



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 9/7/08

CONTACT: Todd A. Stenhouse, Brown for Congress, 916-397-1131, toddstenhouse@comcast.net
Pete Brodnitz (Pollster), Benensen Strategy Group, 571-275-1439

POLL: Brown Leads McClintock 43-41 in CA 04

Survey Shows Brown Better Positioned for Victory than he was against Doolittle at same point in 2006

Roseville: With less than two months to go before the November election, Retired USAF Lt. Col. Charlie Brown has released recent polling showing him leading Southern California politician Tom McClintock 43-41, and widening his lead to nearly double digits when voters were presented with the positive attributes of each candidate.

The survey of 500 likely General Election voters was conducted by the Benensen Strategy Group from August 21st-24th, with a margin of error of +/- 4.38%.

Beyond Brown's advantage on an initial ballot and following positive contrasts of each candidate, the poll reveals that Brown enjoys a higher net favorability rating than McClintock---despite the fact that McClintock is a better known career politician who has run for Statewide office four times. Brown, who is a career military officer, has also built a 29 point advantage among Independents while capturing nearly one in five Republican voters.

"Charlie Brown believes in working across party lines to solve problems instead of being part of the problem in Washington," said Brown Spokesman Todd Stenhouse. "That's the underlying contrast in this race, and it's why so many people of all political stripes have joined Charlie's campaign to put patriotism before partisanship."

Of particular note in Brown's latest polling is that in his 2006 race against current 4th District Rep. John Doolittle, Benensen Strategy Group had surveyed the 4th District at almost the exact same time---giving Doolittle a 41-39 edge in a race Doolittle won by a similarly narrow margin (49-46).

"He (Brown) is currently in a stronger position against McClintock than he was at the same stage in the 2006 campaign," noted Benensen Strategy Group Pollster Pete Brodnitz.

A full memo from Brodnitz, who was named "Pollster of the Year" in 2007 by the American Association of Political Consultants is attached to this release.

Retired Lt. Col. Charlie Brown spent 26 years in the U.S. Air Force, flying rescue helicopters at the end of the Vietnam War, piloting reconnaissance missions around the world, and coordinating a variety of intelligence collection assets. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross, Sikorsky Winged S, 7 Air Medals, and 5 Meritorious Service Medals. Charlie's wife Jan is also a veteran, and their son has served four rotations in Iraq with the Air Force. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Brown also owns a California teaching credential and served 8 years on the Professional Staff of the Roseville Police Department. He is a candidate for Congress in California's 4th District.

PO Box 368, Roseville, CA 95661
(916) 782-7696; E-mail: info@brown4congress.org
www.charliebrownforcongress.org



To: Charlie Brown
 From: Pete Brodnitz
 Date: August 29, 2008
 Re: Poll of Congressional District 4 Voters

Ret. USAF Lt. Col. Charlie Brown has an excellent opportunity to pick up the Congressional seat vacated by scandal-plagued retiring Republican John Doolittle, as Charlie Brown is leading his Republican opponent with just two months until the election. This is despite the fact that McClintock has previously run for (and lost) four prior bids for statewide office. Brown narrowly lost in 2006 against incumbent John Doolittle. He is currently in a stronger position against McClintock than he was at this stage of the 2006 campaign.

Mood of the Electorate

Two thirds of voters believe the nation is headed off on the wrong track - California Congressional District 4 voters are frustrated with the direction of the country and Washington's bickering and are ready for change.

In general, do you think that things in the nation are heading in the right direction or are they headed off on the wrong track?	
	All
Right Direction	23
Wrong Track	67
Don't Know	10

In September of 2006, Brown trailed Doolittle by a 41% to 39% margin and eventually lost by a similar 49% to 46% margin. This time Brown enjoys a 2% advantage over McClintock even though McClintock is better known than Brown due to his previous statewide campaigns and recent high-profile and fractious GOP primary. Brown receives 43%, McClintock 41%, and 15% are undecided.

Brown's 2% lead is even more notable, given the fact that McClintock enjoys a residual name identification advantage from his numerous statewide bids for office. Brown leads by 29% among Independents - the swing voters in the 2008 election, and he even captures 17% of the Republican vote.

If the election for Congress in your district were held today, and the candidates were... for whom would you vote?				
	All	Party Registration		
		Dem	Ind	Rep
Difference	+2	+72	+29	-53
Charlie Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Retired, Democrat	43	80	51	17
Tom McClintock, California State Senator, Republican	41	8	22	70
Don't Know	15	12	27	13

After participants heard a series of policy and ideological positions of the two candidates simulating an informed electorate, Brown's lead increased to 8% with 50% for Brown, 42% for McClintock.

If the election for Congress in your district were held today, and the candidates were... for whom would you vote?		
	Initial Ballot	Post Positive Contrasts Ballot

Difference	+2	+8
Charlie Brown, Lieutenant Colonel Retired, Democrat	43	50
Tom McClintock, California State Senator, Republican	41	42
Don't Know	15	8

McClintock is better known to voters but he has lower net favorable ratings than Charlie Brown. 41% of voters are favorable toward Charlie Brown and 26% are unfavorable - 67% of voters know enough about Brown to be able to rate him. McClintock's name ID is 76%, with 44% favorable and 32% unfavorable. McClintock's net approval rating is lower than Brown's - 15% for Brown and 12% for McClintock because of McClintock's higher unfavorable ratings.

[Insert Name] Do you have a very favorable view of him, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or a very unfavorable view of him?		
	Charlie Brown	Tom McClintock
Name ID	+67	+76
FAVORABLE	41	44
Very favorable	17	17
Somewhat favorable	24	27
UNFAVORABLE	26	32
Somewhat unfavorable	17	18
Very unfavorable	9	14
UNFAMILIAR/DON'T KNOW	33	24

The Benenson Strategy Group conducted 500 interviews in California Congressional District 4 with likely 2008 general election voters August 21 - 24, 2008. The margin of error is ±4.38%.

The Benenson Strategy Group's clients include Governor Tim Kaine (VA), Senator Jim Webb (VA), and Barack Obama's campaign for President. Peter Brodnitz, who conducted this survey, was named "Pollster of the Year" by the American Association of Political Consultants last year for his work for Kaine, Webb and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. It is a bi-partisan award given to one pollster every two years.