices are heard at the right time and by the right decision makers in Trenton and Washington, DC.



David J. Pascrell
Chair



Michael D. DeLoreto
Director



Paul J. St. Onge
Director



Robert L. Johnson
Director



Courtney A. Johnson
Associate



Alexandra C. Hayes
Associate

Making Our Mark.

YOUR LEGAL PARTNER SINCE 1926.

gibbonslaw.com

NJ NY PA DE DC FL

Gibbons P.C. is headquartered at One Gateway Center, Newark, New Jersey 07102. Prior results do not guarantee similar outcomes. No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

#16



Paul Juliano

Chairman, Bergen County
Democratic Committee

Popular, strongly supported Bergen Dems chair loyally backed U.S. Rep. Josh Gottheimer (D-5) in the primary, then brought his county (mostly) in line behind Democratic nominee Sherrill. She won behemoth Bergen over Ciattarelli, 185K to 150K.

#17



Ana Maria Hill

New Jersey State Director and Vice
President of 32BJ SEIU

The daughter of Columbian and Mexican immigrants, Hill learned her trade well, assuming the reins from predecessor Kevin Brown, to become one of the most relevant labor leaders in New Jersey. In the streets and in the boardrooms, Hill passionately and effectively represents over 15,000 janitorial workers, security officers, airport workers, residential porters, K-12 cafeteria personnel and custodial work throughout the state of New Jersey.

POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

#18



John Currie

Chairman, Passaic County
Democratic Committee

Respected for his strong stewardship of the state Democratic Party in the first term of the Murphy years, Currie left the committee in the hands of the equally capable – and tough – Jones. After Trump won Passaic last year, Currie and company outdueled Peter Murphy and the GOP in Passaic (82K to 61K) in the most-watched county of the cycle. Throughout, the Chairman demonstrated his usual finesse and poise.

#19



Steve Adubato, Jr.

Host, State of Affairs and Think Tank

The Emmy Award-winning Adubato brings real world experience (he grew up in Newark in politics and served in the NJ Assembly) and erudition to the ongoing conversation about New Jersey's future. As host of Think Tank, he brings together thought leaders, innovators and experts from a variety of fields to explore the critical issues, trends and challenges facing society today. On State of Affairs, Adubato dives into all the policy machinations under the Gold Dome.



**Planned
Parenthood®**
Act. No matter what.

POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER POWER

#20

Balpreet Grewal-Virk

Commissioner, Gateway Program



Saddled with President Trump's announcement of the Gateway Tunnel project's termination, Grewal-Virk found herself occupied behind the scenes on all fronts on the Jersey side of the river, working with New York to protect the critical regional infrastructure project. Also, Senior Vice President, Community Health, for RWJBarnabas Health.

#21

Marcia Marley

President, BlueWaveNJ



Also a member of the Board of Directors of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority, progressive champion Marley stands at the heart and soul of Sherrill Country, otherwise known, according to GOP critics, as "The People's Republic of Montclair."



GENOVA
BURNS^{LLC}

Operating as Genova Burns LLP in New York

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



NOW YOU KNOW

At the intersection
of Law, Business
and Government

NEWARK • NEW YORK • JERSEY CITY
MEDIA • BASKING RIDGE

GENOVA BURNS LLC • WWW.GENOVABURNS.COM

#22



Maggie Moran

Moxie

Recruited by the Democratic National Committee (along with business partner LaRue) to handle statewide coordinated campaign efforts for Mikie Sherrill. One of the smartest message makers and campaign strategists in New Jersey. Big win for Moran this year, who joined the Sherrill movement in time to help it hit its stride.

#23



Dale Florio

Principal, Princeton Public Affairs Group (PPAG)

The vital consummate team player and Trenton insider would have served as chief-of-staff in a Jack Ciattarelli Administration. Respected and liked by his colleagues, he would have been effective too. Though Ciattarelli came up short in his third bid for governor, Florio maintains an inviolate reputation as one of New Jersey's top lobbyists, if not the top.

Read What New Jersey's Next Governor is Reading!

- 28 Pages
- 65 Actionable Solutions for New Jersey



NJBIA's Blueprint for a Competitive New Jersey

What is it? NJBIA's *Blueprint for a Competitive New Jersey* sets the vision for the next administration ensuring that NJ businesses are at the center of the discussion and the policies that follow. The Blueprint provides a framework to lead our next Governor in an operational and policy direction that will grow jobs and our economy with recommendations for the first 100 days, first year and first term.

**WANT TO ECHO OUR VOICE AND ADD YOURS?
BECOME A SPONSOR OR HOST A BRIEFING.**

[NJBIA.ORG/BLEUPRINT](https://njbia.org/blueprint) »

#24

Alina Habba

Acting U.S. Attorney, New Jersey



Serving at the pleasure of President Donald Trump, Habba never received the backing of Senators Cory Booker and Andy Kim. Her first attempt at a major prosecution of a public official – U.S. Rep. LaMonica McIver – underscored the political retributive designs for the office she announced when she took the job. In other words, it will be hard – and a breach of justice, candidly – to make the charges stick.

#25

The DeCotiis'

DeCotiis Fitzpatrick Cole and Giblin LLP



Headquartered in Teaneck with over 75 attorneys, Decotiis FitzPatrick Cole and Giblin LLP built a profile as one of the top firms in the state of New Jersey, a leader in the state's government, legal, and business communities. The firm includes former Hunterdon County Democratic Committee Chair Arlene Quinones Perez, veteran expert in government affairs and municipal law.

**Congratulations
to all the honorees on the
2025 Insider 100 Power List!**



NJISJ

NEW JERSEY INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

#26



Jeannine LaRue

Moxie

Hired by the Democratic National Committee along with Moxie Creative Consulting partner Maggie Moran to work on the coordinated campaign for Mikie Sherrill, veteran Trenton insider Jeannine LaRue in part took on the responsibility of better connecting Sherrill to the statewide African-American voter base, including clergy and elected officials.

#27



Middy Baraka

Chief of Staff, Newark Mayor Ras Baraka

Close to the innermost chamber of the mayor's inner circle, Baraka continues to prove a vital ally and resource for his brother, especially on the political front. After a lot of jittery pre-Election Day nerves, Newark showed up when it counted.

