



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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North Carolinians think Bush didn't break the law, Clinton's offense was worse

Raleigh, N.C. - A majority of North Carolina voters do not think the Bush Administration has broken the law by utilizing wiretaps of American citizens without a FISA court order according to a Public Policy Polling survey. Fifty-three percent think the wiretapping policy is legal, while only 39% think the President is breaking the law.

Similarly, 51% approve of the administration's wiretapping policy, while 41% disapprove.

A greater number (52%) are very or fairly concerned that wiretapping could be misused to violate people's privacy. Forty-four percent were a little concerned or not concerned at all.

When it comes to impeachment, North Carolinians think that President Clinton's alleged transgressions, lying under oath about sexual relations with an intern, are worse than President Bush's potentially illegal wiretaps. Fifty percent think that lying under oath about inappropriate relations with an intern is the more impeachable offense. Thirty-three percent think that authorizing wiretaps on Americans without a court order is more impeachable.

"President Bush appears to have the support of most North Carolinians for his wiretapping policy," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. "However, that support is not overwhelming and a majority is still concerned about its misuse."

Since 2001, Public Policy Polling (PPP) has provided an alternative to expensive and time-consuming traditional telephone surveys. PPP, based in Raleigh, has a track record of accurately predicting election outcomes and providing quality consultation to its clients based on its survey research. Examples of PPP's previous research can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

PPP surveyed 487 North Carolina voters on February 7. The survey has a margin of error of $\pm 4.4\%$. Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify. Results broken down by gender, party, and race can be found at www.publicpolicypolling.com.

If you have questions about this release or would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988.

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February 7 Statewide Poll

Q1 Since 1978 Presidents have been required to get a court order from a special court in order to wiretap telephone calls between American citizens and suspected terrorists. President Bush says he can legally wiretap calls between Americans and suspected terrorists without a court order and has been doing so since 2002. In your opinion if a President wiretaps Americans without a court order is he breaking the law? If you think that is breaking the law, press 1. If it is not breaking the law, press 2. If you don't know, press 3

Is Breaking the Law 39% *Don't Know* 8%

Is Not Breaking the Law53%

Q2 Do you approve or disapprove of the Bush Administration's wiretapping policy? If you approve, press 1. If you disapprove, press 2. If you don't know, press 3.

Approve51% *Don't Know* 8%

Disapprove.....41%

Q3 How concerned are you that the Bush administration's use of these kinds of wiretaps could be misused to violate people's privacy? If you are very concerned, press 1. If you are fairly concerned, press 2. If you are concerned very little, press 3. If you are not at all concerned, press 4. If you don't know, press 5.

Very Concerned.....33% *Not Concerned*.....15%

Fairly Concerned19% *Don't Know* 3%

Little Concerned.....29%

Q4 Which alleged offense do you think is more impeachable; lying under oath about inappropriate relations with an intern or wiretapping American citizens without getting a court order? If you think lying under oath about relations with an intern is more impeachable, press 1. If you think authorizing wiretaps without getting a court order is more impeachable, press 2. If you don't know, press 3. at this time, press 3 now.

<i>Lying about Relations with Intern</i>	50%	<i>Authorizing Warrentless Wiretaps</i>	33%
		<i>Don't Know</i>	17%

Q5 If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

Women59% *Men*.....41%

Q6 If you are a Democrat, press 1. A Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat.....44% *Other*.....17%

Republican.....39%

Q7 If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White84% *Other*..... 4%

Black.....12%

