

# PERCIPIENT STRATEGIES RESEARCH DOSSIER

**HEATHER SIMMONS**

(NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY: LD-03)

Last Updated: August 11, 2023

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## EXECUTIVE SYNOPSIS

### DOSSIER NOTES

In preparing this background report, we undertook an examination of all readily available and relevant electronic and online records, several hundred Nexis and news articles, dozens of active and archived web pages, and several dozen public records from Nexis and the resources of various federal, state, and municipal government offices. The results of our analysis are contained below.

*Typographical Note:* There are a number of articles quoted in this report that contain typographical errors. These are from the original text of the article and have not been corrected when being quoted directly.

### TOP HITS

#### *Legal*

#### Social Media Lawsuit

- In January 2013, Vincent Gattuso and Michael Blaszczyk filed a complaint against Simmons and other members of the Gloucester County Board of Freeholders.
  - The plaintiffs alleged due to a new county policy, they were punished for sharing content critical of former board member and then-current New Jersey Senate Present Steve Sweeney due to his position on healthcare legislation.
  - In May 2014, the parties agreed to settle and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

#### *Political*

#### Campaign Finance

- Thus far, Simmons has received tens of thousands of dollars from several New Jersey labor and public sector unions as well as thousands of dollars from several New Jersey Democratic Party campaign committees.
- Simmons is known to have received financial support from public contractors.
  - 2011: “the joint campaign committee for Gloucester County Democratic Freeholders Warren Wallace, Lyman Barnes and Heather Simmons got \$134,300 from contractors”.
  - In 2017, NJ ELEC noted that Simmons’ Gloucester Co. Campaign slate was the second largest recipient of funds from public contractors.
  - 2021: “a joint committee for Democratic Gloucester County Commissioners Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes and Jim Jefferson got \$147,500 from contractors...”.



### **Party Affiliation & Voting History**

- Since 2001, Simmons has failed to vote in five primary elections.
- Prior to registering in New Jersey, Simmons was a registered Republican Party voter in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania from November 1988 to January 2001.

### **Partisan Ties**

- Simmons has ties to several prominent liberal figures.
  - In 2011, Simmons listed Bill Clinton as one of three figures she would love to have dinner with and praised his intellectualism.
  - On social media, Simmons promoted content indicating support for Joe Biden.
  - On social media, Simmons promoted content indicating support for Corey Booker.
  - On social media, Simmons promoted content indicating support for Elizabeth Warren.

### ***Controversial Notes***

#### **Conflicts**

- Simmons work as an education consultant has created the appearance of potential conflicts.
  - In 2010, during her first campaign for Gloucester County Freeholder Board, Simmons called for additional support for Gloucester County College; Simmons is known to have served in a consulting role for the local college.
  - In 2011, a republican candidate filed a petition with the NJ Commissioner of Education claiming the Glassboro School District had violated state law by campaigning for budget passage using public funds by employing Simmons as a PR Consultant who listed annual budget passage as a goal.

#### **Behaviors And Demeanor**

- Simmons is known to have used controversial campaign tactics.
  - In 2010, Simmons was criticized by Republicans for using inflammatory cancer imagery on attack mailings despite her opponents having both suffered losses of loved ones to cancer; Simmons defended the mailer.
  - In 2011, complaints were filed “over a campaign commercial in which now-elected democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons, Adam Taliaferro and Lyman Barnes appeared to be talking with officers. The complaint claimed the trio were speaking with Gloucester county sheriff's officers, but it was later thrown out”.

- Simmons has been criticized for a “lack of decorum”.
  - In 2011, the Gloucester County times awarded a “jeers” to Simmons for a “lack of freeholder decorum” for accusing a republican freeholder without support that he disrespects women.

### ***Governance And Policy***

#### **Fiscal And Economic**

- As a candidate for public office, Simmons claimed to be seeking a reduction in spending and taxes.
  - In 2011, Simmons declared that she hoped to achieve reductions in spending, taxes, tax rate, and debt.
  - In 2014, Simmons defended Gloucester County Democrats’ fiscal record contending that they had stabilized the tax rate and reduced the size of government.
- During Simmons’ tenure with Gloucester County, the size of local government ballooned.
  - During her tenure with Gloucester County, Simmons served as a rubberstamp for the annual budgets put forth for the county.
  - During Simmons’ tenure with Gloucester County, annual spending increased my millions of dollars.
- In order to pass the county’s bloated budgets Simmons regularly supported a mechanism to exceed appropriations limits.
  - In 2023, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
  - In 2022, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
  - In 2021, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
  - In 2020, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
  - In 2019, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
  - In 2018, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.

- In 2017, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
- In 2015, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget appropriation limits”.
- In order to maintain the county’s bloated budgets Simmons regularly supported a mechanism to exceed the tax levy.
  - In 2011, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget tax levy limits”.
  - In 2013, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget tax levy limits”.
  - In 2014, Simmons voted yea on a resolution to “exceed the county budget tax levy limits”.
- In 2011, Simmons opposed a proposal to increase the county’s fiscal transparency.
  - In 2011, Simmons voted against a proposal to add financial impact statements to resolutions that appear on the board agenda.
- Simmons frequently supported measures that increase local fees.
  - In 2014, Simmons voted yea on an ordinance increasing the emergency medical services transportation fee per transport from \$700 to \$750.
  - In 2018, Simmons voted yea on an ordinance increasing the emergency medical services transportation fee per transport from \$750 to \$800.
  - In 2018, Simmons voted yea on a resolution “fixing a fee to be paid by members of the public for receiving personal notice of meetings”.

### **Diversity And Free Speech**

- Simmons backed measures seeking to “increase” diversity.
  - In 2015, Simmons voted yea on a resolution supporting the “Gloucester County Minority Recruitment Advisory Committee to increase the diversity of law enforcement agencies in Gloucester County”.
  - Additionally, in 2022, Simmons attended and spoke at a local NAACP event.
- In 2013, Simmons pushed a measure that critics worried would restrict free speech locally.
  - In 2013, Simmons seconded and voted yea on a resolution “authorizing an amendment to the Gloucester County social media policy,” which appeared to impose greater restrictions and punishment for speech critical of the county government.

***Additional Policy***

**Labor**

- Simmons enjoys the support prominent local unions – including the New Jersey Education Association.

**Covid**

- Simmons supported the left’s big-government reaction to covid.
  - In 2022, Simmons voted nay on a resolution to rescind the county’s “covid testing policy”.

**Social Issues**

- On social media, Simmons has offered traditionally leftist views on social issues
  - In 2023, Simons’ joint campaign page posted that she supports the idea that “reproductive health care decisions are between women and their doctors”.
  - In 2023, Simmons promoted the “period equity is period justice’ menstrual product drive”.
  - On social media, Simmons has promoted her support for “pride” event.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### PERSONAL INFORMATION: HEATHER SIMMONS

Full Name:	Heather P. Simmons (formerly Weisman)	
DOB:	March 7, 1969 (54)	
Social Security:	162-64-XXXX	
Home Address:	117 W High Street Apt 411 Glassboro, NJ 08028 Gloucester County (2018-Pres.)	
Marital Status:	Divorced	
Ex-Spouse:	Matthew E. Weisman DOB: November 6, 1970 (53)	
Children:	Unk.	
Voter Registration:	Registered Democrat – Gloucester County, New Jersey	
Education:	1993 – 1996 M.A., Public Relations, Rowan University 1987 – 1991 B.A., International Relations and Politics, St. Joseph’s University	
Employment:	2022 – Pres. Assistant Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, Rowan University 2011 – Pres. Deputy Director, Gloucester County Commission 2021 – 2022 Director of Strategic Projects, Rowan University 2017 – 2021 Director of Business Outreach, Rowan University 2011 – 2016 Owner, Heather Simmons Communications Unk. – Unk. Associate Director, Edelman Fossil Park	
Associations:	Unk.	
Military Service:	N/A	
Election Results:	2023 New Jersey General Assembly, LD-03 (Primary, Won) 2020 Gloucester County Commissioner (General, Won) 2017 Gloucester County Commissioner (General, Won) 2014 Gloucester County Commissioner (General, Won)	

2011 Gloucester County Commissioner (General, Won)

Web Sites: <https://gloucestercountynj.gov/>  
<https://njac.org/>  
<https://ballotpedia.org/>  
<https://southjerseydems3.com/>

Social Media: [Facebook](#) (Personal)  
[Facebook](#) (Official)  
[Twitter](#) (Personal)  
[LinkedIn](#) (Personal)

Email: HSIMMONS@UPENN.EDU  
MJTORON\_33@YAHOO.COM  
PARADISECOVE1@PRODIGY.NET  
SIMMONSHP@ROWAN.EDU

Phone: Unk.

## ELECTION RESULTS

*In June 2023, Heather Simmons received the largest number of votes in the 2023 Democratic Party primary election for District 3 of the New Jersey General Assembly, advancing to the 2023 general election.*

*Previously, Simmons had served on the Gloucester County Board of Commissioners since winning election in 2011. Her official election results prior to 2013 are no longer publicly available.*

### ***2023 Primary Election, New Jersey General Assembly, District 3 (2 Seats)***

#### **Democratic Primary Election Results (June 6, 2023)**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Vote Total</b>
Heather Simmons	DEM	8,927
Dave Bailey Jr	DEM	8,223
Tanzie Youngblood	DEM	3,159
Robert Fitzpatrick	DEM	3,212

(Unofficial Election Results, [New Jersey Secretary Of State](#), 6/6/23)

### ***2020 General Election, Gloucester County Board Of Commissioners, Freeholder***

#### **General Election Results (November 3, 2020)**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Vote Total</b>
Heather Simmons	DEM	88,429
Jim Jefferson	DEM	85,031
Lyman Barnes	DEM	84,317
Nick DeSilvio	REP	82,373
Chris Konawel	REP	81,318
George W. Shivery Jr.	REP	79,984

(Unofficial Election Results, [Gloucester County Clerk's Office](#), 11/3/20)

### ***2017 General Election, Gloucester County Board Of Commissioners, Freeholder***

#### **General Election Results (November 7, 2017)**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Vote Total</b>
Heather Simmons	DEM	44,432
Jim Jefferson	DEM	42,175
Lyman Barnes	DEM	41,693
Louise Pelosi	REP	29,573
Mary Behm	REP	28,839
Rose Yerka	REP	28,509

(Unofficial Election Results, [Gloucester County Clerk's Office](#), 11/7/17)

***2014 General Election, Gloucester County Board Of Commissioners, Freeholder*****General Election Results (November 4, 2014)**

<b>Candidate</b>	<b>Party</b>	<b>Vote Total</b>
Adam Taliaferro	DEM	39,370
Heather Simmons	DEM	38,557
Lyman Barnes	DEM	36,889
Joseph M. Bennis	REP	31,248
Jeanine E. Butterworth-Green	REP	30,970
Jack Scheidell	REP	30,218

(Unofficial Election Results, [Gloucester County Clerk's Office](#), 11/4/14)

**NOTE:** *Simmons's official election results prior to 2013 are no longer publicly available.*

**CAMPAIGN FINANCE**

*Thus far, Heather Simmons has received an aggregate of \$50,500 in total contributions for her campaign for the New Jersey General Assembly for District 3. Simmons has received tens of thousands of dollars from several New Jersey labor and public sector unions as well as thousands of dollars from several New Jersey Democratic Party campaign committees. Simmons has disbursed an aggregate of \$52,406 to date; however, nearly all of it was transfers to her general election fund.*

*Individually, Simmons has never contributed to any federal or New Jersey state campaign committees.*

***Simmons For Assembly (2023)*****Notable Contributions**

**Thus Far, Simmons Has Received An Aggregate Of \$50,500 In Total Contributions For Her Campaign For The New Jersey General Assembly.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$8,200 From Greater NJ Carpenters PEC.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$8,200 From IBEW Local 351 State PAC Fund** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$8,200 From Sheet Metal Workers Union #19 NJ LPE Acct.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$5,466.67 From U.A. Local Union 322 Plumbers & Pipefitters Political Action Committee.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$5,000 From Louis Greenwald For Assembly.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)



- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$2,500 From Bill Moen For Assembly.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$2,500 From Pamela Rosen Lampitt For Assembly.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$2,500 From William Spearman For Assembly.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)
- **In 2023, Simmons Received \$500 From Burzichelli For Senate.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

### **Notable Contributions**

**Thus Far, Simmons Has Disbursed An Aggregate Of \$52,406 For Her Campaign For The New Jersey General Assembly.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

- **In 2023, Simmons Transferred \$52,405.32 To Her General Election Fund.** ([New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

### ***Individual Contributions***

### **Federal Election Commission**

*NOTE: Simmons has never contributed to a federal campaign committee.*

### **New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission**

*NOTE: Simmons has never contributed to a New Jersey state campaign committee.*

## **VOTING RECORDS**

*Heather Simmons has been an actively-registered Democratic Party voter in Gloucester County, New Jersey since March 18, 1994. Since 2001, Simmons has failed to vote in five primary elections. Prior to registering in New Jersey, Simmons was a registered Republican Party voter in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania from November 1988 to January 2001.*

### ***Gloucester County, NJ***

**According To The Gloucester County Superintendent Of Elections, Simmons Has Been An Actively-Registered Democratic Party Voter In Gloucester County, New Jersey Since March 18, 1994.** (Voter Profile Report: Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Superintendent Of Elections, Filed 3/18/94, New Jersey Open Public Records Law Request, Filled 7/05/23)