#28



Patricia Zita

The Zita Group

Principal owner of The Zita Group, served as a Research Associate for the New Jersey General Assembly. Longtime veteran. One of the most distinguished and knowledgeable professionals in New Jersey.



PARANO
AND ASSOCIATES

**CONGRATULATES ALL
ON THE
POWER LIST**

#29

Akeem Cunningham

Essex Democrat



Former East Orange football star, son of a single mom, who as a candidate literally rolled out the red carpet as part of his Single Mother's Appreciation Day, and a union firefighter by trade, Cunningham served as the Essex-based regional campaign director for Mikie Sherrill's coordinated campaign. "I believe in him," Jones, now chair of the Democratic State Committee, said of Cunningham. "He's a good organizer, motivator, and recruiter." Check. A star on the rise, Cunningham said post-election, "Grateful to Chairman Jones for trusting me to lead Essex County in one of the most consequential elections in New Jersey history and proud that we delivered one of the biggest turnouts [174K for Sherrill] this county has ever seen!"

#30

Peg Schaffer

Chair, Somerset County Democratic Committee



Vice chair of the Democratic State Committee, law partner of Joel L. Schain, Schaffer led the transformation of Somerset from a reliably Republican county to total control by Democrats. Even with Somerville resident Ciattarelli at the top of the ticket, Schaffer's countywide candidates won BIG on Nov. 4th, sweeping some longtime Republican towns, including Bridgewater. Not good news for U.S. Rep. Tom Kean (R-7), scheduled to run for reelection in 2026. Ciattarelli even lost his childhood hometown of Raritan Borough to Sherrill: 52-47%.



***YOUR LEADERSHIP AND INFLUENCE CONTINUE
TO SHAPE NEW JERSEY'S POLITICAL LANDSCAPE!***

www.1868PublicAffairs.com

#31



Bill Pascrell III

Princeton Public Affairs Group

Great political mind. Learned from the best, his late father, the Honorable Bill Pascrell (D-9). One of the state's foremost experts on gaming and cannabis.

#32



Kris Kolluri

Former Chief Executive Officer,
Gateway Development Commission

When Trump dumped the neutron termination bomb on the Gateway Tunnel project, Kolluri occupied a forward good government position – behind-the-scenes. The former Commissioner of Transportation (and once a prospective lieutenant governor choice) also proved highly valuable to Sherrill as a routine transportation expert.

“

Small Firm Service.
Big Firm Results.”

MalamutLaw

Government & Regulatory Affairs

- ◆ Labor, Employment, and Negotiations
- ◆ Public Finance
- ◆ Real Estate and Land Use
- ◆ Environmental Law
- ◆ Public Contracting and Procurement
- ◆ Affordable Housing
- ◆ Litigation



856-424-1808

MalamutLaw.com

#33



Rob Asaro-Angelo

New Jersey Commissioner of Labor

Under Governor Phil Murphy's and Asaro-Angelo's leadership, Murphy's strongly pro-Labor record includes building New Jersey's minimum wage to \$15.49, equal pay, earned sick leave, expanded family leave, a temporary worker bill of rights, healthy terminals act, and project labor agreements. Highly respected, Asaro-Angelo previously served as Eastern Regional Representative for the U.S. Department of Labor for President Barack Obama, managing the department's regional activities and coordinating federal initiatives on the regional, state, and local levels. Formerly of the Laborers International Union, the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees and the Service Employees International Union Local 1115.

#34



Bill Mullen

President, New Jersey Building Trades

The Building Trades went all in with Steve Sweeney in the Democratic Primary for Governor. Why wouldn't they? Former State Senate President Sweeney built his public service career as an aggressive and effective promoter of trades causes. But when the sturdy South Jersey ironworker came in dead last, the 'Trades' leaders had to make a hard decision about the general election contest. It was no secret that rank-and-file members leaned Trump. But Trump had an abysmal record on labor issues. Forced to pick between Jack Ciattarelli – who had Trump's endorsement – and Mikie Sherrill, leadership decided to forgo an endorsement as a group.

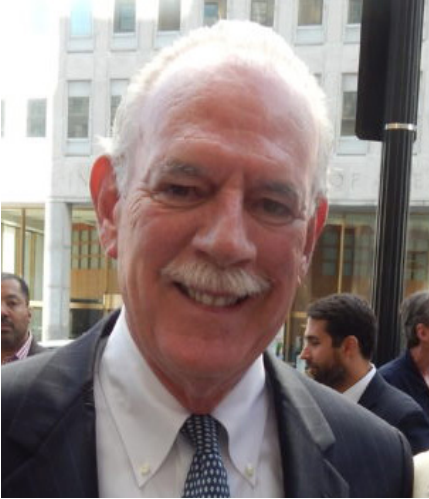


ABCNJC.ORG | (856) 437-4130

#35

Tom Barrett

Democratic State Committeeman



Do yourself a favor, if you want to know the political score in New Jersey. Check in periodically with the handsome, durable, Essex-based Sam Elliot lookalike.

#36

Steve Beatty

President, New Jersey Education Association (NJEA)



Diehard union activist. High School social studies teacher in the Bridgewater-Raritan School District. The statewide NJEA officer for the last eight years, four as secretary-treasurer and four as vice president, in September took the helm of the organization as NJEA President.



*Komjathy
& Kean*

**ALADAR G. KOMJATHY
EILEEN KEAN, ESQ.**

222 WEST STATE STREET, SUITE 202, TRENTON, NJ 08608

609.695.5840

#37

Patricia Campos - Medina

Labor and Immigration Expert



A nationally recognized labor and immigration policy leader with a proven record of experience in union organizing, government affairs, U.S. trade relations, and higher education. A credible candidate for U.S. Senate in the 2024 Democratic primary, the only Latina candidate, she captured 18% of the vote. Critical ally of Mikie Sherrill.

#38

Imani Hamm

District Director, U.S. Rep. McIlver



Based here, on the ground in the (very active) 10th district, Hamm finds herself at ground zero of her boss' intensely watched legal fight after the Congresswoman – on a fact-finding mission to the Delaney Hall immigrant detention center - stood up for herself against masked federal agents with guns.

