



For Immediate Release
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INDEPENDENT FLORIDA & OHIO POLLS SHOWS VOTERS WANT DECISIVE FOREIGN POLICY IN MIDDLE EAST

Support for Israel and tough action against Iran and radical Islamic terrorists

In the first polling in key battleground states that measure public sentiment on U.S. national security issues in the wake of terrorist attacks in Libya, Egypt and anti-American protests across the Middle East and elsewhere, results in Florida and Ohio reveal that clear – and in Florida, overwhelming – majorities support a strong foreign policy in the Middle East, and a robust national defense. Further, they remain uneasy about the current state of national security and the direction of the country’s foreign policy strategy.

“The respondents say that the sanctions against Iran are not working,” says Patrick Caddell, a long-time Democratic pollster and political commentator. “Sizable majorities in both states believe that Iran will share nuclear weapons with terrorists. Support for Israel remains strong. The Muslim Brotherhood is known and disliked.”

The poll was commissioned for Secure America Now (www.secureamericanow.org), a nonpartisan organization, and was conducted by nationally respected polling firms Caddell Associates and McLaughlin and Associates. It surveyed 600 voters on national defense, attitudes about the current situation in the Middle East, and satisfaction with the Obama administration’s handling of foreign policy.

“When you drill down on the numbers, you see that women between the age of 30 and 55 are keenly aware of the national security threats and are factoring them into their voting decisions,” says Jeri Thompson, a member of Secure America Now’s advisory board. “The so-called ‘Security Moms’ have not gone away since 9/11 and must be accounted for in the current foreign-policy debate and in this election.”

Patrick Caddell, Jeri Thompson, and other members of SAN’s advisory board are available to discuss the poll’s findings. **To see the full poll, please visit www.secureamericanow.org.**

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To: Interested Parties

From: Patrick Caddell and John McLaughlin

Re: SecureAmericaNow.org – September Polls – Florida and Ohio

Date: September 18, 2012

Methodology: SecureAmericaNow.org has just completed two surveys the influential states of Florida and Ohio. The poll of 600 likely general election voters in Florida was conducted on September 11 and 12, 2012. The Ohio survey of 600 likely general election voters was conducted between September 13 and 15, 2012. All interviews were conducted via telephone by professional interviewers. Interview selection was random within predetermined election units. These units are structured to correlate with actual voter turnout during a presidential election. Each poll of 600 likely general election voters has an accuracy of +/-4.0% at a 95% confidence interval.

Survey Analysis:

OVERVIEW: The results of these two statewide polls show that Florida and Ohio voters are very concerned about national security issues – especially regarding the current election agenda. This is so, particularly in Florida, where seven in ten (71%) of voters said such issues are very important; almost six in ten (59%) of Ohio voters noted them as very important. The issue of Iran developing nuclear weapons weighs heavily among voters of both states. The respondents say that the sanctions against Iran are not working. Sizable majorities in both states believe that Iran will share nuclear weapons with terrorists. Support for Israel remains strong. The Muslim Brotherhood is known and disliked.

The national defense cuts are seen as too deep and cutting into our military superiority. There is a closely divided public in both states on whether the President's policies are making America stronger or weaker. It seems very clear that in both Florida and Ohio national security issues could be decisive.

GENERAL SECURITY ATTITUDES:

When asked from a list, which one issue they view as the most important issue to the security of the United States, preventing Iran from getting nuclear weapons, preventing terror attacks against Americans and preserving US military superiority receive strong support in both states.

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From the following list, what one issue do you view as the MOST important issue to the security of the United States? (COMBO 1st & 2nd)

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Prevent Iran/Nuke	56.9	48.5
Prevent Terror Attack	55.5	59.6
U.S. Military Superiority	40.7	43.1
Security of Israel	18.1	19.6
Persecution/Christian	9.1	12.5

President Barack Obama is committed to a policy of outreach to the Muslim world. Knowing this, do you think this policy has increased or decreased the security of the United States?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Increased	31.9	33.7
Decreased	46.3	42.8
DK/Refused	21.8	23.5

How concerned are you about Islamic terrorism by American born Muslims? Would you say...

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
CONCERNED	84.5	75.7
Very Concerned	53.2	35.1
Somewhat Concerned	31.3	40.6
NOT CONCERNED AT ALL	12.1	22.2
DK/Refused	3.4	2.1

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Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements.

“President Obama has underestimated the economic and security threat posed by China to America.”

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Agree	65.2	60.6
Strongly	49.4	40.0
Somewhat	15.8	20.6
Disagree	22.2	31.5
Somewhat	7.2	13.8
Strongly	15.0	17.7
DK/Refused	12.5	7.9

Regarding President Obama’s positions on security and foreign policy, in general do you consider them to be very strong, somewhat strong, somewhat weak or very weak?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Strong	46.2	51.8
Very	20.3	19.9
Somewhat	25.9	31.9
Weak	49.1	44.9
Somewhat	17.6	17.3
Very	31.5	27.6
DK/Refused	4.7	3.3

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Which statement better describes President Obama's foreign policy?