**Voter Profile**

Generated By: glboejfran004  
Date Generated: 07/05/2023

**Voter Information:**

**Voter Name:** HEATHER P SIMMONS

**Residence Address:**

**County:** Gloucester  
**Street Number:** [REDACTED]  
**Street Name:** [REDACTED]  
**Address Line 2:** [REDACTED]  
**Municipality:** Glassboro Borough  
**City:** Glassboro  
**State:** NJ  
**Zipcode:** 080282587

**Party Information:**

**Current Party:** Democratic  
**Party Privilege Date:** 04/16/1994

**Miscellaneous:**

**Gender:** Female  
**Registration Date:** 03/18/1994  
**Registration Type:** Agency

**Status Information:**

**Voting Privilege Date:** 04/16/1994  
**Date Last Voted:** 06/06/2023  
**Current Status:** Active  
**Poll Worker Status:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Address:**

**Inactive Confirmation Address:**

**Address:**

(Voter Profile Report: Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Superintendent Of Elections, Filed 3/18/94, New Jersey Open Public Records Law Request, Filled 7/05/23)

**Since 2001, Simmons Failed To Vote In At Least Five Elections: The 2003, 2004, 2005, 2007, And The 2009 Primary Elections.** (Voter Profile Report: Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Superintendent Of Elections, Filed 3/18/94, New Jersey Open Public Records Law Request, Filled 7/05/23)

<b>Change Date</b> 01/17/2001	<b>Party Privilege Date</b>	<b>Party</b> Democratic
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**Registration History:**

<b>Change Date</b> 02/04/2022	<b>County</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Reason</b> Voter Requested
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**Election History:**

Election Name	Election Date	Election Type	Election Code	Ballot Type	County Voted In	Municipality Voted In	Party Affiliation	Memo User Scanned	Date Scanned	Date Counted	Ballot Status
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/06/2023	Primary	STATE PE	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	DEMOCRATIC	glboejfran004	06/03/2023	06/03/2023	
GENERAL ELECTION	11/08/2022	General	STATE GE	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	DEMOCRATIC	JOHN FRANCHETTI	11/08/2022	11/08/2022	
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/07/2022	Primary	STATE PE	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	DEMOCRATIC	JOHN FRANCHETTI	06/07/2022	06/07/2022	
GENERAL ELECTION	11/02/2021	General	STATE GE	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		JOHN FRANCHETTI	11/02/2021	11/02/2021	
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/08/2021	Primary	STATE PE	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	glboejtrox003	06/09/2021	06/08/2021	
GENERAL ELECTION	11/03/2020	General	STATE GE	Mail In	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	glboemchel001	11/18/2020	11/18/2020	Accepted
PRIMARY ELECTION	07/07/2020	Primary	STATE PE	Mail In	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	glboemchel001	07/15/2020	07/15/2020	Accepted
GENERAL ELECTION	11/05/2019	General	STATE GE 2019	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		JENNIE	11/12/2019	11/05/2019	
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/04/2019	Primary	STATE PE 2019	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	JENNIE	06/11/2019	06/04/2019	
GENERAL ELECTION	11/06/2018	General	STATE GE 2018	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		BIRGSOE	11/15/2018	11/06/2018	
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/05/2018	Primary	STATE PE 2018	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	BIRGSOE	06/11/2018	06/05/2018	
GENERAL ELECTION	11/07/2017	General	STATE GE 2017	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township		DENISESE	11/22/2017	11/07/2017	
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/06/2017	Primary	STATE PE 2017	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township	Democratic	DENISESE	06/14/2017	06/06/2017	
GENERAL ELECTION	11/08/2016	General	STATE GENERAL 2016	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township		JENNIE	12/01/2016	11/08/2016	
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/07/2016	Primary	STATE PE 2016	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township	Democratic	TEMP12	06/15/2016	06/07/2016	
GENERAL	11/03/2015	General	STATE GE 2015	Machine	Gloucester	Washington		BIRGSOE	11/17/2015	11/03/2015	

ELECTION PRIMARY ELECTION	06/02/2015	Primary	STATE PE 2015	Machine	Gloucester	Township Washington Township	Democratic	TEMP12	06/08/2015	06/02/2015
GENERAL ELECTION	11/04/2014	General	STATE GE 2014	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township		TEMP12	12/02/2014	11/04/2014
ELECTION PRIMARY ELECTION	06/03/2014	Primary	STATE PE 2014	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township	Democratic	TEMP12	06/09/2014	06/03/2014
GENERAL ELECTION	11/05/2013	General	STATE GE 2013	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township		TEMP12	11/07/2013	11/05/2013
SPECIAL GENERAL ELECTION FOR US SENATE	10/16/2013	General	STATE SPECIAL GE 2013	Machine	Gloucester	Washington Township		TEMP12	10/22/2013	10/16/2013
SPECIAL PRIMARY ELECTION FOR US SENATE	08/13/2013	Primary	STATE SPECIAL PE 2013	Provisional	Gloucester	Washington Township	Democratic	GLBOECH	09/24/2013	08/13/2013 Accepted
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/04/2013	Primary	STATE PE 2013	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	TEMP12	06/10/2013	06/04/2013
GENERAL ELECTION	11/06/2012	General	GE 2012	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		KARLIED	11/20/2012	11/06/2012
PRIMARY ELECTION	06/05/2012	Primary	STATE PE 2012	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	JENNIE	06/13/2012	06/05/2012
STATE GENERAL ELECTION	11/08/2011	General	STATE GE 110811	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		KASOE	11/16/2011	11/08/2011
STATE PRIMARY ELECTION	06/07/2011	Primary	STATE PE 2011	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	KASOE	06/15/2011	06/07/2011
STATE SCHOOL ELECTION	04/27/2011	Annual School	STATESCHOOL11	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		LSSOE	05/03/2011	04/27/2011
STATE GENERAL 2010	11/02/2010	General	STATE GE 110210	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		JENNIE	11/12/2010	11/02/2010
STATE PRIMARY 2010	06/08/2010	Primary	STATE PE 060810	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough	Democratic	CHSOE	06/14/2010	06/08/2010
STATE-SCHOOL ELECTION	04/20/2010	Annual School	STATESCHOOL10	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		GLBOECH	04/26/2010	04/20/2010
STATE GENERAL ELECTION	11/03/2009	General	STATE GE 110309	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		KASOE	11/17/2009	11/03/2009
STATE-SCHOOL ELECTION	04/21/2009	Annual School	STATE04212009	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		GLBOEBF	04/24/2009	04/21/2009
GENERAL ELECTION	11/04/2008	General	00004	Machine	Gloucester	Glassboro Borough		GLBOECH	11/21/2008	11/04/2008
STATE-SCHOOL ELECTION	04/15/2008	Annual School	STATESCHOOL	Machine				GLBOELP	04/15/2008	04/15/2008
PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY	02/05/2008	Primary	PRESIDENTIALPRIMARY	Machine			Democratic	GLBOERH	02/05/2008	02/05/2008
STATE-GENERAL ELECTION	11/06/2007	General	STATE11062007	Machine				GLBOEMP	11/06/2007	11/06/2007
STATE-ANNUAL SCHOOL ELECTION	04/17/2007	Annual School	STATE04172007	Machine				GLBOEJT	04/19/2007	04/17/2007
GENERAL 11/07/2006	11/07/2006	General	00040	Machine				GLBOEBF	01/16/2007	11/07/2006
PRIMARY 06/06/2006	06/06/2006	Primary	00040	Machine			Democratic	GLBOEJT	08/31/2006	06/06/2006
STATEWIDE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION	04/18/2006	Annual School	00001	Machine				SUMMER	08/08/2006	04/18/2006
GENERAL 11/08/2005	11/08/2005	General	00040	Machine				CONV	11/08/2005	11/08/2005
SPECIAL 2005	04/19/2005	Special School	00002	Machine				CONV	04/19/2005	04/19/2005
GENERAL 11/02/2004	11/02/2004	General	00040	Machine				CONV	11/02/2004	11/02/2004
GENERAL 11/04/2003	11/04/2003	General	00040	Machine				CONV	11/04/2003	11/04/2003
GENERAL 11/05/2002	11/05/2002	General	00040	Machine				CONV	11/05/2002	11/05/2002
PRIMARY 06/04/2002	06/04/2002	Primary	00040	Machine			Democratic	CONV	06/04/2002	06/04/2002
SPECIAL 2002	04/16/2002	Special School	00002	Machine				CONV	04/16/2002	04/16/2002
GENERAL 11/06/2001	11/06/2001	General	00040	Machine				CONV	11/06/2001	11/06/2001

(Voter Profile Report: Heather Simmons, Gloucester County Superintendent Of Elections, Filed 3/18/94, New Jersey Open Public Records Law Request, Filed 7/05/23)

**Philadelphia County, PA**

**According To The Philadelphia County Board Of Elections, Simmons Was A Registered Republican Party Voter In Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania From November 1988 To January 2001.** (Voter Profile Report: Heather Simmons, Philadelphia County Board Of Elections, Filed 11/14/1988, Pennsylvania Right To Know Law Request, 7/6/23)

Voters: Find/Modify Voter

SIMMONS, HEATHER P Security: Not Restricted Last Changed 1/14/2001 12:00:00 A  
 014742961-51 Verify Addr.: Cancelled Voter Hall of Fame  Federal Voter

General  Distrcjts  Votes  Correspondence  Petitions  Changes  Documents  Other  Application

ID Number: 014742961-51 Application Source: UNK Registered: 11/14/1988 Status-Reason: Cancel  
 11/14/1988 1/14/2001

Title: Last Name: SIMMONS First Name: HEATHER Middle Name: P Suffix: Maiden Name: Verify

House #: 6419 1/2 Street Name: SHERWOOD RD Unit: Unit #: City: PHILADELPHIA State: PA Zip Code: 19151

Address Line 2: Mail Addr Line 1: Mail City: State: Mail Zip: Mail Country:

Email Address:

BirthDate: 03/07/1969 Social Sec: Driver's Lic.: Phone: U:  Sex: F Race: Language: Assistance:

Party: REPUBLICAN Other Party: Last Voted: Must Vote In Person  Poll Worker  Poll Worker Interest

Precinct Split: 3423-1 PHILA WD 34 DP

OK Cancel

Record: 1 of 1

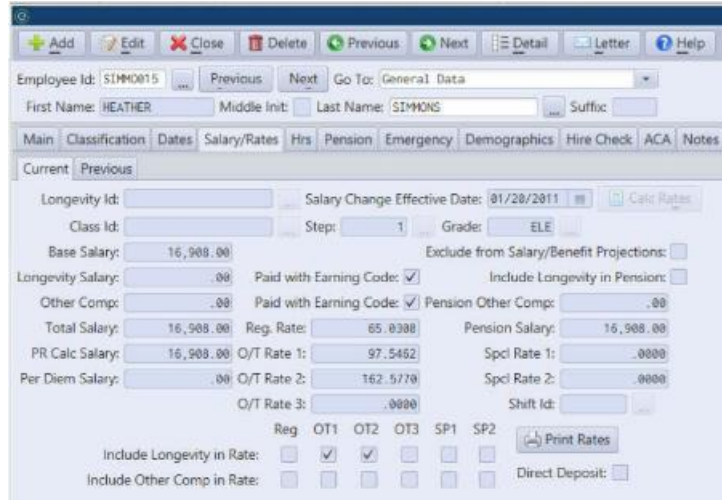
(Voter Profile Report: Heather Simmons, Philadelphia County Board Of Elections, Filed 11/14/1988, Pennsylvania Right To Know Law Request, 7/6/23)

**PUBLIC COMPENSATION**

*Since 2011, Heather Simmons has received an aggregate of \$219,804 in taxpayer-funded compensation while serving on the Gloucester County Commission.*

**Gloucester County Commission**

**Since 2011, Simmons Has Received An Aggregate Of \$219,804 In Taxpayer-Funded Compensation While Serving On The Gloucester County Commission.** (Compensation, Gloucester County Commission, New Jersey Open Public Records Act Request, Filled 7/26/23)



(Compensation, Gloucester County Commission, New Jersey Open Public Records Act Request, Filled 7/26/23)

### CRIMINAL RECORDS

*Heather Simmons has received at least one traffic citation for which she paid a \$56 fine.*

#### Traffic Citations

**In August 2011, Simmons Received A Traffic Citations For Obstructing The Passage Of Other Vehicle In Woodbury City, New Jersey.** (Case No. W 40517, Woodbury City Municipal Court, Filed 9/14/11)