#39



Michele Siekerka

President and CEO of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association

NJBIA President Michele Siekerka holds a decade's worth of experience and accomplishments with the Association, defending the business community's interests in a state fraught with high corporate taxes and legislative challenges. Skillfully navigating political circles, she has taken on Trenton policies while also leading NJBIA's partnership with the NJMEP. She is one of the state's leading women business advocates and was made Chair of the Conference of State Manufacturer's Board of Directors. During the 2025 gubernatorial election, she presented NJBIA's "Blueprint for a Competitive New Jersey" to both candidates, offering their solutions to a multitude of tax, education, labor, insurance, and regulatory concerns facing the state.

#40



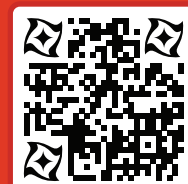
Karen Kominsky

CLB

Partner at CLB, jack-of-all-trades, Kominsky immerses herself in a lot of energy and environment-related issues. Local second term Councilwoman in Lambertville. Experienced, she served as Deputy Chief of Staff in the Office of the Governor, State of New Jersey, for Governor Richard J. Codey and Governor James E. McGreevey from December 2002 until January 2006. Ran Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign in New Jersey in 2008.



SAVE THE DATE
March 31-April 1, 2026
Harrah's Atlantic City



njchamber.com/summit



ReNEW JERSEY

Business Summit & EXPO

2026

New administration. Economic panel discussions & keynote speeches.
Exhibit booths. Dinner reception. Non-stop networking.

CO-HOST



CONTROL POINT
ASSOCIATES INC.
traditional methods | modern approaches

New Jersey Chamber of Commerce
216 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608
njchamber.com

RETURNING IN 2027:

WALK to WASHINGTON
— & Congressional Reception —

#41

Ray Greaves

International Vice-President, ATU

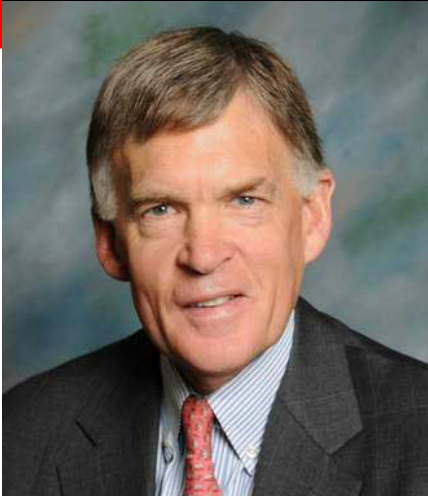


Bayonne bred, Greaves – whose labor organization backed Steven Fulop in the Democratic Primary – pivoted with no difficulty to Mikie Sherrill for Governor in the general. “We are for workers in New Jersey, and, frankly, there’s no better candidate,” Greaves said. “She has a 100% voting record for worker issues, and she’s a defender of public transportation. She has the full support of the AFL-CIO.”

#42

Tom Bracken

President, New Jersey Chamber of Commerce



Bracken (along with Siekerka) remains the state’s leading business advocate, and proponent of a stronger state economy through implementation of the Chamber’s Plan for an Affordable New Jersey. As politics devolves into pitched tribal camps of general wretchedness, Bracken offers that Tom Kean Sr. era school gravitas that most people are starved for, without even knowing what they lack.

#43

Charles Boyer

Pastor, Greater Mt. Zion A.M.E. Church and Co-founder of Salvation and Social Justice

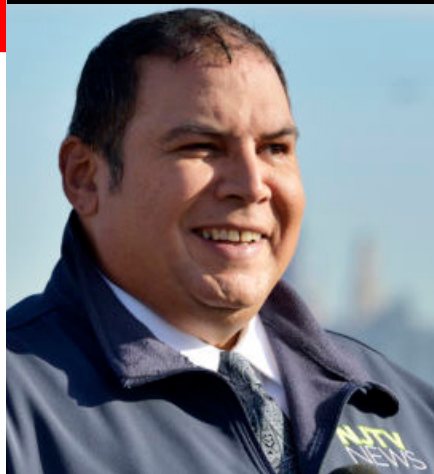


Boyer led a letter of support for Sherrill signed by over 145 Black faith leaders. The letter read in part, “Based on what we know of Mikie Sherrill and Jack Ciattarelli and what we’ve seen during this campaign season, it is very clear to us that there’s only one candidate that will address the issues concerning many African-Americans in the state and that is Congresswoman Mikie Sherrill. If Jack is elected, President Trump will run Trenton and that would be absolutely unacceptable and tragic for New Jersey. We trust that the Congresswoman will continue her fight in New Jersey, to make New Jersey more affordable, while Donald Trump and Jack Ciattarelli’s policies will drive up costs for all New Jerseyans.”

#44

David Cruz

Former Chief Political Correspondent, NJ Spotlight News



Old school, gutsy reporter, with deep Hudson roots, the TV successor to the late great Michael Aron. Moderator of Chat Box and Reporters Roundtable. Former radio host with WBGO and WNYC. Did a splendid job at NJ Spotlight News. A fighter to the core, certainly his best work is yet to come.

#45

Julie Diaz

Deputy Commissioner of Labor



The Perth Amboy native possesses one of the deepest political resumes in New Jersey, going back to her early organizing for Barack Obama in 2008. She subsequently worked for then-Governor Jon Corzine, and did the field work for one of the most exciting legislative contests in the state, helping Democratic incumbents Lesniak, Cryan, and Quijano hold off their well-organized challengers. Later, Diaz served as political organizer for SEIU 32BJ, on the front end of what would become the union's successful fight to increase airport worker wages above minimum wage.

#46

Sean Higgins

Director of Communications, Sherrill for Governor



Formerly press secretary at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and former Deputy Communications Director for Biden for President, Higgins competently and successfully navigated the tough terrain of both the Democratic Primary and general election.



#47



Marc H. Pfeiffer

Senior Policy Fellow, Faculty Researcher, Bloustein Local Government, Center for Urban Policy Research

Retired from a 37-year career in New Jersey local government administration, having served as a municipal administrator in several municipalities, and 26 years of service in the State's local government oversight agency, the Division of Local Government Services, Pfeiffer possesses one of the sharpest policy minds in New Jersey.