President Obama has done a good job eliminating Al Qaeda and Taliban terrorists including the killing of Osama Bin Laden and ending American involvement in Iraq.

OR

President Obama relies far too much on appeasing multinational coalitions, such as the United Nations and others, rather than asserting the United States' strategic interests first and foremost on international issues. He's not stopped Iran's nuclear weapons development, allowed the Muslim Brotherhood to takeover Egypt and in Libya his advisors claimed the U.S. was leading from behind.

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Good Job	39.9	44.6
Too Much Appeasement	47.0	45.5
DK/Refused	13.2	9.8

IRAN

Do you think Obama's policy of sanctions and negotiations on Iran will succeed in convincing Iran to abandon its nuclear program?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Yes	20.3	19.3
No	67.4	66.1
DK/Refused	12.3	14.6

If Iran attains nuclear weapons do you believe Iran would arm terrorists who would use the nuclear weapons to attack the United States?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Yes	75.8	70.0
No	13.2	21.9
DK/Refused	11.0	8.1

Do you believe President Obama's policy of talking to the Iranians ended up giving them more time to develop nuclear weapons?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Yes	54.6	51.4
No	30.0	38.8
DK/Refused	15.4	9.8

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If Israel were to pre-emptively attack nuclear facilities in Iran, in order to stop Iran from developing a nuclear weapon, should the Obama Administration support Israel and provide aid to help them destroy these Iranian nuclear facilities or should the Obama administration work to prevent Israel from attacking Iran? If you believe the United States should remain neutral, just say so.

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Support Israel	53.7	43.7
Prevent Israel	15.8	13.6
Remain Neutral	21.4	37.1
DK/Refused	9.0	5.6

If Israel strikes Iran's nuclear facilities do you feel this would benefit ...

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Everyone in the World	61.2	58.8
Just Israel	3.3	5.1
Israel and the U.S.	10.5	4.5
No One	17.5	25.5
DK/Refused	7.5	6.1

DEFENSE CUTS

President Obama's projected defense budget for the United States calls for significant future cuts in national defense of about 10% over 5 years. These reductions would be spread over the Army, the Navy and the Air Force. But as a more specific example, it would leave the Navy with less ships than it has had at any time since prior to World War I. Which of the following comes closest to your opinion?

President Obama is making the right decision. A smaller military can still be the best military in the world and in times of budget constraints it is necessary to make significant cuts in the Pentagon budget and this can be done without weakening the security of the US.

OR

President Obama's cuts are far too deep and endanger both the superiority of the US military and the security of the US. We are already cutting military spending heavily while not cutting other domestic spending enough.

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Right Decision	32.3	42.9
Cuts Far too Deep	57.8	51.9
DK/Refused	9.9	5.2

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Having already agreed to a major reduction of America's Strategic nuclear weapons with the START treaty with Russia, President Obama has now proposed reducing America's nuclear weapons by 80% without any reciprocal cuts from Russia and China while Iran is building nuclear weapons. Do you approve or disapprove of President Obama reducing America's nuclear weapons by 80%?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Approve	22.5	31.9
Strongly	12.9	15.2
Somewhat	9.6	16.7
Disapprove	64.2	60.3
Somewhat	12.5	12.0
Strongly	51.6	48.2
DK/Refused	13.4	7.8

The last time President Obama met with the leader of Russia on the issue of missile defense he accidentally told him over an open microphone that after the election he would have more flexibility. How concerned are you by President Obama's statement to the leader of Russia?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
CONCERNED	71.1	61.6
Very Concerned	52.1	40.6
Somewhat Concerned	19.0	20.9
NOT CONCERNED AT ALL	23.1	36.0
DK/Refused	5.8	2.4

SECURITY LEAKS

Recently the media has reported national security leaks from the administration. Democratic Senator Dianne Feinstein, Chairperson of the Senate Intelligence committee has said these leaks have compromised national security. For example, it was leaked to the media that a Pakistani doctor helped American intelligence find Osama bin Laden. That doctor was arrested and sentenced to prison in Pakistan for 30 years. How concerned are you about these types of national security leaks?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Very Concerned	73.5	71.7
Not very Concerned	19.4	23.9
DK/Refused	7.2	4.4

Since the media has reported leaks about highly confidential information on the way the Navy Seals found Osama bin Laden, do you think these leaks were done purposely by the White House to help promote President Obama's re-election, OR the White House would not do this intentionally, things like this just leak out?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Done Purposely	42.4	34.6
Unintentional	44.1	52.8
DK/Refused	13.5	12.7

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EGYPT

Recently the Muslim Brotherhood took power in Egypt. Is the Obama Administration right to embrace the Muslim Brotherhood and continue giving Egypt billions in military aid or, as a condition of further support, should the U.S. demand that the Muslim Brotherhood treat women as equals, protect Christians who are under attack in Egypt, and uphold its treaty with Israel?