Case:	W 40517	Court:	0822	Type:	Moving	Defendant:	HEATHER SIMMONS	Status:	Disposed																									
<b>Defendant Information</b>																																		
Name:	HEATHER SIMMONS			Gender:	Female	Eyes:	Brown	Commercial License:	N																									
<b>Court Information</b>																																		
Court Date:	09/14/2011			Court Time:	01:30 PM		Court Room:																											
<b>Assessed Totals</b>																																		
Assessed Total:	\$56.00		Fine Amount:	\$30.00		Cost Amount:	\$24.00		Misc Amount:	\$2.00																								
Balance Due:	\$0.00		Payable Ind:	Y		Last Payment Date:	09/15/2011																											
<b>Ticket Information</b>																																		
Ticket Number:	W 40517			Issue Date:	08/30/2011		Offense Date:	08/30/2011 09:09 AM																										
Court:	0822 - WOODBURY CITY MUNICIPAL COURT			Agency & Officer ID:	0822 3028		Location:	BARBER/WOODLAND																										
Mun. Of Offense:	0822			Municipality:	WOODBURY CITY MUNICIPAL COURT																													
Transferred To:				Transferred From:																														
Status:	Disposed			Time Payment:			Warrant:	Bail:																										
Entered Date:	08/31/2011																																	
<b>Offense Information</b>																																		
Offense:	39:4-67 - OBSTRUCTING PASSAGE OF OTHER VEHICLES																																	
Death/Serious Injury:	N			Personal Injury:	N																													
<b>Vehicle Information</b>																																		
Make of Vehicle:	Lincoln		Year of Vehicle:	2008		Type of Vehicle:	Station Wagon		Color:	Cream																								
<b>Disposition Information</b>																																		
Plea:	Guilty			Plea Date:	09/15/2011		Disposition Date:	09/15/2011		Finding:																								
License Surrendered:				Method:			Disposition Type:	Disposed		Accident Disp. Code:																								
<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Item</th> <th>Assessed</th> <th>Num</th> <th>Miscellaneous Fees</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Fine</td> <td>\$30.00</td> <td>1</td> <td>Web Fee</td> <td>\$2.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cost</td> <td>\$24.00</td> <td colspan="3"><b>Miscellaneous Total</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misc Total</td> <td>\$2.00</td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>\$56.00</b></td> <td colspan="3"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>										Item	Assessed	Num	Miscellaneous Fees	Amount	Fine	\$30.00	1	Web Fee	\$2.00	Cost	\$24.00	<b>Miscellaneous Total</b>			Misc Total	\$2.00				<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>			
Item	Assessed	Num	Miscellaneous Fees	Amount																														
Fine	\$30.00	1	Web Fee	\$2.00																														
Cost	\$24.00	<b>Miscellaneous Total</b>																																
Misc Total	\$2.00																																	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$56.00</b>																																	

(Case No. W 40517, Woodbury City Municipal Court, Filed 9/14/11)

- **Simmons Paid A \$56 Fine For The Citation.** (Case No. W 40517, Woodbury City Municipal Court, Filed 9/14/11)

### **POLICE RECORDS**

*NOTE: No immediately actionable information relating to Heather Simmons could be gleaned from municipal law enforcement records.*

### **REAL PROPERTY RECORDS**

*NOTE: Heather Simmons does not currently own any real property.*

### **BANKRUPTCIES, JUDGMENTS, & LIENS RECORDS**

*NOTE: No bankruptcies, judgments, or lien records could be found for Heather Simmons.*

### **LEGAL ISSUES**

*In January 2013, Vincent Gattuso and Michael Blaszczyk filed a complaint against Simmons and other members of the Gloucester County Board of Freeholders, alleging due to a new county policy, they were punished for sharing content critical of former board member and then-current New Jersey Senate Present Steve Sweeney due to his position on healthcare legislation. In May 2014, the parties agreed to settle and the case was dismissed with prejudice. Simmons is also divorced. (Note: Percipient Strategies currently awaits responsive records relating to Simmons', then-Weisman, divorce).*

#### ***Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al.***

**In January 2013, Vincent Gattuso And Michael Blaszczyk Filed A Complaint Against Simmons And Other Members Of The Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders.** (Case No. 13-CV-00092-RMB-AMD, Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al., U.S. District Court District Of New Jersey, Filed 1/4/13)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

VINCENT GATTUSO & MICHAEL	:	
BLASZCZYK,	:	Dkt. No.
	:	
Plaintiffs,	:	
	:	Civil Action
v.	:	
	:	
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER; GLOUCESTER	:	
COUNTY BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS;	:	
ROBERT M. DAMMINGER, Freeholder	:	
Director, in his individual	:	
capacity; GIUSEPPE CHILA,	:	<b>COMPLAINT</b>
Freeholder Deputy Director,	:	
in his individual capacity;	:	
VINCENT H. NESTORE, JR.,	:	
Freeholder, in his individual	:	
capacity; HEATHER SIMMONS,	:	
Freeholder, in her individual	:	
capacity; ADAM J. TALIAFERRO,	:	
Freeholder, in his individual	:	
capacity; LARRY WALLACE,	:	
Freeholder, in his individual	:	
capacity; and LYMAN BARNES,	:	
Freeholder, in his individual	:	
Capacity.	:	
	:	
Defendants.	:	

(Case No. 13-CV-00092-RMB-AMD, *Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al.*, U.S. District Court District Of New Jersey, Filed 1/4/13)

**The Plaintiffs Alleged Due To A New County Policy, They Were Punished For Sharing Content Critical Of Former Board Member And Then-Current New Jersey Senate Present Steve Sweeney Due To His Position On Healthcare Legislation.** (Case No. 13-CV-00092-RMB-AMD, *Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al.*, U.S. District Court District Of New Jersey, Filed 1/4/13)

25. Prior to the adoption of the Policy, Plaintiff Blaszczyk, in or about June 2011, posted comments on his Facebook page which were critical of New Jersey health benefits legislation limiting the bargaining rights of public employees over their health benefits. In those comments, Blaszczyk stated that he has been "telling people for years that [Stephen] Sweeney," the Democratic President of the New Jersey Senate and a former Freeholder Director for Gloucester County, "is no good." Blaszczyk's Facebook page provided a link to an article on nj.com entitled "Sweeney's pending health benefits legislation is 'un-American': Hudson County Dems Chairman." Referring to

Sweeney, Blaszczyk warned readers of his Facebook page to "beware of republicans in democrat clothing" and satirized Sweeney as "the big union leader, man of the people." He also compared Sweeney to Republican Governor Chris Christie stating, "he's a bigger dick than our porky pig gov."

26. The comments posted about Sweeney on Blaszczyk's Facebook page arguably violated the Policy's broad prohibition on being disrespectful to residents of the County and on maligning or disparaging anyone associated with the County. Blaszczyk would not again post comments on his Facebook page openly critical of current or former County officials or of policies promoted by them for fear of being disciplined up to and including termination.

27. Plaintiff Gattuso also would not post any comments on his Facebook page critical of current or former County officials or of policies promoted by them for fear of being disciplined up to and including termination.

28. The Policy chills the rights of plaintiffs and of all other County employees to communicate through the use of social media and social networking about matters of public concern.

(Case No. 13-CV-00092-RMB-AMD, *Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al.*, U.S. District Court District Of New Jersey, Filed 1/4/13)



- **In May 2014, The Parties Agreed To Settle And The Case Was Dismissed With Prejudice.** (Case No. 13-CV-00092-RMB-AMD, *Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al.*, U.S. District Court District Of New Jersey, Filed 5/30/14)

The matters and things in dispute between the plaintiffs, Vincent Gattuso and Michael Blaszczyk, and the defendants, the County of Gloucester, Gloucester County Board of Freeholders, et al. hereto having been amicably settled, and the parties having agreed to dismiss any and all claims, counterclaims, charges, actions, lawsuits, etc. that

2172615.1

the parties may have asserted or have asserted against one another, it is hereby stipulated by the parties that the above- captioned action is hereby dismissed with prejudice.

(Case No. 13-CV-00092-RMB-AMD, *Vincent Gattuso, Et Al. V. Gloucester County Board Of Freeholders, Et Al.*, U.S. District Court District Of New Jersey, Filed 5/30/14)

### ***Heather Weisman V. Matthew Weisman***

**NOTE:** Percipient Strategies currently awaits responsive records relating to Simmons', then-Weisman, divorce.

## **BUSINESS RECORDS**

*Heather Simmons was previously a member of the New Jersey-domiciled company Heather Simmons Communications Limited Liability Company, which Simmons operated between 2011 and 2017. The company was later dissolved in August 2017 and terminated in August 2019.*

### ***Heather Simmons Communications Limited Liability Company***

**In January 2011, Simmons Incorporated Heather Simmons Communications Limited Liability Company As A Domestic Limited Liability Company With The New Jersey Department Of The Treasury.** (New Jersey Department Of The Treasury, Filed 1/27/11)

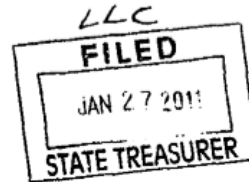
NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
DIVISION OF REVENUE

CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION

HEATHER SIMMONS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
0400394148

The above-named DOMESTIC LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY was duly filed in accordance with New Jersey State Law on 01/27/2011 and was assigned identification number 0400394148. Following are the articles that constitute its original certificate.

- 1. **Name:**  
HEATHER SIMMONS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
- 2. **Registered Agent:**  
HEATHER SIMMONS
- 3. **Registered Office:**  
301 ELLIS STREET  
GLASSBORO, NJ 08028
- 4. **Business Purpose:**  
PUBLIC RELATIONS
- 5. **Members/Managers:**  
HEATHER SIMMONS  
301 ELLIS STREET  
GLASSBORO, NJ 08028
- 6. **Main Business Address:**  
301 ELLIS STREET  
GLASSBORO, NJ 08028



**Signatures:**  
HEATHER SIMMONS  
AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand and  
affixed my Official Seal  
at Trenton, this  
28th day of January, 2011



Andrew P Sidamon-Eristoff  
State Treasurer

Certificate Number: 119361290  
Verify this certificate online at  
[https://www1.state.nj.us/TYTR\\_StandingCert/JSP/Verify\\_Cert.jsp](https://www1.state.nj.us/TYTR_StandingCert/JSP/Verify_Cert.jsp)

(New Jersey Department Of The Treasury, Filed 1/27/11)

- **In August 2017, The Company Was Dissolved.** (New Jersey Department Of The Treasury, Filed 8/15/17)

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
DIVISION OF REVENUE AND ENTERPRISE SERVICES  
CERTIFICATE OF DISSOLUTION**

*Title N.J.S.A 42:2C-1 et seq.*

**HEATHER SIMMONS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY**  
0400394148

The Division of Revenue and Enterprise Services acknowledges that the above-named business entity did file and record a Certificate of Dissolution with this office on 08/15/2017, stating its intention to continue with its existence for the sole purpose of winding up its affairs, after which a Certificate of Termination will be filed for the purpose of terminating the existence of the business entity.

**1. Name:** HEATHER SIMMONS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

**2. Date of Formation:** 01/27/2011

Once the wind up activities are completed, the company MUST file a Certificate of Termination. Please file online at <https://www.njportal.com/dor/annualreports>.

The undersigned represents that the filing complies with State laws detailed in Title 42:2C and that they are authorized to sign this form on behalf of the Limited Liability Company.

**Filed Date:** 08/15/2017

**Signature and Title**  
Heather Simmons, owner



*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have  
hereunto set my hand and affixed  
my Official Seal, this  
15th day of August, 2017*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ford M. Scudder".

**Ford M. Scudder**  
State Treasurer

Certificate Number : 2282810456  
Verify this certificate online at  
[https://www1.state.nj.us/TYTR\\_StandingCert/JSP/Verify\\_Cert.jsp](https://www1.state.nj.us/TYTR_StandingCert/JSP/Verify_Cert.jsp)

(New Jersey Department Of The Treasury, Filed 8/15/17)

- **In August 2019, The Company Was Terminated.** (New Jersey Department Of The Treasury, Filed 8/1/19)

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
DIVISION OF REVENUE AND ENTERPRISE SERVICES  
CERTIFICATE OF TERMINATION**

*Title N.J.S.A 42:2C-1 et seq.*

**HEATHER SIMMONS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
0400394148**

I, the Treasurer of the State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the above-named business entity did on the 1st of August, 2019, file and record in this department a combined Certificate of Termination.

1. **Name:** HEATHER SIMMONS COMMUNICATIONS LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
2. **Business ID#:** 0400394148
3. **All affairs have closed.**
4. **All assets have been discarded and have been applied to creditors or distributed to its members.**

The undersigned represents that the filing complies with State laws detailed in Title 42:2C and that they are authorized to sign this form on behalf of the Limited Liability Company.

**Filed Date:** 08/01/2019

**Signature and Title**  
Heather Simmons, Owner



*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my Official Seal, this 1st day of August, 2019*

*Elizabeth Maher Muoio  
State Treasurer*

Certificate Number : 2418933634  
Verify this certificate online at  
[https://www1.state.nj.us/TYTR\\_StandingsCertJSP/Verify\\_Cert.jsp](https://www1.state.nj.us/TYTR_StandingsCertJSP/Verify_Cert.jsp)

(New Jersey Department Of The Treasury, Filed 8/1/19)

## NON-PROFIT RECORDS

*Between 2017 and 2021, Heather Simmons served as an uncompensated officer at the New Jersey-domiciled non-profit New Jersey Association Of Counties (NJAC) Foundation Inc, where she was listed as the president in the organization’s most recent annual report (2021). Simmons was also listed as a member of the 2023 New Jersey Association of Counties Board of Directors. Simmons was also listed as an uncompensated board member of United Way of Gloucester County on the organization’s 2017 annual report.*

### ***New Jersey Association Of Counties (NJAC) Foundation Inc***

**Since 2017, Simmons Has Served As An Uncompensated Officer Of The New Jersey Association Of Counties (NJAC) Foundation Inc.** (2017 Form 990, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

- **Simmons First Appeared On The Organization’s 2017 Annual Report, Where She Was Listed As The Secretary-Treasurer Of The Organization.** (2017 Form 990, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

<b>Part IV</b> List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated—see the instructions for Part IV) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV <input type="checkbox"/>				
(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Donald W. De Leo President	1.00	0.	0.	0.
Arthur Sypek, Jr. Vice President	1.00	0.	0.	0.
Heather Simmons Secretary-Treasurer	1.00	0.	0.	0.
Brian M. Hughes Member	1.00	0.	0.	0.
Claire French Member	1.00	0.	0.	0.
John G. Donnadio, Esq. Executive Director	20.00	0.	0.	0.