#48



Bill Castner

Executive Vice President of Legal Affairs, Rutgers University

Former advisor to Governor Phil Murphy on firearms, formerly of the New Jersey Office of Legislative Services, executive director of the New Jersey General Assembly Majority Office, and chief counsel to then Governor Jon Corzine. Castner remains a go-to policy and politics expert.

#49



Christian Fuscarino

Executive Director, Garden State Equality

Head of the state's largest LGBTQ-plus organization, with a membership of over 150,000, Fuscarino leads an extremely politically influential operation founded by marriage equality activist Steven Goldstein.

#50



Chigozie Onyema

LD-28 Assemblyman-elect

Chair of the Newark West Ward Democratic Committee, attorney Onyema stands at the forefront of the next generation of progressive leaders at the Statehouse – and in Newark. A strong political organizer with deep convictions, a lawyer, and a student of history.

#51



Angelo Genova

Principal, Genova Burns

Distinguished campaigns and elections lawyer – the premiere elections law authority in the State of New Jersey.



DARING TO CREATE A MORE PERFECT NEW JERSEY

ACLU
New Jersey

American Civil Liberties Union of New Jersey
P.O. Box 32159, Newark, NJ 07102
973-642-2084 | info@aclu-nj.org
aclu-nj.org
[@aclunj](https://twitter.com/aclunj)

#52



Adam Malamut

Firm Managing Partner, Malamut and Associates

The intelligent, Burlington-based operator has strong connective ties countywide and throughout the bloodstream of New Jersey Democratic Party establishment politics and government affairs. Known for his ability to communicate and collaborate with an understanding of the intersection of law and public policy, he has strong ties on both sides of the aisle statewide.

#53



William Sproule

Executive Secretary Treasurer of the Eastern Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (EASRCC)

Once an apprentice carpenter, Sproule of Mays Landing served as Organizing Director, New Jersey Regional Manager, and President and Regional Manager of the Northeast Regional Council of Carpenters prior to landing the top dog spot. EASRCC rep represents more than 41,000 members in Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the Territory of Puerto Rico.



Public Strategies Impact

Government Relations • Public Affairs • Association Management

Roger A. Bodman
Managing Partner

William J. Maer
Senior Partner

Tracie DeSarno
Senior Partner



CONTINUOUSLY ACHIEVING RESULTS

414 River View Plaza, Trenton, NJ
609-393-7799
NJPSI.com

#54

Hanna Mori

State Director, U.S. Senator Cory Booker



And so it begins. They were all here, or most of them – Josh Shapiro, Gretchen Whitmer, Pete Buttigieg, Wes Moore, and probably others eyeballing a 2028 presidential bid. But Mori’s boss, Senator Booker, already lives here – and must be counted among those intent on the White House, with Mori in critical support.

#55

Sue Altman

State Director, U.S. Senator Andy Kim



Formerly the head of Working Families and a CD-7 candidate, Altman provides a critical on-the-ground presence statewide for Kim. Experienced, gutsy, educated.

#56



Ronald Slaughter

Pastor of Saint James AME Church in Newark

One of the core AME leaders who added his powerful voice to a strong endorsement of Mikie Sherrill. After the election, Slaughter had a message to Trump: “We will not abide under a king or a racist and fascist administration. The day of dividing us is about to be over. Tonight, good has trumped evil in New Jersey. Governor Sherrill and Lt. Gov. Caldwell (descendant of A.M.E. Bishop Morris Brown) represents what’s good for New Jersey.”

#57



Kenyetta Stewart

Corporation Counsel Newark

Stewart picked off an LD-35 seat this year, while helping to forge closer Newark-Paterson connections between Newark Mayor Ras Baraka and state Senator Benjie Wimberly (D-35).

PashmanStein
WalderHayden

A Passion for Justice.
A Tradition of Winning.

Selected as
**Law Firm of the
Year**

*New Jersey Law Journal 2023
Legal Awards**

201.488.8200
pashmanstein.com

NEW JERSEY
Hackensack • Holmdel

NEW YORK
New York City

PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia

DELAWARE
Wilmington

*A description of the selection methodology can be found at <https://www.event.law.com/njlawjournal-njlegalawards/methodology>.
No aspect of this advertisement has been approved by the Supreme Court of New Jersey.

#58



Orlando Riley

Chairman, Amalgamated Transit Union NJ State Joint Council

Trump's "termination" of the Gateway Tunnel project occurred just prior to Riley issuing his union's formal endorsement for governor: "Mikie Sherrill recognizes that transportation is the backbone of New Jersey and that affordable, accessible transit options are crucial for our citizens. The ATU NJ State Joint Council proudly endorses Mikie Sherrill for Governor of New Jersey."

#59



Fatima Heyward

President of the Young Democrats of America

A dynamic, galvanizing presence, Heyward organized and led the Democrats' youth vote, which showed up in opposition to the Trump Agenda with a 13% margin of victory for Heyward's candidate Mikie Sherrill. Heyward was also elected as president of the national organization, Young Democrats of America. She made history as the first New Jerseyean to win the position, the first woman in a decade, and only the second Black woman since the organization's founding in 1932 to hold the title.

#60



David Pascrell

Gibbons PC

The firm's chair for government and regulatory affairs. Also, a lobbyist with considerable experience in Trenton and Washington, D.C.

#61



Sammy Gonzalez

North Ward Democratic Party Chairman

Gonzalez holds on his shoulders the local political organizing tradition of the late Steve Adubato, Sr. Married to powerhouse state Senate Majority Leader M. Teresa Ruiz (D-29), and politically close to DiVincenzo COS Alagia, North Ward Councilman Anibal Ramos and Essex County Executive Joe DiVincenzo. The county leaned heavily on Gonzalez this year for GOTV strength as they helped propel Sherrill to victory by monster margins in Essex County.

DECOTIIS

DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP

Straightforward Solutions *To complex legal problems*



Areas of Expertise

Labor Law • Real Estate • Banking and Bankruptcy
Litigation • Environmental Law • Public Finance • Tax • Municipal Law
Government and Regulatory Affairs • Healthcare Law • Corporate Law
White Collar, Investigations, and Compliance

DeCotiis Headquarters

61 South Paramus Road, Suite 250
Paramus, NJ 07652

Tel: (201) 928-1100

Fax: (201) 928-0588

www.decotiislaw.com

#62

Rob Garrison

Business Development, LECET



Former Executive Director of the Bergen County Improvement Authority. Accomplished executive and legal professional. Government affairs expert. Work across private and government sectors. Proven record for building productive relationships with all organizational, local, state and federal counterparts. Problem solver.

