Maurice Carroll, Assistant Director, Quinnipiac University Poll (203) 506-9199

Rubenstein Associates, Inc. Public Relations Contact: Pat Smith (212) 843-8026



FOR RELEASE: APRIL 4, 2016

### MORE NEW YORKERS SAY CLEAN HOUSE TO FIX ALBANY ETHICS, QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS; LITTLE SUPPORT FOR de BLASIO CONTROL OF SCHOOLS

By a 48 – 34 percent margin, New York State voters say all elected officials should be voted out of office so new officials can start with a clean slate to "end political corruption in Albany," according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

Voters approve 51 - 38 percent of the job Gov. Andrew Cuomo is doing, his best score since a 58 - 32 percent approval rating in a December 22, 2014, survey by the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University, right after he won reelection to a second term.

Approval is 60 - 28 percent among New York City voters and 58 - 32 percent in the suburbs, while upstate voters give Cuomo a negative 38 - 50 percent approval rating.

A total of 86 percent of New York voters say government corruption is a "very serious" or "somewhat serious" problem, but voters say 50 – 38 percent that Gov. Cuomo and the State Legislature will <u>not</u> take steps to improve ethics in state government.

In fact, 48 percent say Cuomo is part of the problem of ethics in government, while 39 percent say he is part of the solution.

"Can the people we elect to state government clean up the mess in Albany? Voters don't think so. They want to clean out the Albany crowd," said Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Maurice Carroll.

"Overwhelmingly, New Yorkers think corruption is a serious Albany problem. People in all sections of the state worry about corruption.

"There's no rule that people have to be consistent in their beliefs. They're ambivalent about their elected officials."

-more-

#### Quinnipiac University Poll/April 4, 2016 – page 2

"New York State voters say Gov. Andrew Cuomo is part of the problem – not the solution – in government corruption, but they approve overall of the way he does his job," Carroll added.

"The job approval for the State Legislature is dismal. But voters approve of the job performance of their own Assembly member and State Senator."

New York State voters approve 38 - 15 percent of the job State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli is doing and give Attorney General Eric Schneiderman a 47 - 21 percent job approval rating.

U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand gets a 54 – 18 percent job approval rating.

Voters approve 56-41 percent of the job President Barack Obama is doing, his highest approval rating in New York State since a 57-39 percent rating in a March 19, 2013, Quinnipiac University poll.

### **Mayoral Control of New York City Schools**

New York State voters oppose 47 - 35 percent extending Mayor Bill de Blasio's control over New York City public schools.

Opposition is 50 - 22 percent among upstate voters and 51 - 36 percent among suburban voters. New York City voters are divided, with 46 percent who want to continue mayoral control of the schools and 43 percent opposed.

"Upstaters and suburbanites don't want Mayor Bill de Blasio to keep control of New York City schools. Even New York City voters aren't that wild about the idea," Carroll said. "Since this issue is decided by the State Legislature, not the New York City Council, Mayor de Blasio will have to press his case in Albany."

From March 22 - 29, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,667 New York State voters, with a margin of error of  $\pm 2.4$  percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

Visit <u>www.quinnipiac.edu/polling</u> or <u>www.facebook.com/quinnipiacpoll</u> Call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on <u>Twitter</u> @QuinnipiacPoll.

17. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Andrew Cuomo is handling his job as Governor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	51% 38 11	35% 57 8	62% 25 13	51% 40 9	47% 42 10	54% 34 12	50% 32 18	55% 37 8	47% 44 9	55% 34 10
	AREA UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	38% 50 12	60% 28 12	58% 32 10							

19. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Kirsten Gillibrand is handling her job as United States Senator?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	54% 18 28	38% 33 30	67% 8 26	51% 20 30	50% 25 26	58% 12 30	39% 13 48	59% 17 24	56% 23 21	64% 16 20
	AREA UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	54% 21 25	56% 15 29	50% 19 31							

20. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Barack Obama is handling his job as President?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	56% 41 3	12% 85 4	90% 8 2	48% 49 4	50% 47 2	62% 34 4	68% 28 4	58% 39 3	49% 49 2	54% 43 3
	AREA. UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	48% 49 3	71% 26 3	46% 50 4							

21. Do you approve or disapprove of the way the state legislature is handling its job?

							AGE IN	YRS		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	25% 55 20	17% 63 20	33% 46 21	21% 62 16	22% 61 16	27% 50 23	36% 41 23	26% 61 13	22% 62 16	18% 56 27
	AREA UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	23% 59 18	28% 50 22	22% 58 19							