(2017 Form 990, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

- **Simmons Appeared On The Organization’s Most Recent Annual Report In 2021, Where She Was Listed The President Of The Organization.** (2021 Form 990, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

<b>Part IV</b> List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees (list each one even if not compensated ; see the instructions for Part IV) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV. <input type="checkbox"/>				
(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Heather Simmons President	1.00	0	0	0
Arthur Sypek Jr Vice President	1.00	0	0	0
M Claire French Secretary-Treasurer	1.00	0	0	0
Brian M Hughes Member	1.00	0	0	0
John G Donnadio Esq Executive Director	20.00	0	0	0

(2021 Form 990, [ProPublica](#), Accessed 7/26/23)

- **Simmons Was Listed As A Member Of The New Jersey Association Of Counties 2023 Board Of Directors.** ([New Jersey Association Of Counties](#), Accessed 7/26/23)



**In April 2023, Simmons Declared A Position As A Gloucester County Commissioner.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**In April 2023, Simmons Declared A Position As President Of The New Jersey Association Of Counties (NJAC) Foundation Board.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS**

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Detailed instructions for completing this form are available on the Commission's website, [nj.gov/ethics/disclosure/financial/](http://nj.gov/ethics/disclosure/financial/).

Public Officers must complete this form in full. Public employees who hold positions in the Executive Branch of State Government are not required to complete this form, but must complete and file form FDS23/1.

The completed form must be electronically submitted to the State Ethics Commission. Questions should be directed to the State Ethics Commission, PO Box 082, Trenton, NJ 08625-0082, Telephone (609) 292-1892.

**General Information**

Date of Statement: 4/3/2023 Filing Year:

First Name: Heather M.I. \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: Simmons

Position Held: State Officer

Department or Agency: Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

Other compensated or uncompensated governmental positions you hold:

Gloucester County Commissioner  
 President, NJAC Foundation Board

(2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS**

h. List any offices, trusteeships, directorships or positions of any nature, whether compensated or uncompensated, held by you, your spouse/civil union partner, your domestic partner or dependent children, with any firm, corporation, association, partnership or business. If such firm, corporation, association, partnership or business does business with a casino or does business with the State, or is regulated, licensed or inspected by any State agency, please identify the State agency or casino.

Position Held	Firm, Corporation, Association, Partnership or Business	State Agency	Casino	Indicate whether held by public officer, spouse, civil union partner, domestic partner, or dependent children.
Commissioner	Gloucester County			Public Officer
President	NJAC Foundation Board			Public Officer
Board Member	DVRPC			Public Officer

(2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**Assets**

**In 2023, Simmons Listed Assets Over \$1,000 In Value In Cash On Hand In Bank.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**In 2023, Simmons Listed Assets Over \$1,000 In Value In Pension Funds.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**In 2023, Simmons Listed Assets Over \$1,000 In Value In Life Insurance.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**In 2023, Simmons Listed Assets Over \$1,000 In Value In Vehicles.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)



**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS**

**d. Assets**

List all assets valued at more than \$1,000, both tangible and intangible, in which you, your spouse/civil union partner, your domestic partner or your dependent children holds an interest as of the date of this statement.

Identify assets with check mark. Do not indicate dollar value. If asset is held jointly, place a check mark in the Public Officer box. The word "joint" should then be noted in the Spouse / Civil Union Partner / Domestic Partner box.

Please fill in each line; indicate not applicable with "N/A" or "None."

ASSETS (Valued at more than \$1,000)	Public Officer:	Spouse / Civil Union Partner / Domestic Partner:	Dependent Children:
CASH ON HAND IN BANK	X		
NOTES RECEIVABLE- Indicate Nature of Note on Item h.5 on page 4.	N/A		
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - Indicate Nature of Account on Item h.5 on page 4.	N/A		
GOVERNMENT BONDS Itemize on Schedule A	N/A		
STOCKS & CORPORATE BONDS (Include Mutual Funds) Itemize on Schedule A	N/A		
INTEREST IN CONTRACTS WITH GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES Itemize on Schedule B	N/A		

ASSETS (Valued at more than \$1,000)	Public Officer:	Spouse / Civil Union Partner / Domestic Partner:	Dependent Children:
NEW JERSEY REAL ESTATE INTERESTS - Itemize on Schedule C	N/A		
REAL ESTATE INTERESTS OUTSIDE OF NEW JERSEY	N/A		
PENSION FUNDS (include IRA, Keogh, Annuities, State Pension, etc.)	X		
LIFE INSURANCE	X		
VEHICLES	X		
OTHER ASSETS (Itemize Below)	N/A		

(2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**Income**

**In April 2023, Simmons Declared She Received Personal Income From The Gloucester County Board Of Commissioners.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**In April 2023, Simmons Declared She Received Personal Income From Rowan University.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS**

**g. Income**

Public officers, their spouses/civil union partners or their domestic partners, and dependent children must indicate the source of their incomes. Public officers filing before July 1 of any year must provide this information for the preceding calendar year. Public officers filing after July 1 of any year must provide this information for the 12-month period prior to filing. Income from any source totaling less than \$1,000 need not be disclosed. The following gifts need not be reported: (1) cash gifts of less than \$100 in the aggregate received from a person, (2) non-cash gifts with fair market value of less than \$200 in the aggregate received from a person, and (3) gifts of less than \$3,000 in the aggregate received from a relative. Please fill in each line; indicate not applicable with "N/A" or "None."

Indicate sources of income with a check mark. Do not indicate dollar value.

	Public Officer:	Spouse / Civil Union Partner / Domestic Partner:	Dependent Children:
1. All compensated employment of whatever nature, including current State or other employment. Please list commencement and, if applicable, termination date. Be sure to include the name of the employer(s):			
Gloucester County Commissioner	✓		
Rowan University	✓		

(2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**Securities**

**In April 2023, Simmons Listed Securities Over \$1,000 In Value In Savings Bonds From The United States Government.** (2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

**SCHEDULE A - STOCKS AND BONDS HELD**

List the type of securities owned by you, your spouse/civil union partner, your domestic partner or your dependent children valued at more than \$1,000.00 ; list the name of the company, mutual fund, holding company or government agency issuing the stocks and bonds. If your ownership interest exists through a mutual fund or holding company, you need not list the individual stocks so owned; you must, however, list the mutual fund or holding company. If your ownership interest exists through a beneficial interest in a trust, list the stocks and bonds so owned if you have such knowledge; otherwise list the name of the trustee. Do not indicate dollar value.

Indicate not applicable with "N/A" or "None."

Type of Security (Stock or Bond)	Name of Issuing Company, Mutual Fund, Holding Company or Government Agency	Held by:(check)			Percentage Ownership*
		Public Officer:	Spouse/ Civil Union Partner/ Domestic Partner:	Dependent Children:	
Savings Bond	US Government	✓			

(2023 Financial Disclosure Statement For Public Officers, [New Jersey State Ethics Commission](#), Filed 4/3/23)

## **SIMMONS RECORD OF FISCAL IRRESPONSIBILITY AND ANTI-GROWTH GOVERNANCE**

### **AS A CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE, SIMMONS CLAIMED TO BE SEEKING A REDUCTION IN SPENDING AND TAXES**

#### ***In 2011, Simmons Declared That She Hoped To Achieve Reductions In Spending, Taxes, Tax Rate, And Debt***

**In 2011, Simmons Declared That She Hoped To Achieve Reductions In Spending, Taxes, Tax Rate, And Debt.** “Everyone on the board seems to be on the same page as far as what they want to accomplish. "My goal is to look for unnecessary spending," Wallace said. "I'll be looking at all areas. I don't think there's any sacred cows." "What I expect out of the budget is reduction in spending, reduction in taxes, reduction in the tax rate, reduction in debt," said Simmons. To accomplish her first goal, Simmons said her departments - economic development and public works - are aggressively pursuing grants. She also expects the board to explore more opportunities for shared services. Director Robert Damminger has indicated he plans on making cuts wherever possible. The county anticipates losing 14 positions to attrition this year, in addition to the 61 lost last year. Damminger said the budget in its current form contains no furloughs. The director has said several times he guarantees a cut in the tax rate of at least a penny, but also stressed his goals go beyond that. "This won't just be you'll see the tax rate come down," he said. "You'll see spending come down as well. They're both equally important." A third budget meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 26 - two days after state aid numbers are supposed to go out - but Damminger said he needs to run that by the rest of the board.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 2/18/11)

#### **“As One Of The Three Business Owners Among The Candidates Vying For A Freeholder Board Seat, Freeholder Simmons Said She Believes In Cutting Taxes And Supporting Business In The County”**

**“As One Of The Three Business Owners Among The Candidates Vying For A Freeholder Board Seat, Freeholder Simmons Said She Believes In Cutting Taxes And Supporting Business In The County.”** “As one of the three business owners among the candidates vying for a freeholder board seat, Freeholder Simmons said she believes in cutting taxes and supporting business in the county. "As a business owner, businesses want to be where businesses can be stable," said Simmons, of Glassboro. But her partner on the Democrat ticket, Barnes, of Logan Township, would like to see government run like a small business, he said.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 10/12/11)

#### ***In 2014, Simmons Defended Gloucester County Democrats’ Fiscal Record Contending That They Had Stabilized The Tax Rate And Reduced The Size Of Government***

**In 2014, Simmons Defended Gloucester County Democrats’ Fiscal Record Contending That They Had Stabilized The Tax Rate And Reduced The Size Of Government.** “What do you say to people who say Democrats locally are promoting big government and increased spending? Simmons: "We've reduced the county staff by well over 200 employees, while at the

same time regionalizing services for EMS and 911 dispatch, which required us to increase staff in those areas. We're reducing the size of government while at the same time stabilizing the tax rate because of regionalized services, such as the jail, which over a 25-year period will save residents over \$250 million, and we're well on track to meet that. We've proven that's the opposite of the case. We are running for small government and more efficient use of taxpayer dollars.” (South Jersey Times, 10/23/14)

**DURING SIMMONS’ TENURE WITH GLOUCESTER COUNTY, THE SIZE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BALLOONED**

***During Her Tenure With Gloucester County, Simmons Served As A Rubberstamp For The Annual Budgets Put Forth For The County***

**During Her Tenure With Gloucester County, Simmons Served As A Rubberstamp For The Annual Budgets Put Forth For The County.** (Gloucester County, [FY 2010 – FY 2023](#); Independent Analysis)

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>Vote - Date</b>
FY 2010	\$206,224,594	\$47,390,862	N/A
FY 2011	\$201,932,795	\$48,024,383	Yea – 4/20/11
FY 2012	\$198,734,460	\$48,607,733	Yea – 4/4/12
FY 2013	\$205,930,381	\$51,298,314	Yea – 5/8/13
FY 2014	\$208,035,451	\$53,872,044	Yea – 4/16/14
FY 2015	\$207,193,448	\$54,644,416	Yea – 4/15/15
FY 2016	\$211,583,520	\$55,475,952	Yea – 4/20/16
FY 2017	\$213,319,670	\$56,597,900	Yea – 4/19/17
FY 2018	\$217,336,725	\$57,238,739	Yea – 3/28/18
FY 2019	\$221,121,669	\$57,186,033	Yea – 3/20/19
FY 2020	\$225,333,122	\$57,689,839	Yea – 3/18/20
FY 2021	\$237,767,935	\$57,880,057	Yea – 3/17/21
FY 2022	\$249,517,554	\$62,052,579	Yea – 4/6/22
FY 2023	\$244,104,590	\$62,895,543	Yea – 3/15/23

(Gloucester County, [FY 2010 – FY 2023](#); Independent Analysis)

**NOTE:** Simmons did not vote on the FY 2010 Gloucester County budget; the numbers are included as a benchmark from which to compare budget figures.

***During Simmons' Tenure With Gloucester County, Annual Spending Increased My Millions Of Dollars***

**From FY 2010 To FY 2023, The Gloucester County Budget Increased From \$206,224,594 To \$244,104,590 Or By 18.4 Percent. ([FY 2010](#); [FY 2023](#))**

- **The FY 2010 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$206,224,594. ([FY 2010](#))**
- **The FY 2023 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$244,104,590. ([FY 2023](#))**

**IN ORDER TO PASS THE COUNTY'S BLOATED BUDGETS SIMMONS REGULARLY SUPPORTED A MECHANISM TO EXCEED APPROPRIATIONS LIMITS**

***In 2023, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To "Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits"***

**In February 2023, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To "Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits". (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/1/23)**

**54392 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

Final adoption of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% in calculating its budget cap, and al the County to "bank" or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2023. This was introduced at February 15, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting and will allow the County to bank unused allowances ir budget calculations given the County being substantially below the allowable cap on appropriations in fu years.

**MOTION TO OPEN TO THE PUBIC**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson						X
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson						X
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**MOTION TO ADOPT**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson						X
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/1/23)

***In 2022, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”***

**In February 2022, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/16/22)

**53660 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP, and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2022. This Resolution is a budgetary process resolution. The public hearing **will be held March 2, 2022.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/16/22)

***In 2021, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”***

**In February 2021, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/3/21)

**52977 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2021. The public hearing will be held February 17, 2021.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Commissioner Barnes			X			
Commissioner Christy			X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner Lavender			X			
Commissioner Simmons		X	X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/3/21)

***In 2020, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”***

**In February 2020, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/5/20)

**52325 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP, and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2020. The public hearing will be held February 19, 2020.

