COMMUNITY



## N POLL SHOWS BELGARD AND MACARTHUR TIED IN

CD3 September 23rd, 2014



TOMS RIVER-According to a Stockton Polling Republish Institute poll conducted between September 12 and September 14, Amiee Belgard and Tom MacArthur are neck and neck in the race for New Jersey's third congressional district's open seat.

The poll sample included 606 likely voters via telephone.

42% percent each said they would vote for Amiee Belgard and 42% expressed their support for Tom MacArthur.

3% of those polled refused to participate or choose a candidate and 13% were undecided as the two congressional hopefuls continue what has escalated into an all-out slug fest, mano a (wo)mano.

The poll was conducted by the Stockton Polling Institute of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy. Live interviewers on the

Tom MacArthur.

Stockton campus called both landlines and cell phones from Sept. 12-14, 2014. The poll's margin of error is +/- 4.0 percentage points.

"A congressional race this close will continue to draw national attention to New Jersey," said Daniel J. Douglas, director of the Hughes Center. "The candidates will be fighting over a relatively small number of undecided voters from now to

Election Day," explained Douglas.

MacArthur is viewed favorably by 40.6 percent of likely voters while 38.1 percent view Belgard favorably. Belgard is rated unfavorably by 26.1 percent and MacArthur is rated unfavorably by 21.1 percent.

MacArthur is slightly more unfamiliar than Belgard, with 36.6 percent unable to identify him, while Belgard is unfamiliar to 33.5 percent of those surveyed.

In Ocean County, MacArthur leads 47% to 38%, but a report by the Stockton Institute claimed 36.6% of Ocean County residents were unable to identify MacArthur, who came to the district from North Jersey earlier this year.

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