#63

Saily Avelenda

Executive Director, New Jersey Democratic State Committee



Avelenda made the transition from the world of banking to the world of politics. She was with Sherrill at the beginning on the streets of CD-11, proving critical in unhorsing Rodney Frelinghusyen, and with the Governor-elect in the offices of the state committee, helping to defeat Jack Ciattarelli.

#64

Rahaman Muhammad

Deputy Mayor, City of Newark



A former SEIU leader, Muhammad maintains his old labor organizer's priorities in public life. "This is a defining time for labor and what you see is a lot of leaders being complacent," the deputy mayor told Insider earlier this year. "You see [President Donald] Trump out there acting like a friend to labor. 'I will take care of you, auto workers and teamsters,' while seeking to destroy public sector workers. The problem is the lack of a clear unified front from labor. The attitude is more along the lines of 'whoever can make a deal to survive' will survive, rather than, the priorities of union-affiliated workers. Labor, to win, to fight back against Trump, has to find a unified message."

#65

Briana Vannozzi

Anchor, NJ Spotlight News



The consummate pro, former Trenton Bureau chief, Vannozzi helmed public television's Democratic Primary Debate with grace, toughness, and institutional know-how.

CAWPP CENTER FOR AMERICAN WOMEN AND POLITICS

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

December

6

2025

Appointments to State Boards and Commissions

At this half-day workshop, you'll learn the nuts and bolts of the appointments process and walk away with practical strategies for getting appointed to public office.

In partnership with

Women's
Political Caucus
of New Jersey

PASSION. POWER. PROGRESS.™

March

20-21

2026

Ready to Run® 2026

Ready to Run® is a nonpartisan campaign training program that provides the skills, strategies, and networks you need to step into political leadership.

Ready to
RUN

Campaign Training for Women



RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK
Center for American
Women and Politics

LEARN
MORE



cawp.rutgers.edu/events



#66

Al Gaburo

Princeton Public Affairs Group (PPAG)



Florio's right-hand man at Princeton Public Affairs Group has a similar background, including ten years as chair of the Somerset GOP. Gaburo took a tough loss this year as one of Ciattarelli's chief allies. But, as usual, he made the other side work for the win.

#67

Greg Lavee

Business Manager, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 825

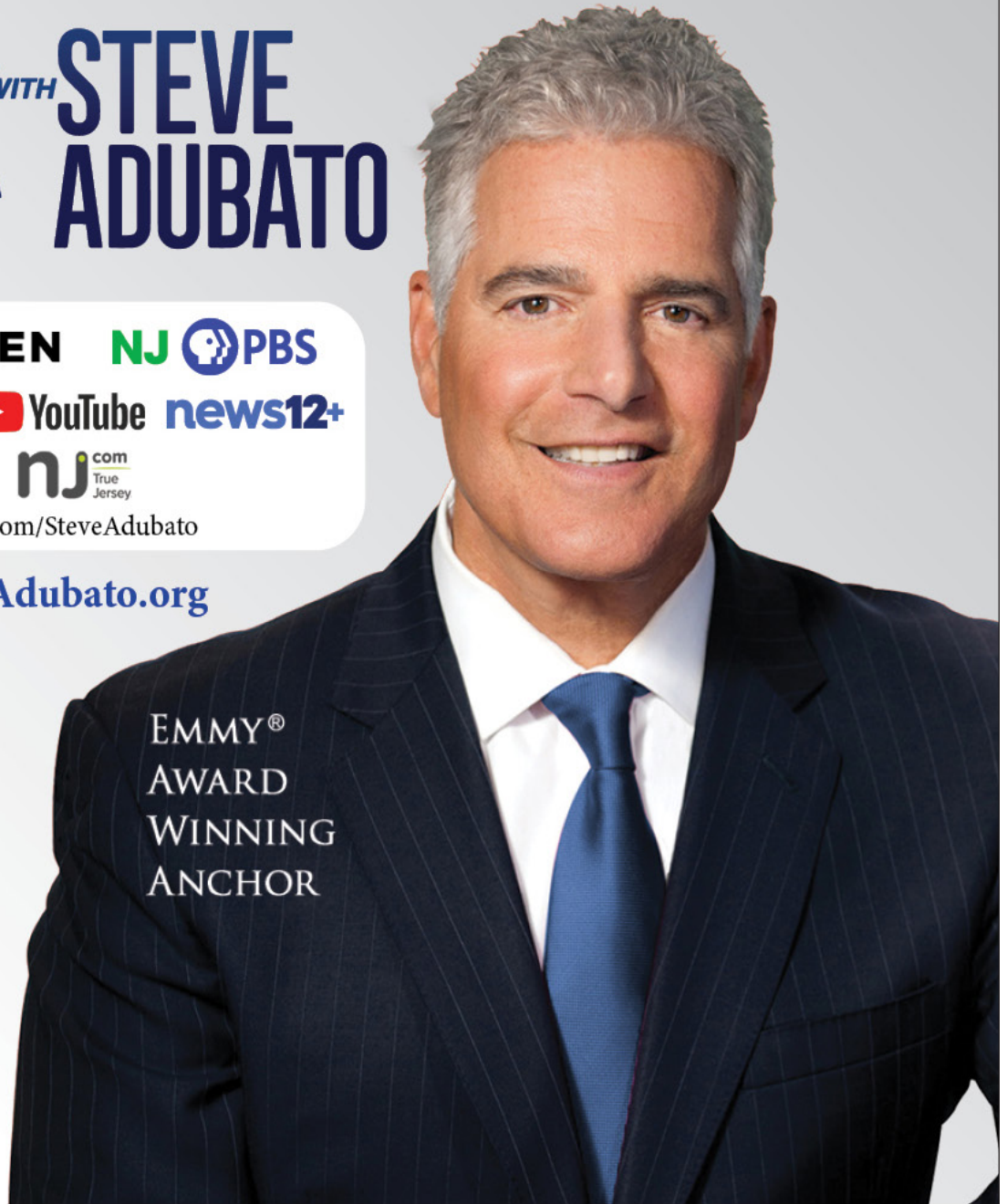


A crane operator by trade, Lavee became business manager of the 7K-strong men and women in 2010. While the Building Trades as a whole remained neutral in the governor's race, Lavee led his Local in support of Republican nominee Jack Ciattarelli.