FREEHOLDER	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Freeholder Barnes						
Freeholder Christy			X			
Freeholder Jefferson		X	X			
Freeholder Lavender			X			
Freeholder Simmons			X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

b

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/5/20)

***In 2019, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”***

**In February 2019, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/6/19)

**51673 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2019. The public hearing will be held February 20, 2019.

	Motion	Second	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Freeholder Barnes			X			
Freeholder Christy						X
Freeholder Jefferson			X			
Freeholder Lavender			X			
Freeholder Simmons		X	X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/6/19)

***In 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”***

**In February 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/7/18)



**51007 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to "bank" or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2018. **The public hearing will be held February 21, 2018.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/7/18)

***In 2017, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To "Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits"***

**In March 2017, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To "Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits".** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/15/17)

**50412 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

This Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% in calculating its budget cap and allow the County to "bank" or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2017. This was introduced at the February 15, 2017 Freeholder Meeting.

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Jefferson			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/15/17)

***In 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To "Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits"***

**In March 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To "Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits".** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/4/15)

**RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14.**

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: Lee Lucas, Gibbstown, had a question regarding the CAP Resolution to establish a CAP Bank.

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/4/15)

**In February 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 2/4/15)

**RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 2/4/15)

**IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE COUNTY’S BLOATED BUDGETS SIMMONS REGULARLY SUPPORTED A MECHANISM TO EXCEED THE TAX LEVY**

***In 2011, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy Limits”***

**In April 2011, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/6/11)

**45582 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR GLOUCESTER COUNTY CALENDAR YEAR 2011 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Damminger			X		
W. Wallace	X		X		
Chila			X		
DiMarco		X	X		
Simmons			X		
Nestore				X	
L. Wallace				X	

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/6/11)

***In 2013, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy Limits”***

**In April 2013, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/24/13)

**47503 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.** Second reading of this resolution for adoption will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.0% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to “bank”, or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2013. The County will not need these funds in 2013 but it is prudent to maximize options for the future.

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore			X		
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/24/13)

**In March 2013, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy Limits”**

**In March 2013, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/27/13)

**RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/27/13)

***In 2014, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy Limits”***

**In April 2014, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/16/14)

**48340-B RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.**

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

CLOSE

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/16/14)

**IN 2011, SIMMONS OPPOSED A PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THE COUNTY’S FISCAL TRANSPARENCY**

***In 2011, Simmons Voted Against A Proposal To Add Financial Impact Statements To Resolutions That Appear On The Board Agenda***

**In 2011, Simmons Voted Against A Proposal To Add Financial Impact Statements To Resolutions That Appear On The Board Agenda.** “Republican Freeholder Larry Wallace made another attempt Wednesday to add financial impact statements to resolutions that appear on board agendas. But the resolution Wallace put up - which was not listed on the meeting's agenda - did not receive votes from Democrat freeholders who said appropriate time was not given to review Wallace's proposed resolution. "This was brought up before, this was no surprise," said Wallace. Financial impact statements, which Wallace has pushed to include on resolutions and agenda items, was one of 11 transparency reforms that had been proposed in February. In August, freeholders adopted a list of reforms that had been whittled down to eight policy changes. While adding financial impact statements to agenda items was left out, freeholders did vote to add the online postings of meeting agendas, resolutions, county employment contracts, bill lists, financial disclosure forms and other county information. "Let's discuss it and bring it out in the open," Wallace said before making a motion to adopt the new

policy. "What's there to hide? What do we have to fear?" According to county Administrator Chad Bruner, the county's annual budget should be considered the impact statement for all county resolutions. Everything referenced in resolutions goes back to the budget, he said. "People aren't aware of what's going on. ... Let's make it easy for everybody," said Wallace. "We should be looking at all the short and long term dollars we spend ... the public has a right to know how their money is being spent." Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons and Warren Wallace, who gave Wallace's proposal a no vote, noted that a copy of the resolution had not been distributed among the board. Simmons said later that she and her fellow freeholders do have a commitment to openness and transparency. But insufficient time to review the proposal was the issue." (Gloucester County Times, 9/22/11)

**SIMMONS FREQUENTLY SUPPORTED MEASURES THAT INCREASE LOCAL FEES**

***In 2014, Simmons Voted Yea On An Ordinance Increasing The Emergency Medical Services Transportation Fee Per Transport From \$700 To \$750***

**In November 2014, Simmons Voted Yea On An Ordinance Increasing The Emergency Medical Services Transportation Fee Per Transport From \$700 To \$750.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 11/25/14)

**ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

GCEMS seeks reimbursement from insurance carriers for emergency medical service treatment and transportation provided to patients. Under the current fee structure adopted in 2014, GCEMS charges up to \$700.00 per transport and up to \$17.00 per loaded mile. This ordinance would increase the transport charge to \$750.00, and the loaded mile fee would remain as is at \$17.00 per loaded mile. Rates charged by New Jersey Basic Life Support (EMS) providers range from \$550 to \$850 for transport, and \$14 to \$18 for mileage. The fees reflect the maximum amount sought from insurance carriers, including Medicare and Medicaid, and not the actual reimbursement received by GCEMS. In 2013, GCEMS realized \$3,802,249.86 in reimbursement from insurance carriers. Per the policy previously approved the Board of Chosen Freeholders, Gloucester County residents are not required to pay any out-of-pocket costs associated with GCEMS services.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 11/25/14)

***In 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On An Ordinance Increasing The Emergency Medical Services Transportation Fee Per Transport From \$750 To \$800***

**In January 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On An Ordinance Increasing The Emergency Medical Services Transportation Fee Per Transport From \$750 To \$800.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/17/18)

**50959 ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

GCEMS seeks reimbursement from insurance carriers for emergency medical service treatment and transportation provided to patients. Under the current fee structure adopted in 2015, GCEMS charges up to \$750.00 per transport and up to \$17.00 per loaded mile. This ordinance will increase the basic rate to \$800.00 and the loaded mile fee would remain as is at \$17.00 per loaded mile. Per the policy previously approved the Board of Chosen Freeholders, Gloucester County residents are not required to pay any out-of-pocket costs associated with GCEMS BLS services. Public hearing is scheduled for February 7, 2018.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/17/18)

***In 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution “Fixing A Fee To Be Paid By Members Of The Public For Receiving Personal Notice Of Meetings”***

**In January 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution “Fixing A Fee To Be Paid By Members Of The Public For Receiving Personal Notice Of Meetings”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/5/18)

**Motion to approve Resolutions 1 through 51 by Consent**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Damminger			X		

**50911 RESOLUTION fixing a fee to be paid by members of the public for receiving personal notice of meetings pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.** Any person may request that a public body mail to him or her copies of any regular meeting schedule upon prepayment by such person of a reasonable sum, if any has been fixed by resolution of the public body to cover the costs of providing such notice.

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/5/18)

**SIMMONS ENJOYS THE SUPPORT PROMINENT LOCAL UNIONS – INCLUDING THE NEW JERSEY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

***In 2023, Simmons Was Endorsed By The NJEA***

**In 2023, Bailey And Simmons Were Endorsed By The NJEA.** “In two of the state’s most competitive legislative contests, the New Jersey Education Association has endorsed Democratic candidates for the State Senate and Assembly in the 3rd, but isn’t taking sides in the next-door 4th. The state’s largest public employee union is backing former Assembly Appropriations

Committee Chairman John Burzichelli’s bid to unseat State Sen. Ed Durr (R-Logan) in District 3, along with his running mates, Gloucester County Commissioner Heather Simmons (D-Glassboro) and Dave Bailey, Jr., a non-profit executive from Woodstown. Simmons and Bailey face Assemblywoman Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Mannington) and Hopewell Township Committeeman Tom Tedesco. But in the 4th, where Assemblyman Paul Moriarty (D-Washington Township) faces former Washington Township Councilman Christopher Del Borrello for an open Democratic Senate seat in a district that has become more Republican, no endorsements were made. One of the GOP Assembly candidates, Amanda Esposito, is a public school teacher and NJEA member. The teacher’s union also made no endorsements in the 2nd district where Democrat Alphonso Harrell, a veteran and kindergarten teacher, is running for the Assembly against incumbents Don Guardian (D-Atlantic City) and Claire Swift (R-Margate). No endorsements were made in District 8, where Hammonton Education Association President Anthony Angelozzi is challenging Republican Assemblyman Michael Torrissi, Jr. (R-Hammonton) and Brandon Umba (R-Medford).” ([NJ Globe](#), 6/30/23)

**In 2023, The AFL-CIO Backed Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli.** “The New Jersey AFL-CIO today endorsed seven Republicans in South Jersey, putting them at odds with the Building and Construction Trades Council, and are backing Democratic challengers for State Assembly in the 11th district. In the highly competitive 4th district, the union is backing Assemblyman Paul Moriarty (D-Washington Township) for an open State Senate seat against Republican Christopher Del Borrello, a former Washington Township councilman. But for the Assembly, the AFL-CIO endorsement went to Republican Matthew Walker, a former Buena councilman. No endorsement was made for the second Assembly seat. That follows a decision last week by Bill Mullen, the state building trades president, to endorse Democrats Dan Hutchinson and Cody Miller against Walker, an Operating Engineers Local 825 executive board member. The AFL-CIO endorsed three Republican incumbents for re-election: State Sen. Vince Polistina (R-Egg Harbor Township), Assemblyman Don Guardian (R-Atlantic City), and Assemblywoman Claire Swift (R-Margate). The building trades declined to support anyone in the 2nd district. The endorsements in the 3rd district went to Democrat John Burzichelli, a former ten-term assemblyman who is challenging State Sen. Ed Durr (R-Logan); for the Assembly, the union is backing Democrats Heather Simmons, a Gloucester County freeholder, and Dave Bailey, Jr. against Assemblywoman Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Mannington) and her running mate, Hopewell Township Committeeman Thomas Tedesco.” ([NJ Globe](#), 6/14/23)

***In 2023, The New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council Backed Simmons***

**In 2023, The New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council Backed Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli.** “The New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council has endorsed Democrats in most of the state’s competitive legislative races, but is not taking sides in the 11th district State Assembly race, where two freshman Republicans are seeking re-election. The labor group is backing Democrat John Burzichelli (D-Paulsboro) in the 3rd district against State Sen. Ed Durr (R-Logan) and Democrat Paul Moriarty (D-Washington Township) against Republican Christopher Del Borrello for the open Senate seat in the 4th district. But in the contest for two open Assembly seats in the 4th, the building trades council passed over

Republican Matt Walker, an Operating Engineers Local 825 board member, and is backing Democrats Dan Hutchison and Codey Miller. In the 11th, the group endorsed State Sen. Vin Gopal (D-Long Branch) for re-election but passed on his two running mates. That's good news for Republican Assemblywomen Marilyn Piperno (R-Colts Neck) and Kim Eulner (R-Shrewsbury), who want to return to Trenton for second terms. The state building trades, which has strong ties to South Jersey Democrats, are staying out of the 1st and 2nd districts, where six Republican incumbents are seeing re-election, but are supporting Republican Latham Tiver, an Operating Engineers Local 825 official, for the open 8th district Senate seat; Republican Assemblymen Michael Torrissi (R-Hammonton) and Brandon Umba (R-Medford) were also endorsed. The endorsements largely favor sitting legislators, regardless of ideology: the building trades are backing some of the state's most liberal Democrats, like Britnee Timberlake (D-East Orange) and Shavonda Sumter (D-Paterson), and the most conservative Republicans, like Parker Space (R-Wantage), Joseph Pennacchio (R-Montville), and Doug Steinhardt (R-Lopatcong). In total, the building trades council endorsed 73 Democrats and 21 Republicans but made no endorsement in 23 races. "Both numbers indicate our Council's insistence on maintaining a bipartisan approach in our nomination process," said Council President Bill Mullen. "All of our endorsed candidates have stood with us on matters of vital importance to our livelihoods and to the future of the building and construction trades." Mullen added, "They also recognize that they must play a critical role in finally ending the irrational fears and partisanship that dominate the political dialogue. It's the only way we can hope to resolve the daunting social and economic issues that confront all of us." Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Mannington) and Christopher DePhillips (R-Wyckoff) are the only incumbent Assembly members in the state to have the building trades endorsement go directly to a challenger. In addition to Burzichelli, the building trades is backing Democrat Heather Simmons and Dave Bailey, Jr. for Assembly in the 3rd. While the group is backing State Sen. Kristen Corrado (R-Totowa) for re-election in the 40th, they endorsed Democrats Giovanna Irizarry and Jennifer Marrinan over DePhillips." ([NJ Globe](#), 6/8/23)

### ***In 2023, The NJ LCV Endorsed Simmons***

**In 2023, The NJ LCV Endorsed Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli.** "New Jersey League of Conservation Voters (New Jersey LCV), the political voice for the environment, announced their slate of endorsements for the 2023 New Jersey legislative elections, encompassing 56 candidates across 24 districts of which 40% are women and 26% are candidates of color. New Jersey LCV works to elect viable candidates, without regard to party affiliation, who have demonstrated an active or affirmative willingness and capacity to advance New Jersey LCV's pro-environment priorities. "We could not be prouder of the dedicated, pro-environment leaders in this round of legislative endorsements, and we look forward to electing them to office and working together to build a more equitable and sustainable clean energy future for our children and grandchildren," said Allison McLeod, Senior Policy Director, New Jersey LCV. "Codifying 100% clean energy by 2035, advancing offshore wind, and strengthening our democracy are all on the ballot. That's why it's important that every registered voter participate and support these environmental champions." New Jersey LCV has endorsed the following candidates for the General Election on November 7, 2023: New Jersey LCV State Legislative Endorsements New Jersey's 2nd Legislative District: Caren Fitzpatrick for Assembly New Jersey's 3rd Legislative District: John



Burzichelli for State Senate Heather Simmons for State Assembly Dave Bailey for State Assembly.” ([Insider NJ](#), 7/6/23)

**SIMMONS SUPPORTED THE LEFT’S BIG-GOVERNMENT REACTION TO COVID**

*In 2022, Simmons Voted Nay On A Resolution To Rescind The County’s “COVID Testing Policy”*

**In February 2022, Simmons Voted Nay On A Resolution To Rescind The County’s “COVID Testing Policy”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/2/22)

**MOTION TO RESCIND THE 12/29/21 COVID TESTING POLICY**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel	X		X			
Deputy Director Simmons				X		
Commissioner Jefferson				X		
Commissioner DeSilvio		X	X			
Commissioner Barnes				X		
Commissioner DiCarlo				X		
Director DiMarco				X		

Commissioner Konawel asked the Director if clarification could be made on the public portion policy for zoom meetings. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that should we have to resume zoom meetings in the future, that the suggestion would be taken under advisement.