22. Do you approve or disapprove of the way your state assembly member is handling their job?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	 65+
Approve	42%	39%	51%	34%	41%	43%	47%	40%	40%	43%
Disapprove	35	39 22	27	42	39 20	30 27	27 26	40	39 21	32
DK/NA	23	22	23	∠4	20	21	20	19	21	26
	AREA									
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve	42%	41%	44%							
Disapprove	36	35	32							
DK/NA	22	24	24							

23. Do you approve or disapprove of the way your state senator is handling their job?

		_	_					YRS		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Approve	53%	44%	63%	46%	49%	56%	55%	53%	51%	54%
Disapprove	29	35	21	36	34	25	25	34	33	25
DK/NA	18	20	16	18	17	19	20	13	15	21
	AREA									
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve	52%	58%	46%							
Disapprove	31	24	36							
DK/NA	18	18	18							

24. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Thomas DiNapoli is handling his job as State Comptroller?

							AGE IN	YRS		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	38% 15 48	35% 20 44	43% 11 46	33% 15 52	40% 16 44	36% 14 50	32% 11 57	37% 18 46	39% 18 43	45% 11 43
	AREA UpStat	NVC	Sub							
	opstat	NIC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	41% 14 45	35% 15 51	37% 16 48							

# 25. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Eric Schneiderman is handling his job as State Attorney General?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	47% 21 31	31% 33 36	60% 13 27	45% 23 32	48% 25 27	46% 18 35	46% 17 37	48% 26 26	45% 24 31	52% 19 29
	AREA UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	45% 22 33	51% 20 29	44% 24 33							

# 26. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Carl Heastie is handling his job as State Assembly Speaker?

							AGE IN	YRS		
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	22% 19 59	17% 22 61	29% 15 56	18% 22 60	22% 23 55	22% 15 63	29% 9 62	27% 23 51	19% 22 58	17% 20 62
	AREA UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Approve Disapprove DK/NA	19% 20 60	27% 19 54	19% 16 65							

27. As you may know, in New York City the mayor has control of the public schools. Mayoral control of the New York City public schools expires this year, unless the state legislature renews it. Do you think mayoral control of the New York City public schools should continue or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	65+
Continue Stop DK/NA	35% 47 18	18% 63 18	46% 37 17	33% 47 20	38% 45 17	32% 49 19	42% 39 19	35% 47 18	34% 51 15	29% 52 19
	AREA UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Continue Stop DK/NA	22% 50 28	46% 43 11	36% 51 13							

28. How much of a problem, if at all, is government corruption in New York State today; is it a very serious problem, a somewhat serious problem, a not too serious problem, or not a problem at all?

							AGE IN YRS			
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Very serious	49%	55%	42%	53%	52%	46%	34%	50%	54%	54%
Smwht serious	37	33	40	35	33	40	41	36	38	34
Not too serious	10	7	12	11	10	10	17	11	7	6
Not a problem at all	. 1	2	1	_	1	1	1	1	_	2
DK/NA	4	4	5	1	4	3	6	2	1	5

	AREA UpStat	NYC	Suk
Very serious	53%	43%	52%
Smwht serious	35	38	37
Not too serious	8	12	10
Not a problem at all	1	2	_
DK/NA	3	5	2

29. Do you think Governor Cuomo and the state legislature will or will not take steps to improve ethics in state government in 2016?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	IN YRS			
	100	пср	DCIII	IIId	ricii	WOIII	10 54	33 43	30 04	051	
Will take steps	38%	28%	51%	32%	32%	44%	39%	40%	39%	39%	
Will not	50	61	38	58	58	43	50	51	54	46	
DK/NA	11	10	11	10	9	13	12	9	7	15	
	3003										
	AREA										
	UpStat NYC		Sub								
Will take steps	30%	43%	44%								
Will not	60	43	46								
DK/NA	9	14	10								

30. When thinking about the problem of ethics in government, do you think Andrew Cuomo is part of the problem or part of the solution?

							AGE IN YRS				
	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	18-34	35-49	50-64	65+	
Problem Solution DK/NA	48% 39 14	66% 24 11	33% 52 14	53% 34 13	54% 33 13	42% 43 14	43% 35 22	49% 42 9	50% 39 10	47% 41 12	
		AREA UpStat NYC Sub									
Problem Solution DK/NA	60% 28 12	37% 47 16	45% 42 13								

31. Do you think New York State elected officials are capable of ending political corruption in Albany or should all current elected officials be voted out of office so new officials can start with a clean slate?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN 18-34	YRS 35-49	50-64	65+
Capable All voted out DK/NA	34% 48 18	24% 63 13	44% 37 19	31% 51 18	32% 52 16	36% 45 19	39% 38 23	37% 52 11	33% 49 18	30% 51 19
	AREA UpStat NYC		Sub							
Capable All voted out DK/NA	33% 50 17	34% 46 20	36% 48 16							