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Continue Support	25.3	22.8
Condition Support	54.1	60.2
DK/Refused	20.6	16.9

OPINION RATINGS:

Opinion Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Favorable	47.9	45.9
Very	26.6	23.1
Somewhat	21.3	22.8
Unfavorable	17.5	17.7
Somewhat	7.5	11.6
Very	10.0	6.2
No Opinion	30.4	23.1
Never Heard Of	4.3	13.3

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Opinion Muslim Brotherhood

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Favorable	5.9	5.7
Very	1.2	1.5
Somewhat	4.7	4.3
Unfavorable	66.1	47.1
Somewhat	15.3	13.5
Very	50.8	33.6
No Opinion	23.5	28.9
Never Heard Of	4.5	18.2

Opinion Egypt's new Muslim Brotherhood President Mohammed Morsi

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Favorable	4.0	6.3
Very	1.4	1.3
Somewhat	2.6	5.0
Unfavorable	42.1	33.4
Somewhat	11.0	13.7
Very	31.1	19.7
No Opinion	39.8	32.9
Never Heard Of	14.1	27.5

Job Approval: Barack Obama

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Approve	45.5	50.6
Strongly	28.5	29.4
Somewhat	17.0	21.2
Disapprove	53.0	47.5
Somewhat	10.4	10.1
Strongly	42.7	37.4
DK/Refused	1.4	1.9

Job Approval: Barack Obama – Nat'l Security/Foreign Policy

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Approve	46.3	51.7
Strongly	27.8	28.7
Somewhat	18.5	23.0

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Disapprove	50.4	44.3
Somewhat	12.1	14.1
Strongly	38.4	30.2
DK/Refused	3.3	4.0

After many years as part of the platform of the Democratic Party, this year the Democrats deleted their past support for Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. After it became an issue they reinstated this position in their platform. Regarding the deleting of Jerusalem as Israel’s capital which statement do you agree with more?

It was an omission that the President and Democrats moved to correct.

OR

The platform is very carefully controlled by the White House and the support for Jerusalem was intentionally deleted, but then put back due to voter reaction.

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Corrected Omission	25.7	24.3
Deleted then Replaced	50.3	56.6
DK/Refused	24.0	19.0

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Demographics

Opinion Barack Obama

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Favorable	45.6	52.8
Very	33.6	37.7
Somewhat	12.0	15.1
Unfavorable	49.1	41.6
Somewhat	9.8	10.7
Very	39.3	30.8
No Opinion	5.3	5.3

Party Affiliation

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Republican	38.4	38.0
Democrat	41.6	40.6
Independent	18.3	17.3
Other	0.3	0.3
DK/Refused	1.4	3.8

Ballot: President 2012

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Obama	43.8	46.9
Definitely	36.8	40.2
Probably	5.2	5.4
Lean	1.8	1.3
Romney	47.7	44.0
Definitely	39.0	35.8
Probably	6.9	6.4
Lean	1.8	1.8
Undecided	8.5	9.1

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Ideology

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Liberal	23.9	22.0
Very	9.3	11.3
Somewhat	14.5	10.7
Moderate	27.0	28.8
Conservative	47.0	44.9
Somewhat	20.6	20.6
Very	26.3	24.2
DK/Refused	2.1	4.4

Vote Behavior

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Democrat	35.9	40.8
Always	19.1	15.6
Usually	16.7	25.2
Ticket-Splitter	23.6	14.6
Usually	28.8	27.6
Always	10.0	9.0
Republican	38.8	36.7
DK/Refused	1.7	8.0

Religion

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Protestant	52.3	59.9
Catholic	27.9	22.3
Jewish	6.1	1.6
Muslim/Islamic	0.9	0.5
Mormon	0.2	0.2
Atheist/Agnostic	4.6	4.1
Other	1.5	6.3
DK/Refused	6.5	5.1

Race

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
White	73.4	84.5
Non-White	26.1	14.2
African-Amer./Black	11.0	10.3

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Hispanic/Latino	12.3	2.5
Asian	0.8	1.2
East Asian	0.7	--
West/South Asian	0.2	--
American Indian	1.4	--
Middle Eastern	--	--
Other	0.6	0.2
DK/Refused	0.5	1.3

Military Household

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
MILITARY H.H.	55.6	51.6
Veteran	43.1	36.3
Active Duty	3.9	6.1
Military-Related	3.0	5.1
More than One	5.7	4.2
NONE	43.3	46.4
DK/REFUSED	1.1	1.9

Age

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
18-30	8.0	8.2
31-40	15.0	17.2
41-55	20.7	23.5
56-65	29.8	30.6
66-75	13.2	11.6
Over 75	11.0	8.1
Refused	2.3	0.9

Gender

	<u>FL</u>	<u>OH</u>
Male	47.4	48.0
Female	52.6	52.0