Commissioner DeSilvio read a statement on the record and then made a motion Opposing the Extension of Executive Order by Governor Murphy Beyond the Public Health Emergency, without second. Deputy Director Simmons made a motion to postpone indefinitely. Commissioner Barnes seconded. Roll Call vote is reflected below.

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/2/22)

**SIMMONS BACKED MEASURES SEEKING TO “INCREASE” DIVERSITY**

*In 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution Supporting The “Gloucester County Minority Recruitment Advisory Committee To Increase The Diversity Of Law Enforcement Agencies In Gloucester County”*

**In October 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution Supporting The “Gloucester County Minority Recruitment Advisory Committee To Increase The Diversity Of Law Enforcement Agencies In Gloucester County.”** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 10/21/15)

**49501 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY MINORITY RECRUITMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO INCREASE THE DIVERSITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN GLOUCESTER COUNTY.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila			X		
Barnes			X		
Christy	X		X		
DiMarco		X	X		
Simmons			X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 10/21/15)

***Additionally, In 2022, Simmons Attended And Spoke At A Local NAACP Event***

**In May 2022, Simmons Posted That She Was Attending And Speaking At A Gloucester County NAACP Event.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/16/22)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/16/22)

## IN 2013, SIMMONS PUSHED A MEASURE THAT CRITICS WORRIED WOULD RESTRICT FREE SPEECH LOCALLY

*In 2013, Simmons Seconded And Voted Yea On A Resolution “Authorizing An Amendment To The Gloucester County Social Media Policy,” Which Appeared To Impose Greater Restrictions And Punishment For Speech Critical Of The County Government*

**In March 2013, Simmons Seconded And Voted Yea On A Resolution “Authorizing An Amendment To The Gloucester County Social Media Policy,” Which Appeared To Impose Greater Restrictions And Punishment For Speech Critical Of The County Government.**

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/13/13)

- **Freeholder Wallace Appeared To Believe The Amendment Would Result In An Employee Could “Lose Their Job If They Said ‘Freeholders Suck’.”** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/13/13)

**47392 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore					
Wallace					
Chila	X				
Simmons		X			
Barnes					
Taliaferro					
Damminger					

Comments: Freeholder Wallace said this leaves a free speech rights concern. He asked would employees lose their job if they said "freeholders suck". He asked to table and rework.

**MOTION MADE TO TABLE**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore		X	X		
Wallace	X		X		
Chila				X	
Simmons				X	
Barnes				X	
Taliaferro				X	
Damminger				X	

Comments: N/A

**MOVE TO THE PREVIOUS QUESTION**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

**FINAL VOTE**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/13/13)

## ON SOCIAL MEDIA, SIMMONS HAS OFFERED TRADITIONALLY LEFTIST VIEWS ON SOCIAL ISSUES

*In 2023, Simmons’ Joint Campaign Page Posted That She Supports The Idea That “Reproductive Health Care Decisions Are Between Women And Their Doctors”*

**In June 2023, Simmons’ Joint Campaign Page Posted That She Supports The Idea That “Reproductive Health Care Decisions Are Between Women And Their Doctors”. (Joint Campaign Profile 2023, [Facebook](#), 6/24/23)**



(Joint Campaign Profile 2023, [Facebook](#), 6/24/23)

*In 2023, Simmon Promoted The “Period Equity Is Period Justice’ Menstrual Product Drive”*

**In March 2023, Simmon Posted In Support Of Healthcare Equity And The “Period Equity Is Period Justice’ Menstrual Product Drive.” (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 3/8/23)**



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 3/8/23)

***On Social Media, Simmons Has Promoted Her Support For "Pride" Events***

**In July 2023, Simmons Posted That She Was Happy To See The Pitman Pride Alliance At The Pitmam Parade.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)

**In July 2023, Simmons Praised The Pitman Pride Alliance For Their Attendance At The Pitmam 4th of July Parade.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)

**In July 2017, Simmons Posted Photos Celebrating At The Woodbury Community Pride Month Ceremony.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/1/17)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/1/17)

## SIMMONS' POLITICAL FOIBLES

### SIMMONS WORK AS AN EDUCATION CONSULTANT HAS CREATED THE APPEARANCE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS

***In 2010, During Her First Campaign For Gloucester County Freeholder Board, Simmons Called For Additional Support For Gloucester County College; Simmons Is Known To Have Served In A Consulting Role For The Local College***

**In 2010, During Her First Campaign For Gloucester County Freeholder Board, Simmons Called For Additional Support For Gloucester County College.** “Simmons was raised in Philadelphia in a family that prized education and stressed its importance. She was valedictorian of her class at St. Joseph's University. Her first professional job was in public relations at Gloucester County College. She remained there for 13 years, earned a master's degree in public relations and began teaching. "The community college was a place of opportunity and access," Simmons said. Six years ago, she left the college and started her own media consulting business where she does contracted community relations work for schools and non-profit organizations. One of her main campaigning issues is the relationship between Gloucester County College, Rowan University and the county. "I think Gloucester County College can do a whole lot more in the area of driving our economic development strategy," Simmons said. "I think it's a little bit behind the time in terms of what other community colleges in the region are doing in terms of offering access to baccalaureate degrees. "If elected, I'll do everything I can do to support that - to make sure it's tax-neutral wherever possible. Because we need to be helping people move forward in their lives." Simmons also said Gloucester County Institute of Technology's tuition should be paid at the county level to relieve the local districts of the burden.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 10/10/10)

- **“Gloucester County College, Which Receives Funding From The Freeholders, Has Used Her Services. She Is A Newcomer To Politics.”** “Literature handed out by Simmons and Zimmerman also does not mention specific issues. There are quotes about "hard decisions" and "improving the quality of life in Gloucester County," along with detailed resumés. Their slogan is: "New Leadership for a Better Gloucester County." Simmons, of Glassboro, is a public relations consultant whose company, Heather Simmons Communications, promotes educational institutions and nonprofit organizations in numerous news releases sent to media outlets. Gloucester County College, which receives funding from the freeholders, has used her services. She is a newcomer to politics. Zimmerman, a Mantua Township committeeman and former president of the town's school board, is a police captain in Pitman.” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 10/11/10)

***In 2011, A Republican Candidate Filed A Petition With The NJ Commissioner Of Education Claiming The Glassboro School District Had Violated State Law By Campaigning For Budget Passage Using Public Funds By Employing Simmons As A PR Consultant Who Listed Annual Budget Passage As A Goal***

**In 2011, A Republican Candidate Filed A Petition With The NJ Commissioner Of Education Claiming The Glassboro School District Had Violated State Law By**



**Campaigning For Budget Passage Using Public Funds By Employing Simmons As A PR Consultant Who Listed Annual Budget Passage As A Goal.** “A Glassboro man has filed a petition with the state Commissioner of Education claiming the borough's school board has violated state law by campaigning for budget passage using public funds. Allen Louie, a Glassboro resident and Republican candidate for borough council, filed the petition Tuesday that alleges Heather Simmons, contracted by the Glassboro School District for public relations services, "engaged in an ongoing campaign to ensure passage of the school budget for 2012," according to the petition. Simmons, owner of Heather Simmons Communications and a county freeholder seeking election this November, has been contracted by the school district for services since 2005 for \$36,000 a year. The petition sites documents drawn up by Simmons from 2009, 2010, and 2011 that outline her goals for the upcoming years including to "annually pass the proposed school budget." According to state law, "all activities involving promotional effort to advance a particular position on school election or any referenda are prohibited." "(Louie) was outraged that money, that could be used to keep teachers or buy textbooks, was instead being used for an illegal purpose," said attorney Mark Cimino, Louie's lawyer. "It is illegal under state law to use public money to campaign for a particular outcome of an election, whether it be a referendum or voting for somebody." Included in the petition are memos from 2009, 2010 and 2011 on the letterheads of Simmons' consulting firm that list the highlights of the previous year's achievements including passing the third, fourth and fifth consecutive district budgets, engaging in community relations activities and increasing communications among administration, school board members, parents and non-parents. The letters also detail Simmons' plans for the upcoming years, including increased communication between the superintendent and parents; getting media coverage of school events; boosting parent involvement; and "passing the budget again" by campaigning on behalf of the district throughout the year.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 9/21/11)

- **In April 2012, The Petition Was Called Weak By A Judge.** “A petition alleging that Glassboro Public Schools' community relations consultant, Gloucester County Freeholder Heather Simmons, had campaigned for passage of district budgets was called flimsy this week by a judge. The petition, filed with the Commissioner of Education in September by Glassboro resident Allen Louie, alleged that Simmons "engaged in an ongoing campaign to ensure passage of the school district budget for 2012," according to the original petition. Administrative Law Judge Jeff Masin told Louie, a 2011 Republican candidate for borough council, and his attorney Mark Cimino, that their "evidence was not strong enough," according to Cimino. The judge's opinion was sent to the Commissioner of Education for review. The commissioner has 45 days to decide whether to accept, reject or amend the judge's opinion. "I think the judge recognized what everyone else recognized - that it was clearly a politically motivated stunt, and those kinds of things clearly have no place in a court of law," said Simmons, a Democrat, who was a candidate for a seat on the Gloucester County Freeholder board when the petition was filed. "It was baseless," Simmons added. "The judge's decision was a recognition that not only wasn't there anything improperly done here, even the allegations were frivolous." Included with the petition were memos from Simmons that listed the highlights of her previous years' accomplishments including passing the third, fourth and fifth consecutive school district budgets, engaging in community relations activities and increasing communications

among administrators, school board members, parents and non-parents.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 4/5/12)

## **SIMMONS IS KNOWN TO HAVE USED CONTROVERSIAL CAMPAIGN TACTICS**

***In 2010, Simmons Was Criticized By Republicans For Using Inflammatory Cancer Imagery On Attack Mailings Despite Her Opponents Having Both Suffered Losses Of Loved Ones To Cancer; Simmons Defended The Mailer***

**In 2010, Simmons And Gloucester Co. Democrats Were Criticized By Republicans For Using Inflammatory Cancer Imagery On Attack Mailings Despite Her Opponents Having Both Suffered Losses Of Loved Ones To Cancer; Simmons Defended The Mailer.** “It started in August, when New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie vetoed legislation to fund women's health clinics throughout the state. "It's one of the most despicable political stunts I've ever seen," Wallace said of the mailing. "I don't think the residents of Gloucester County want to hear this kind of nonsense." The first side of the mailer depicts a female cancer patient -- her hair lost as a result of chemotherapy treatment -- and a line asking, "Why would Larry Wallace and Vincent Nestore's Republican cronies in Trenton cut life-saving cancer screening programs?" The other side shows an anxious looking woman and predicts fewer women will receive early breast cancer screening as a result of Christie's veto. Neither Wallace, a small business owner, nor Nestore, a high school physical education teacher, has ever held a political office. But the two candidates -- both 48 -- have lost immediate family members to cancer. Wallace's son died of cancer a decade ago at the age of 9, and Nestore lost his fiancée to the disease. Half a dozen more of Nestore's family have suffered from cancer. "I don't think they understand that cancer touches almost everyone in some way shape or form," said Wallace. "To make that part of a smear campaign or mudslinging in a desperate attempt to win office, I think points directly toward their character." The mailing, paid for by Robert Zimmerman and Heather Simmons for Freeholder, is the latest ad put out by the Democratic machine in Gloucester County. Simmons, 41, said women should be up in arms at what she says is Christie's stance to politicize medical care. "I stand by my feeling that I cannot support a governor or a party that would cut breast cancer screening," said Simmons, of Glassboro. "I have been in the situation of being denied prescriptions and procedures by insurance companies presuming to make decisions for me. "I simply do not believe that the government or those companies should be making medical decisions for me, my children or anyone else." Two television ads sponsored by the Gloucester County Democrat Committee against the GOP slate have featured actors portraying millionaires throwing their fictional support to Wallace and Nestore because of tax cuts given to some of the wealthiest residents in the state.” (*Courier Post*, 10/27/10)

- **Simmons Ultimately Lost Her 2010 Campaign Following A Recount.** “Despite Democratic freeholder candidates spending more than \$300,000 in their bid for two open seats here, and despite their call for a recount of every ballot in Gloucester County, Freeholders-elect Vincent Nestore and Larry Wallace prevailed over Democrats Heather Simmons and Robert Zimmerman. Only 119 votes separated Simmons from Nestore after provisionals were counted a week after Election Day. Thursday morning marked the end

of the three-day recount, where Simmons picked up four extra votes, decreasing Nestore's lead to 115. "I had no predisposed expectation other than I just had a strong desire to ensure all votes that were cast were counted," said Sen. Fred Madden, chairman of the county Democrats. "And now we have that." The Democrats called for a recount of all machines and paper ballots on the last day to make appeals. The process started on Tuesday when all machines were recounted. Those numbers didn't change. When election commissioners counted the more than 7,000 paper ballots, Simmons picked up four votes. According to Stephanie Salvatore, county superintendent of elections, two of the ballots were originally dismissed because of red ink. Two more had check marks next to candidates' names instead of filled-in circles." (*Gloucester County Times*, 12/3/10)