THINK TANK WITH STEVE ADUBATO

THIRTEEN NJ PBS
 WHY? YouTube news12+
 nj.com
 True Jersey
nj.com/SteveAdubato

SteveAdubato.org



EMMY®
 AWARD
 WINNING
 ANCHOR



#68

Larry Hamm

Founder, the People's Organization for Progress (POP)



In a lifetime of activism and erudite, passionate speechmaking, Hamm gave one of his best this year on Walnut Street in Newark outside the federal courthouse, as he urged a judge to drop the charges against U.S. Rep. LaMonica McIver (D-10). “ICE should be on trial,” said Hamm. “The people who should be on trial are the people who are trying to build a fascist movement in this country. What we are experiencing today is the kind of fascism that reminds me of McCarthyism.”

#69

Raj Parikh

PEM Law, LLP



Partner at the firm. Leader of the New Jersey bar, with expertise as a litigator, crisis manager and counselor. Experience trying high stakes litigation cases related to commercial litigation matters, public financing, misappropriation of trade secrets, procurement, civil rights, and construction. A go-to-elections attorney for the New Jersey State Democratic Committee.



Spotlight News

**YOUR NJ
NEWS SOURCE**

Watch:

**NJ Spotlight News
with Briana Vannozzi
(M-F) 6:30pm, 7:30pm & 11pm**

Log On:

NJSpotlightNews.org

Subscribe:

**[NJSpotlightnews.org/
newsletters](http://NJSpotlightnews.org/newsletters)**



Major funding for *NJ Spotlight News* and the *NJ Spotlight News with Briana Vannozzi* newscast is provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the New Jersey Civic Info Consortium, the William Penn Foundation, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PSEG Foundation, the Fund for New Jersey, RWJBarnabas Health, NJM Insurance Group, New Jersey Education Association, Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of NJ, the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, New Jersey Realtors, the Schumann Fund for New Jersey and Wyncote Foundation.

#70

Nedia Morsy

Executive Director, Make the Road New Jersey



Brilliant, consummate advocate for immigrant rights and undocumented worker rights, the lifelong New Jerseyan came up the organizing way with Make the Road. A ten-year veteran. Fought for warehouse workers. Fought for a Temporary Workers Bill of Rights. Vital part of the successful fight for undocumented worker drivers' licenses. Eager to see the State of New Jersey step up enforcement efforts of some of its laws on the books. A warehouse shut down for violating worker protection laws, for example, may open under another name, in another place, and continue abusing workers without penalty. That has to end, says Morsy. Busy over the summer seeking worker protections from heat-related deaths, especially with the Trump era implosion of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

#71

Mo Butler and Mike Soliman

Mercury



Former state director of U.S. Senator Cory Booker (Butler), with strong ties in Newark and Essex County, including the North Ward. Also, Chairman of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA). Former state director for former U.S. Senator Bob Menendez and former Gottheimer for Governor advisor with strong Hudson and Bergen ties (Soliman).

#72



Laurel Brennan

Secretary-Treasurer, AFL-CIO NJ

Secretary-Treasurer of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO since 1997, Brennan is the first woman to serve in this office in New Jersey and is one of only seven to do so across the nation.

#73



Andy Cassagnol

Executive Vice President of 1199SEIU
United Healthcare Workers East

2025 marked a significant year in the history of 1199SEIU, an organization long associated with Milly Silva, who in 2013 stepped up to run for lieutenant governor on a brave but doomed ticket with then-Democratic nominee Barbara Buono. May 3rd proved déjà vu all over again for the always game Silva, running for secretary-treasurer of 1199 on a ticket with George Gresham. They got shellacked by Veronica Turner Biggs (secretary treasurer) and Yvonne Armstrong (president). Armstrong received 26,623 votes to Gresham's 11,722, while Biggs polished off Silva, 26,267 to 11,435 in a clear New Dawn election for the union, which represents 450,000 health care workers across five East Coast states and was once a powerhouse in New York politics. When the dust cleared, Cassagnol stepped up to lead 1199SEIU in NJ, and promptly set about organizing, lending labor support to Essex GOTV events in support of Democratic nominee Mikie Sherrill.

PROVIDING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES TO FAMILIES LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

CAREGIVER SUPPORT
CRISIS MANAGEMENT
LONG-TERM CARE PLANNING
COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS
DISEASE EDUCATION
CARE COORDINATION

201-721-6721



Give Back to the
Fight Against Dementia:
SCAN TO DONATE



400 38TH ST, STE 402
UNION CITY, NJ 07087

ACTNOWFOUNDATION.ORG
@ACTNOWFOUNDATION



ACT NOW
FOUNDATION

Dementia Resource Center

#74



Iris Delgado

Executive Director of the Middlesex County Democratic Organization and the NJ Democratic Assembly Campaign Committee

From an organizing standpoint alone, and in addition to her other considerable political strengths, Delgado occupies a key leadership role in New Jersey – in politically powerful Middlesex, no less – as the establishment Democratic Party attempts to connect with dislocated Hispanic voters.

#75



Keith Furlong

North Jersey Operative

A top-notch hand, veteran of numerous political wars, especially in Passaic, where County Democratic Chairman John Currie relies on him. After all the drama, Dems won Passaic this year for Sherrill over Ciattarelli, who campaigned exhaustively there.

#76

Gene Mulroy and Gerry Gibbs

Partners, Capital Impact Group



The main principals at Capital Impact Group, Mulroy and Gibbs are top public affairs professionals with strong political and governmental backgrounds at all levels. The two go back-to-back at the Statehouse advocating on a wide range of issues to a diverse client base, and lead a strong team at their firm, including partner Sabeen Masih and Eash Haughton.

