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THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY



Why Would Anyone Want to Enter Into Public Service?

Gov. Corzine's Former Chief Counsel William Castner, Assemblyman Jay Webber to Discuss Merits of Public Service in the Age of Increased Scrutiny, March 24 at William J. Hughes Center Event

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Galloway Township, NJ- Beleaguered by a climate of media coverage of scandals, increased scrutiny and negative public perceptions of many politicians, why would anyone want to serve in government and politics today? The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will present two experts in the field who will explore the question. "Public Service: Why Would Anyone Want to Enter Into It?" will take place on **Wednesday, March 24, 2010 in the Alton Auditorium from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**

The featured experts are William J. Castner, Jr., former Chief Counsel to Governor Corzine, and Assemblyman Jay Webber. Brian K. Jackson, Stockton College's Chief of Staff, will serve as the moderator.

Sharon Schulman, Executive Director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, said, "At a time when we're seeing officials going to jail for corruption, the state budget is in trouble, and public opinion is soured on elected and appointed officials, why would anyone want to go into public service? These two men chose public service over other lucrative types of professions. They'll talk with us about why."

Earlier this year, William Castner became director of Gibbons, a leading law firm in New Jersey, New York, Philadelphia, and Delaware, ranked among the nation's top 200 firms by *The American Lawyer*. Prior to joining the Corzine Administration, Castner served as Executive Director of the New Jersey General Assembly Majority Office, becoming the youngest director in that office's history. He is also the former General Counsel and Deputy Executive Director of the Assembly Majority Office, where he served as the chief legal adviser to the General Assembly.

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In recent years, Castner has been named among *PolitickerNJ.com*'s "New Jersey's 100 Most Politically Influential Personalities," *InTheLobby.Net*'s "Ten Greatest Partisan Staffers Who Ever Lived," and *PoliticsNJ.com*'s "Rising Stars" and "Power Lists." Castner graduated *magna cum laude* from Rowan University, and received his law degree from Rutgers Law School in Camden. He received a master's degree from the Eagleton Institute of Politics.

Assemblyman Jay Webber started his service in the New Jersey Legislature for the residents of the 26th Legislative District in January 2008. He serves on the state government and labor committees. As an attorney, he has represented taxpayers and the Republican Party three times in legal actions against New Jersey governors to stop their unconstitutional borrowing and spending schemes. Each of those actions resulted in victories for New Jersey taxpayers. Assembly Webber currently practices law in Morristown, New Jersey, and he serves the New Jersey Republican State Committee as chairman.

The moderator, Brian K. Jackson, is currently Stockton's Chief of Staff. Prior to joining Stockton College in January 1998, Jackson served as Manager of Administrative Planning, Budgeting and Research and as an adjunct instructor at Atlantic-Cape Community College. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in economics and finance and an MBA from southern New Hampshire University. Jackson was selected as one of 50 emerging leaders in New Jersey to receive a 2007 Leadership New Jersey Fellowship. An active and passionate volunteer, Jackson serves on several community boards including Family Service Association, the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey, Making Precious Strides, and the United Way of Atlantic County where he has chaired the Community Initiatives Committee for over seven years.

Space is limited, so please RSVP by e-mailing the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy at hughescenter@stockton.edu or by calling 609-626-3542.

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