- However, Simmons Was Tapped To Served As A Freeholder In 2011 With Stephen Sweeney Stepping Down.** "Democrats have made their selection to fill the vacant freeholder seat, and it's someone who should be a familiar face to voters. Members of the Gloucester County Democratic Party met Friday night and unanimously selected Heather Simmons to fill the seat vacated by former director Stephen Sweeney at the end of 2010. Simmons, along with running mate Robert Zimmerman, lost to Republican freeholders Larry Wallace and Vince Nestore in November in a tight election. Following a recount - requested by the Democratic Party - only 115 votes separated Simmons and Nestore, the second-place vote-getter. Consequently, Simmons may have been the natural choice to fill the vacancy, but Democratic Party chairman Sen. Fred. Madden said Simmons was simply the best candidate among those who applied. "She's a great individual. Very smart, articulate. I'm very confident with the way she will represent the party," said Madden, D-4 of Washington Township. "I just believe the party at large sees her as a solid candidate." Simmons, who runs a small media and community relations firm, said she was flattered to have been selected by the party." (*Gloucester County Times*, 1/15/11)

***In 2011, Complaints Were Filed “Over A Campaign Commercial In Which Now-Elected Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons, Adam Taliaferro And Lyman Barnes Appeared To Be Talking With Officers. The Complaint Claimed The Trio Were Speaking With Gloucester County Sheriff's Officers, But It Was Later Thrown Out”***

**In 2011, Complaints Were Filed “Over A Campaign Commercial In Which Now-Elected Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons, Adam Taliaferro And Lyman Barnes Appeared To Be Talking With Officers. The Complaint Claimed The Trio Were Speaking With Gloucester County Sheriff's Officers, But It Was Later Thrown Out.”** “A year after Gloucester Republicans slammed Democratic freeholder candidates for using county sheriff's officers and equipment in a campaign commercial, GOP chairman Larry Wallace claims to have plugged the loophole in the law to prevent another occurrence. Wallace announced Thursday his part in drafting state Senate and Assembly bills that would address the gap in the law, which currently allows the use of government employees and resources for partisan purposes like campaign ads. Last year, complaints were filed over a campaign commercial in which now-elected Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons, Adam Taliaferro and Lyman Barnes appeared to be talking with officers. The complaint claimed the trio were speaking with Gloucester County sheriff's officers, but it was later thrown out. The images did not appear in the commercial for enough time to warrant prosecution. "I was frustrated last year that nothing could be done about

this. They broke policy and that's when I found out about this loophole in the law," Wallace said. "I wanted to figure out how to prevent this from happening again." State Senate Bill S2223 and Assembly Bill A3007 are sponsored by Sen. Samuel Thompson, R-12, of Middlesex County, and Assemblywoman Amy Handlin, R-13, of Monmouth County. The Republican Gloucester County freeholder also called on Senate President Stephen Sweeney, a West Deptford Democrat, "not to block it" from hitting the Senate floor." (*Gloucester County Times*, 10/12/12)

### **SIMMONS HAS BEEN CRITICIZED FOR A "LACK OF DECORUM"**

***In 2011, The Gloucester County Times Awarded A "Jeers" To Simmons For A "Lack Of Freeholder Decorum" For Accusing A Republican Freeholder Without Support That He Disrespects Women***

**In 2011, The Gloucester County Times Awarded A "Jeers" To Simmons For A "Lack Of Freeholder Decorum" For Accusing A Republican Freeholder Without Support That He Disrespects Women.** "- JEERS: To lack of freeholder decorum: Democratic Freeholder Heather Simmons Wednesday night turned an allegation that Republican Freeholder Larry Wallace had intervened in departments Simmons oversees into an unsupported claim that Wallace disrespects women. And Wallace, in response, huffed that the 2011 election was starting early - actually, one of his more restrained comments of late. As we've stated before, creative freeholder tension over different ideas is good, but elevating petty slights into major public incidents is not." (*Gloucester County Times*, 3/5/11)

### **SIMMONS IS KNOWN TO HAVE RECEIVED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM PUBLIC CONTRACTORS**

***2011: "The Joint Campaign Committee For Gloucester County Democratic Freeholders Warren Wallace, Lyman Barnes And Heather Simmons Got \$134,300 From Contractors"***

**2011: "The Joint Campaign Committee For Gloucester County Democratic Freeholders Warren Wallace, Lyman Barnes And Heather Simmons Got \$134,300 From Contractors."** "The biggest recipient of donations from contractors was a political action committee called CSC NJ, which is run by Cablevision and took in \$145,200. Constructors for Good Government, another PAC, came in second with \$139,310. The joint campaign committee for Gloucester County Democratic Freeholders Warren Wallace, Lyman Barnes and Heather Simmons got \$134,300 from contractors. Next on the list were Middlesex County Democratic Freeholders Charles Tomaro, at \$125,175, and Carol Barrett Bellante, at \$120,675. The engineering firm CME Associates, usually one of the state's top donors, did not report its contributions last year, even though it is required by state law. In 2010, CME made \$346,650 in contributions, the second most of any contractor in the state. A search of ELEC's database, which does not provide a complete picture of the company's donations, reveals its partners made thousands of dollars in contributions last year." (*Star Ledger*, 4/6/12)

***In 2017, NJ ELEC Noted That Simmons' Gloucester Co. Campaign Slate Was The Second Largest Recipient Of Funds From Public Contractors***

**In 2017, NJ ELEC Noted That Simmons' Gloucester Co. Campaign Slate Was The Second Largest Recipient Of Funds From Public Contractors.** “Following another trend, the biggest recipients of contractor contributions were county-level candidates, including five of the top ten. Topping the list was Senate President Stephen Sweeney (D-3), whose reelection campaign appears to be the most expensive legislative district race in U.S. history with combined spending of nearly \$18.7 million. Two federal independent spending-only committees that backed him also received contractor support- General Majority PAC (\$47,500) and New Jerseyans for a Better Tomorrow (\$41,750). Table 3 Top Ten Recipients of Contractor Contributions in 2017 RECIPIENT AMOUNT Stephen Sweeney for Senate / EFO Stephen Sweeney, John Burzichelli and Adam Taliaferro \$179,680 Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes & Jim Jefferson for Freeholder (Gloucester County) \$166,500.” (NJ ELEC, 4/9/18)

***2021: “A Joint Committee For Democratic Gloucester County Commissioners Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes And Jim Jefferson Got \$147,500 From Contractors...”***

**2021: “A Joint Committee For Democratic Gloucester County Commissioners Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes And Jim Jefferson Got \$147,500 From Contractors, And Some Local Candidates And Party Organizations Also Made The List.”** “New Jersey’s public contractors tamped down their political contributions last year, dropping their annual giving to the lowest level on record, according to preliminary data released Tuesday by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission. Totaled, public contractors gave about \$7.8 million in 2020, a 16% drop from the \$9.3 million donated in 2019 and just \$195,181 less than the \$8 million they reported giving in 2012, the previous recorded low, though late or amended reports submitted after April 5 could cause last year’s contributions to exceed 2012’s figures. The pandemic likely affected the giving, said ELEC Executive Director Jeff Brindle, adding that last year’s political lull — one that saw campaigning drastically shift and cancelled most fundraising events for months as all attention turned to the virus — likely contributed to the decline. But ELEC officials don’t expect that lull to continue into this year’s state elections. “With elections looming for both the governor’s seat and both legislative houses this year as well as more fundraising events being held due to an easing of the virus threat, contributions from these donors are likely to bounce back,” Brindle said General Majority PAC, a super PAC with ties to South Jersey powerbroker George Norcross, topped the recipients list with \$178,200 in contractor donations. It was also at the top last year. The next three slots were occupied by Middlesex County Democrats. Middlesex County Clerk Nancy Pinkin’s campaign got \$157,150, while the campaigns of County Commissioners Leslie Koppel and Charles Tomaro received \$156,400 and \$149,900 respectively. A joint committee for Democratic Gloucester County Commissioners Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes and Jim Jefferson got \$147,500 from contractors, and some local candidates and party organizations also made the list.” ([NJ Globe](#), 4/6/21)

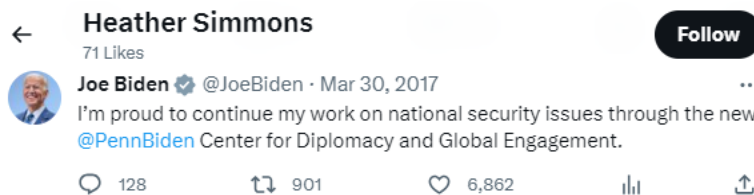
## SIMMONS HAS TIES TO SEVERAL PROMINENT LIBERAL FIGURES

### *In 2011, Simmons Listed Bill Clinton As One Of Three Figures She Would Love To Have Dinner With And Praised His Intellectualism*

**In 2011, Simmons Listed Bill Clinton As One Of Three Figures She Would Love To Have Dinner With And Praised His Intellectualism.** “Q. If you could have dinner with three historical figures, who would you pick and why? A. The author of “The Pillars of the Earth,” Ken Follett. It’s my favorite book and it talks about the construction of Medieval cathedrals in England. I’ve read it probably four times. That kind of thing I find fascinating: How different people at different times lived and yet their concerns and their struggles were so similar to ours. I just admire anyone who can weave a tale. Another one would be Bill Clinton, because I think he’s probably one of the most intellectual presidents we have had. And since he’s left the Oval Office he’s been involved in so many value-oriented activities. I would just love to have an audience and listen to somebody with that level of intelligence and that level of experience. I would pick my father. My father passed away 12 years ago. So he has no idea, except from Heaven, what I’m doing with my life. I would love to sit with him and say, “Dad, whaddya think?” I miss him and think about him every day and wonder, “Dad, what would you have to say about this craziness?”” ([NJ.com](#), 8/14/11)

### *On Social Media, Simmons Promoted Content Indicating Support For Joe Biden*

**In March 2017, Simmons ‘Liked’ A Tweet That Promoted Joe Biden And His Work With The Penn-Biden Center For Diplomacy And Global Engagement.** (Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 3/30/17)



(Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 3/30/17)

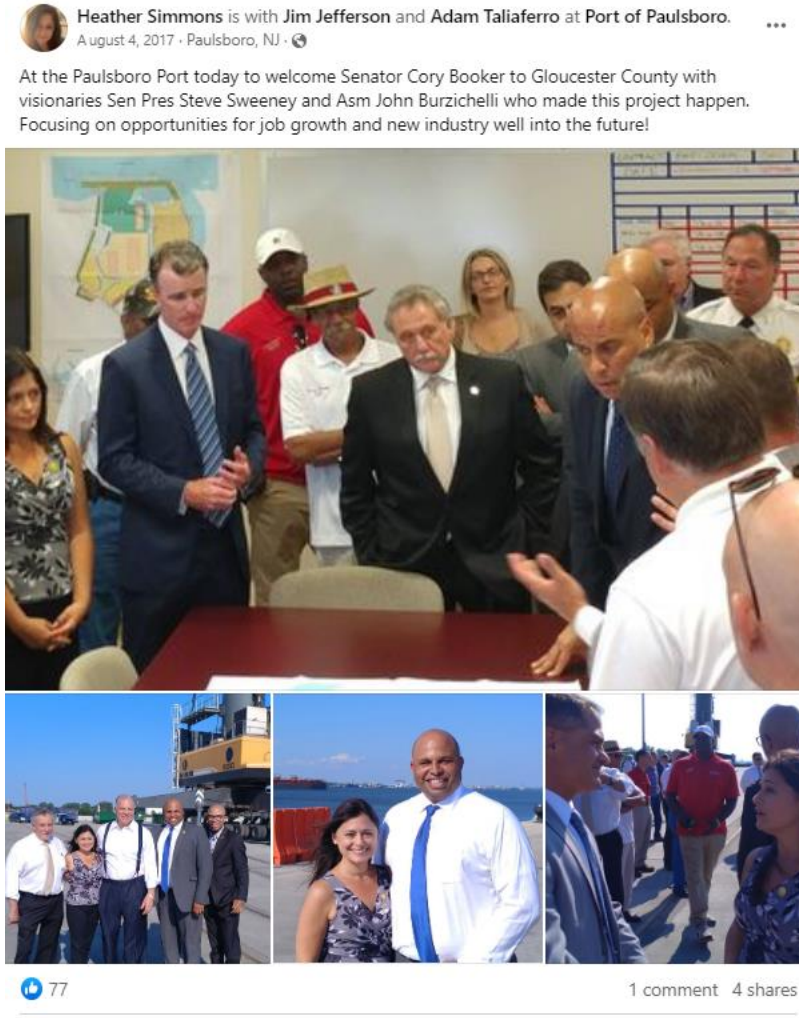
### *On Social Media, Simmons Promoted Content Indicating Support For Corey Booker*

**In August 2022, Simmons Posted A Photo With Corey Booker While Touring South Jersey Tech Park At Rowan University.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/18/22)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/18/22)

**In August 2017, Simmons Posted Photos With Corey Booker At The Port Of Paulsboro.**  
(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/4/17)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/4/17)