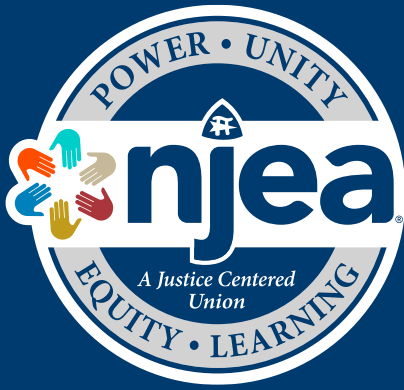
#77

Dave Parano

CEO, Parano and Associates



The vote-by-mail operations guru cut his teeth with former state Senator Loretta Weinberg, and remains the chief Democratic Party operative most institutionally grounded in Bergen County, but with expertise everywhere.



The members of the
New Jersey Education Association
are proud advocates for our colleagues,
our students, and America's
**BEST PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

Pictured above (l-r):
Secretary-Treasurer Tina Dare, President Steve Beatty & Vice President Petal Robertson

#78

Chris Donnelly

General Manager at Avoq



Oversees the day-to-day operations of Avoq's Asbury Park location. Donnelly has 20 years of experience in public and media relations. He has assisted numerous clients over the years, including Circulate NJ, New Jersey Resources, UTCA, New Jersey American Water, the New Jersey CannaBusiness Association, the successful 2016 and 2024 efforts to replenish the Transportation Trust Fund and served as an advisor to the 2020 cannabis legalization campaign. Prior to joining Avoq, Donnelly served for four years as press secretary to State Senate President Steve Sweeney and worked in the administrations of three New Jersey governors. He served as the communications director for New Jersey United For Marriage, a grassroots campaign to bring marriage equality to New Jersey and is the former Chair of Garden State Equality's Action Fund Executive Committee. Donnelly is also the celebrated author of five baseball-related books.

#79

Joe DeMarco

Vice Chairman, Somerset County Democratic Committee



Somerset Dems went from a depressing Bertolt Brecht play 20 years ago to a robust Central Jersey operation in 2025, fully on display when Mikie Sherrill went to Martinsville Gardens with two weeks to go before Election Day and found a packed ballroom of supporters. DeMarco has deep campaign and elections roots, with key wins racked not only in Somerset but Hudson.



PSC

Princeton Strategic Communications

Your story is **our strategy.**

A full-service marketing &
strategic communications team

princetonpsc.com

#80

Colleen O'Dea

NJ Spotlight News



One of the last great data-driven reporters in New Jersey, O'Dea (along with her colleague, John Reitmeyer) in New Jersey embodies fast-dwindling journalistic virtues, including depth, literacy, accuracy, and integrity.

#81

Michael Embrich

Military Veterans Advocate



A straight shooter, which unto itself in New Jersey makes Embrich a prized possession, Embrich is a longtime, Bayonne-rooted operative, former policy advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and a former congressional staffer. Veteran of U.S. Navy veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, he served aboard USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) and has made a prime objective of standing up for veterans, especially Mikie Sherrill.

New Jersey is a gender-affirming care safe haven.*

*By executive order, meaning the next governor could revoke protections upon taking office.

Let's fix that.



GARDEN STATE
EQUALITY
ACTION FUND

Learn more and get involved at:
jerseytrans.care

#82



Adam Steinberger

Partner at Avoq

Steinberger is a 20-year veteran of New Jersey politics and one of the shrewdest public affairs campaign managers in the state. He got his start during the Governor Codey days, served in the Corzine Administration. Worked on several major campaigns in New Jersey since 2006 including as a consultant to Steve Fulop's 2013 campaign for Jersey City Mayor and Bonnie Watson Coleman's 2014 Congressional Primary Campaign Manager. His work at Avoq includes high profile companies and organizations including Williams, American Water, the National Education Association and various labor and energy issue campaigns.

#83



Anthony Abrantes

Assistant Executive Secretary
Treasurer for the Eastern Atlantic
State Regional Council of Carpenters

The Carpenters leader provides invaluable leadership and oversight for the council, which backed Sherrill for governor. More than new labor laws, Abrantes stresses the importance of labor law enforcement in New Jersey and the fostering of a robust and lawful labor and business culture. In the last two years, 16,000 people tried to get into the Carpenters Union, and the organization could only take 1,500, as it desperately tries to get government to furnish more jobs to meet the labor demand. Not just any jobs, of course, which is the rub. Union jobs.

#84



George Helmy

Chief External Affairs and Policy Officer, RWJ

Former chief of staff to Governor Phil Murphy. Former state director for U.S. Senator Cory Booker. Master of policy.

#85



Rudy Garcia

President, MBI

Garcia – the former mayor of Union City and a former Assemblyman – oversees a team of both veteran and young professionals at veteran lobbying firm MBI, and has a strong presence at the Statehouse and around New Jersey.



ROUND WORLD

CONSULTING

is proud to support

INSIDERNJ

&

CONGRATULATES

OUR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS

named to the

THE INSIDER 100:
POWER LIST

Sean M. Darcy, President

PO Box 397, Belmar, NJ 07719 | 609-610-0543

#86



Jill Hirsch

Former District Director and Senior Political advisor for Congresswoman Sherrill

Served as statewide political director and co-director of the coordinated campaign for Sherrill for Governor.

#87



Matt Riggins

Burlington County Democratic Committee Chairman

They built a real party organization in Burlington County, in part the old-fashioned way through relationships and time, pragmatism, and some luck - in addition to progressive politics and guts. "It's about work, discipline, and grit," said U.S. Senator Andy Kim (D-NJ), who's never lost an election, and brought Democratic gubernatorial nominee Mikie Sherrill to BurlCo on the last Sunday before Election Day. "I wanted Mikie to come down here because I wanted her to meet the toughest political community in the country." Critically, the organization under the leadership of businessman Riggins this year helped protect incumbent Assemblywoman Andrea Katz in LD-8 and elect her running mate, Hammonton Education Association President Anthony Angelozzi.

**DR. PATRICIA
CAMPOS-MEDINA**

LABOR AND POLITICAL LEADER

**Fighting for NJ families,
affordability, and
worker rights is a
winning strategy.**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL
INSIDER NJ'S INSIDER 100:
POWER 2025 HONOREES**

**PatriciaCamposMedina.com
@DrCamposMedina**



#88

Sean Darcy and Laura Matos

Power Couple



A shoreline power couple. Matos serves as Vice President at MAD Global while Darcy, the consummate operative's operative, runs Round World Consulting, which has a history of key wins, including campaigns Darcy worked on for U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell and U.S. Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman. Key allies of fellow Monmouth County powerhouse state Senator Vin Gopal (D-11).

