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Should N.J. Governor James McGreevey resign?
Yes . No

Q.POLL RESULTS:

N.J. governor scandal: step forward or big mess?

Gay activists applaud James McGreevey's decision to come out while decrying his impending resignation

by Donald Miller

Unless you've been hiding under a rock for the past few weeks it's been impossible to miss the media firestorm that accompanied the announcement by N.J. Governor James McGreevey that he had been involved in an extramarital affair with a man and that he would resign from his position Nov. 15.

"My truth is that I am a gay American," McGreevey told journalists at a packed news conference, asking forgiveness from his wife who stood beside him during the press conference Aug. 10.

"Shamefully, I engaged in an adult consensual affair with another man, which violates my bonds of matrimony," the father of two said. "It was wrong, it was foolish, it was inexcusable."

Three days later media outlets reported that McGreevey's revelation was prompted by the threat of blackmail.

Speaking under condition of anonymity, two officials identified the man involved in the affair as Golan Cipel, an Israeli poet who

worked briefly for the governor as his homeland security adviser, despite having no security experience.

One source, a senior McGreevey political adviser, said Cipel threatened McGreevey several weeks ago that unless he was paid "millions of dollars," Cipel would file a lawsuit against the governor charging him with sexual harassment. That source said a lawyer for Cipel "indicated that should the money be paid, Cipel would disappear until after the 2005 election."

Allen Lowy, the attorney for Cipel, announced the following day that a "verbal deal" that would have stopped the filing of a lawsuit was struck with McGreevey's attorneys five minutes before the scheduled start of the news conference.

"We had a deal," Lowy said. "The next thing I know my secretary told me he's in the process of resigning."

"I was very surprised. I understood that they were satisfied and it was over."

Lowy confirmed the deal would have involved the payment of money to Cipel, but would not say how much money was offered as part of the settlement.

see **N.J. GOVERNOR** on 7



N.J. Governor James McGreevey and his alleged former lover Golan Cipel (inset).

Victory Fund endorses lesbian in N.C. Senate race

Julia Boseman currently serves as Vice Chairman of the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners

by Dave DeCico

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund announced that its recent endorsement of five more candidates puts its number of endorsed gay, lesbian and transgender candidates for public office at 50 for 2004.

Among those endorsed is Julia Boseman, a Democrat running for N.C. state Senate in the Ninth District. The district covers the same area she represents as the first openly LGBT official elected to the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners.



If elected, Julia Boseman could prove to be a formidable asset against an effort to pass an anti-gay marriage amendment in N.C. in 2005.

Boseman was born and raised in New Hanover County and graduated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 1989. She received her law degree from North Carolina Central University in 1992 and has been a practicing attorney in Wilmington for more than a decade. She was elected to the New Hanover County Board of Commissioners in 2000 to serve a four-year term and currently serves as vice chairman.

She easily won her Senate primary with eight percent of the vote and will face Woody White (R) in the Nov. 2 general election.

White was recently appointed to the Ninth District seat to fill the unexpired term of his law partner, Patrick Ballantine, who is the Republican nominee for governor.

During White's brief time in office, he

see **VICTORY FUND** on 21

CSRA Rainbow Alliance kicks off billboard campaign

Effort places gay supportive billboards in Aiken, S.C., and Augusta, Ga.

by Donald Miller

AIKEN, S.C. — Over the past year gay supportive billboards have popped up around the Palmetto State. The Alliance for Full Acceptance (AFA) in Charleston initiated the billboard campaign and the Columbia-based South Carolina Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement (SCGLPM) continued with the efforts.

You may have seen the billboards before — Q-Notes reported on the initial program — touting the phrase "Gay or Straight ... all Americans deserve equal protection under the law."

Now Aiken and Augusta's Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) Rainbow Alliance has picked up on the campaign and placed three billboards in the Aiken area, with others to follow soon in Augusta.

The campaign kicked off July 25 as three p

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