#89

Jennifer Holdsworth

Democratic Strategist



Headed One Giant Leap, the critical fundraising PAC in support of Mikie Sherrill. Conducted a poll of the race, showing Sherrill beating Ciattarelli by 12 points, which ultimately proved the most accurate of the season.

The voice for real estate in New Jersey.



 NEW JERSEY
REALTORS®
njrealtor.com

#90

Marie Blistan

Chair, Cape May Democratic Committee



Retired special ed teacher Blistan lacks countywide power, but the former leader of the New Jersey Education Association (NJEA) still commands statewide respect among labor members who value principled (and effective) union leadership. Teachers especially remember Blistan's work to scrap Chapter 78, which watered down healthcare benefits for public educators.

#91

Al Komjathy and Eileen Kean

Komjathy and Kean



Komjathy began his career as Legislative Assistant to State Senator Francis J. McManimon. He later served as Special Assistant to New Jersey's Commissioner of Corrections. A powerful lobbyist who has an impressive, diverse resume with state & county offices, Kean's 15 years with the firm makes her a formidable figure in law and politics.

#92



Idida Rodriguez

Managing Partner, 1868 Public Affairs

Professional partner and ally of Democratic State Party Chairman LeRoy Jones, Paterson native Rodriguez is a widely-respected and results-achieving leader, and has ties everywhere to political and governmental nerve centers, among them Congresswoman Pou and CD9. An inter-faith minister and non-profit founder, she sits on the NJ Local Finance Board and William Paterson University Board of Trustees.

#93



Andre Speight

Newark Central Ward Democratic Party Chairman

Highly experienced GOTV expert. Husband of Assemblywoman Shanique Speight. Strong church ties. Key part of Essex County Democratic Committee's Newark operation.



STATESIDE AFFAIRS CONGRATULATES ALL HONOREES NAMED TO THE INSIDER 100: POWER 2025 LIST

AWARD-WINNING FIRM

Government Affairs | Digital Communications | Public Relations

Cristina Pinzon, President & CEO

www.statesideaffairs.com

MINORITY & WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE



#94

Bob and Gail Gordon

Power Couple



Respectively the retired Democratic state senator from Bergen County, a dedicated public policy expert; and Commissioner with the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority and Republican fundraiser.

#95

Darcy Draeger

Chair, Morris County Democratic Committee



Leader of the ground zero suburban party operation for Mikie Sherrill's gubernatorial campaign. Sherrill first shocked the political world in New Jersey in 2018, when she won the Morris-based CD-11 seat, and she relies on Draeger for the nuts and bolts.

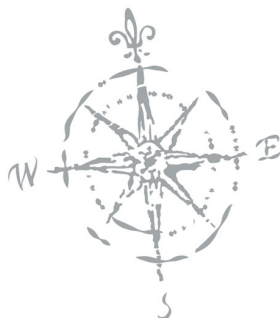
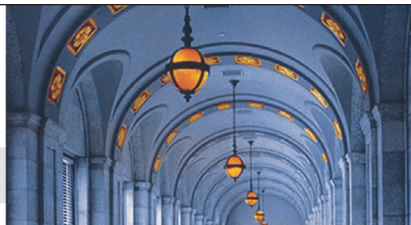
#96

Samantha DeAlmedia

President, Associated Builders and Contractors



Serving as the President of the Associated Builders and Contractors of New Jersey, the youngest ever in the role, DeAlmeida has a strong background in government affairs, and is one of the state's leading voices in the construction industry.



NORTH STAR STRATEGIES

Navigate with Confidence

NorthStar's vision is to be the most trusted consultancy in New Jersey and the region. NorthStar works each day to realize this vision by offering strong and distinct practice areas and embracing a team approach.

- Government Affairs
- Association Management
- Corporate Meeting Planning and Management
 - Charitable & Political Fundraising Management
 - Public and Community Outreach

(609) 571-9920

310 WEST STATE STREET
TRENTON, NJ 08618

NORTHSTARSTRATEGIESLLC.COM



NORTHSTAR STRATEGIES



NORTHSTAR STRATEGIES



@NSSTRATEGIESLLC

#97

Ed Oatman and Nick Fixmer

Union County Diehards



Respectively the county manager and political consultant present one-two punch negotiating and organizing capacity on behalf of sitting Senate President Nick Scutari.

#98

Joe Hayden

Attorney, Pashman Stein Walder Hayden



PC Top notch defense lawyer Hayden once stood in Bill Musto's courtroom corner and cross-examined Bob Menendez. A veteran of the Civil Rights movement, he drove as a young man from Newark to Selma, Alabama, to offer his support to embattled civil rights workers. And you won't find a more active and agile legal political mind in the state.



NEW JERSEY

Leadership Collective

NJLC, formerly New Leaders Council–New Jersey, develops and empowers leaders committed to driving progressive change in our communities. For 15 years, we've built a powerful, statewide network of changemakers who know how to turn values into action—shaping policy, building collective power, and advancing equity.



NJLC Board of Directors

Mayrose Wegmann Rob Matos-Moran Madelaine Hicks Viri Martinez

Medinah Muhammad Jose Calves Intashan Chowdhury Anthony Covington

Erik Cruz Morales Ruth Delgado Fatima Heyward Victoria Pacheco

**STRENGTHENING LEADERS.
BUILDING A STRONGER NEW JERSEY!**



WWW.NEWJERSEYLEADERS.ORG

#99



Maureen Rowan

Assemblywoman-elect, LD-2

The first Democratic woman elected to represent Atlantic County in the legislature, Rowan prevailed in a close contest over incumbent Assemblywoman Claire Swift (R-2). Respected and accomplished trial attorney who practiced law for 35 years. Also, the owner and managing partner of a law firm, where she was responsible for all aspects of running the business.

#100



Mark Albiez

Operative

Excellent, experienced operative, with deep political ties in North Jersey, especially Hudson, where he cut his teeth as chief-of-staff to Union City Mayor (and 33rd District State Senator) Brian P. Stack.