***On Social Media, Simmons Promoted Content Indicating Support For Elizabeth Warren***

**In January 2017, Simmons ‘Liked’ A Tweet That Supported Senator Warren’s And Her Protest Of The Muslim Travel Ban.** (Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 1/28/17)





(Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 1/28/17)

## APPENDIX A: ISSUES OF NOTE (BY SUBJECT AREA)

*Below is a non-comprehensive reference section pertaining to Heather Simmons' issues and policy positions of note. Any actionable material from this section has been incorporated into the prior narrative sections.*

### FISCAL AND ECONOMIC ISSUES

#### *Local Issues*

##### Overall

**In 2011, Simmons Declared That She Hoped To Achieve Reductions In Spending, Taxes, Tax Rate, And Debt.** "Everyone on the board seems to be on the same page as far as what they want to accomplish. "My goal is to look for unnecessary spending," Wallace said. "I'll be looking at all areas. I don't think there's any sacred cows." "What I expect out of the budget is reduction in spending, reduction in taxes, reduction in the tax rate, reduction in debt," said Simmons. To accomplish her first goal, Simmons said her departments - economic development and public works - are aggressively pursuing grants. She also expects the board to explore more opportunities for shared services. Director Robert Damminger has indicated he plans on making cuts wherever possible. The county anticipates losing 14 positions to attrition this year, in addition to the 61 lost last year. Damminger said the budget in its current form contains no furloughs. The director has said several times he guarantees a cut in the tax rate of at least a penny, but also stressed his goals go beyond that. "This won't just be you'll see the tax rate come down," he said. "You'll see spending come down as well. They're both equally important." A third budget meeting is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 26 - two days after state aid numbers are supposed to go out - but Damminger said he needs to run that by the rest of the board." (*Gloucester County Times*, 2/18/11)

**"As One Of The Three Business Owners Among The Candidates Vying For A Freeholder Board Seat, Freeholder Simmons Said She Believes In Cutting Taxes And Supporting Business In The County."** "As one of the three business owners among the candidates vying for a freeholder board seat, Freeholder Simmons said she believes in cutting taxes and supporting business in the county. "As a business owner, businesses want to be where businesses can be stable," said Simmons, of Glassboro. But her partner on the Democrat ticket, Barnes, of Logan Township, would like to see government run like a small business, he said." (*Gloucester County Times*, 10/12/11)

**In 2014, Simmons Defended Gloucester County Democrats' Fiscal Record Contending That They Had Stabilized The Tax Rate And Reduced The Size Of Government.** "What do you say to people who say Democrats locally are promoting big government and increased spending? Simmons: "We've reduced the county staff by well over 200 employees, while at the same time regionalizing services for EMS and 911 dispatch, which required us to increase staff in those areas. We're reducing the size of government while at the same time stabilizing the tax rate because of regionalized services, such as the jail, which over a 25-year period will save residents over \$250 million, and we're well on track to meet that. We've proven that's the

opposite of the case. We are running for small government and more efficient use of taxpayer dollars.” (South Jersey Times, 10/23/14)

### **Fiscal Transparency**

**In 2011, Simmons Voted Against A Proposal To Add Financial Impact Statements To Resolutions That Appear On The Board Agenda.** “Republican Freeholder Larry Wallace made another attempt Wednesday to add financial impact statements to resolutions that appear on board agendas. But the resolution Wallace put up - which was not listed on the meeting's agenda - did not receive votes from Democrat freeholders who said appropriate time was not given to review Wallace's proposed resolution. "This was brought up before, this was no surprise," said Wallace. Financial impact statements, which Wallace has pushed to include on resolutions and agenda items, was one of 11 transparency reforms that had been proposed in February. In August, freeholders adopted a list of reforms that had been whittled down to eight policy changes. While adding financial impact statements to agenda items was left out, freeholders did vote to add the online postings of meeting agendas, resolutions, county employment contracts, bill lists, financial disclosure forms and other county information. "Let's discuss it and bring it out in the open," Wallace said before making a motion to adopt the new policy. "What's there to hide? What do we have to fear?" According to county Administrator Chad Bruner, the county's annual budget should be considered the impact statement for all county resolutions. Everything referenced in resolutions goes back to the budget, he said. "People aren't aware of what's going on. ... Let's make it easy for everybody," said Wallace. "We should be looking at all the short and long term dollars we spend ... the public has a right to know how their money is being spent." Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons and Warren Wallace, who gave Wallace's proposal a no vote, noted that a copy of the resolution had not been distributed among the board. Simmons said later that she and her fellow freeholders do have a commitment to openness and transparency. But insufficient time to review the proposal was the issue.” (Gloucester County Times, 9/22/11)

### ***Labor***

#### **Union Associations**

**In 2023, Bailey And Simmons Were Endorsed By The NJEA.** “In two of the state’s most competitive legislative contests, the New Jersey Education Association has endorsed Democratic candidates for the State Senate and Assembly in the 3rd, but isn’t taking sides in the next-door 4th. The state’s largest public employee union is backing former Assembly Appropriations Committee Chairman John Burzichelli’s bid to unseat State Sen. Ed Durr (R-Logan) in District 3, along with his running mates, Gloucester County Commissioner Heather Simmons (D-Glassboro) and Dave Bailey, Jr., a non-profit executive from Woodstown. Simmons and Bailey face Assemblywoman Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Mannington) and Hopewell Township Committeeman Tom Tedesco. But in the 4th, where Assemblyman Paul Moriarty (D-Washington Township) faces former Washington Township Councilman Christopher Del Borrello for an open Democratic Senate seat in a district that has become more Republican, no endorsements were made. One of the GOP Assembly candidates, Amanda Esposito, is a public school teacher and NJEA member. The teacher’s union also made no endorsements in the 2nd

district where Democrat Alphonso Harrell, a veteran and kindergarten teacher, is running for the Assembly against incumbents Don Guardian (D-Atlantic City) and Claire Swift (R-Margate). No endorsements were made in District 8, where Hammonton Education Association President Anthony Angelozzi is challenging Republican Assemblyman Michael Torrissi, Jr. (R-Hammonton) and Brandon Umba (R-Medford).” ([NJ Globe](#), 6/30/23)

**In 2023, The AFL-CIO Backed Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli.** “The New Jersey AFL-CIO today endorsed seven Republicans in South Jersey, putting them at odds with the Building and Construction Trades Council, and are backing Democratic challengers for State Assembly in the 11th district. In the highly competitive 4th district, the union is backing Assemblyman Paul Moriarty (D-Washington Township) for an open State Senate seat against Republican Christopher Del Borrello, a former Washington Township councilman. But for the Assembly, the AFL-CIO endorsement went to Republican Matthew Walker, a former Buena councilman. No endorsement was made for the second Assembly seat. That follows a decision last week by Bill Mullen, the state building trades president, to endorse Democrats Dan Hutchinson and Cody Miller against Walker, an Operating Engineers Local 825 executive board member. The AFL-CIO endorsed three Republican incumbents for re-election: State Sen. Vince Polistina (R-Egg Harbor Township), Assemblyman Don Guardian (R-Atlantic City), and Assemblywoman Claire Swift (R-Margate). The building trades declined to support anyone in the 2nd district. The endorsements in the 3rd district went to Democrat John Burzichelli, a former ten-term assemblyman who is challenging State Sen. Ed Durr (R-Logan); for the Assembly, the union is backing Democrats Heather Simmons, a Gloucester County freeholder, and Dave Bailey, Jr. against Assemblywoman Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Mannington) and her running mate, Hopewell Township Committeeman Thomas Tedesco.” ([NJ Globe](#), 6/14/23)

**In 2023, The New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council Backed Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli.** “The New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council has endorsed Democrats in most of the state’s competitive legislative races, but is not taking sides in the 11th district State Assembly race, where two freshman Republicans are seeking re-election. The labor group is backing Democrat John Burzichelli (D-Paulsboro) in the 3rd district against State Sen. Ed Durr (R-Logan) and Democrat Paul Moriarty (D-Washington Township) against Republican Christopher Del Borrello for the open Senate seat in the 4th district. But in the contest for two open Assembly seats in the 4th, the building trades council passed over Republican Matt Walker, an Operating Engineers Local 825 board member, and is backing Democrats Dan Hutchison and Codey Miller. In the 11th, the group endorsed State Sen. Vin Gopal (D-Long Branch) for re-election but passed on his two running mates. That’s good news for Republican Assemblywomen Marilyn Piperno (R-Colts Neck) and Kim Eulner (R-Shrewsbury), who want to return to Trenton for second terms. The state building trades, which has strong ties to South Jersey Democrats, are staying out of the 1st and 2nd districts, where six Republican incumbents are seeing re-election, but are supporting Republican Latham Tiver, an Operating Engineers Local 825 official, for the open 8th district Senate seat; Republican Assemblymen Michael Torrissi (R-Hammonton) and Brandon Umba (R-Medford) were also endorsed. The endorsements largely favor sitting legislators, regardless of ideology: the building trades are backing some of the state’s most liberal Democrats, like Britnee Timberlake (D-East Orange) and Shavonda Sumter (D-Paterson), and the most conservative Republicans, like Parker

Space (R-Wantage), Joseph Pennacchio (R-Montville), and Doug Steinhardt (R-Lopatcong). In total, the building trades council endorsed 73 Democrats and 21 Republicans but made no endorsement in 23 races. “Both numbers indicate our Council’s insistence on maintaining a bipartisan approach in our nomination process,” said Council President Bill Mullen. “All of our endorsed candidates have stood with us on matters of vital importance to our livelihoods and to the future of the building and construction trades.” Mullen added, “They also recognize that they must play a critical role in finally ending the irrational fears and partisanship that dominate the political dialogue. It’s the only way we can hope to resolve the daunting social and economic issues that confront all of us.” Bethanne McCarthy Patrick (R-Mannington) and Christopher DePhillips (R-Wyckoff) are the only incumbent Assembly members in the state to have the building trades endorsement go directly to a challenger. In addition to Burzichelli, the building trades is backing Democrat Heather Simmons and Dave Bailey, Jr. for Assembly in the 3rd. While the group is backing State Sen. Kristen Corrado (R-Totowa) for re-election in the 40th, they endorsed Democrats Giovanna Irizarry and Jennifer Marrinan over DePhillips.” ([NJ Globe](#), 6/8/23)

**In July 2020, Simmons Praised The Passage Of Three Laws That Created 1,000 New Local Union Jobs.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/7/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/7/23)

## GLOUCESTER COUNTY – MUNICIPAL ANALYSIS

### *Budget Table*

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Total Appropriations</b>	<b>Public Safety</b>	<b>Vote - Date</b>
FY 2010	\$206,224,594	\$47,390,862	N/A
FY 2011	\$201,932,795	\$48,024,383	Yea – 4/20/11
FY 2012	\$198,734,460	\$48,607,733	Yea – 4/4/12
FY 2013	\$205,930,381	\$51,298,314	Yea – 5/8/13
FY 2014	\$208,035,451	\$53,872,044	Yea – 4/16/14
FY 2015	\$207,193,448	\$54,644,416	Yea – 4/15/15
FY 2016	\$211,583,520	\$55,475,952	Yea – 4/20/16
FY 2017	\$213,319,670	\$56,597,900	Yea – 4/19/17
FY 2018	\$217,336,725	\$57,238,739	Yea – 3/28/18
FY 2019	\$221,121,669	\$57,186,033	Yea – 3/20/19
FY 2020	\$225,333,122	\$57,689,839	Yea – 3/18/20
FY 2021	\$237,767,935	\$57,880,057	Yea – 3/17/21
FY 2022	\$249,517,554	\$62,052,579	Yea – 4/6/22
FY 2023	\$244,104,590	\$62,895,543	Yea – 3/15/23

(Gloucester County, [FY 2010 – FY 2023](#); Independent Analysis)

**NOTE:** *Simmons did not vote on the FY 2010 Gloucester County budget; the numbers are included as a benchmark from which to compare budget figures.*

**During Her Tenure With Gloucester County, Simmons Served As A Rubberstamp For The Annual Budgets Put Forth For The County.** (Gloucester County, [FY 2010 – FY 2023](#); Independent Analysis)

### *Total Appropriations*

**From FY 2010 To FY 2023, The Gloucester County Budget Increased From \$206,224,594 To \$244,104,590 Or By 18.4 Percent.** ([FY 2010](#); [FY 2023](#))

- **The FY 2010 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$206,224,594.** ([FY 2010](#))
- **The FY 2023 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$244,104,590.** ([FY 2023](#))

***FY 2010***

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2010 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$206,224,594. ([FY 2010](#))**

<b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b>		
<b>SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>FCOA</b>	<b>YEAR 2010</b>
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		206,224,594.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		58,204,594.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	148,020,000.00

([FY 2010](#))

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2010 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$47,390,862 For Public Safety. ([FY 2010](#))**

<b>8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
<b>(A) Operations</b>	<b>S&amp;W 1 OE 2</b>	<b>FCOA</b>	<b>for 2010</b>
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages	25-250-1		13,995,900.00
Other Expenses	25-250-2		893,140.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages	25-254-1		939,171.00
Other Expenses	25-254-2		150,820.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages	25-270-1		7,144,025.00
Other Expenses	25-270-2		135,548.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages	25-275-1		7,123,463.00
Other Expenses	25-275-2		303,138.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages	25-280-1		13,117,332.00
Other Expenses	25-280-2		3,588,325.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>47,390,862.00</b>

([FY 2010](#))

***FY 2011***

**Vote**

**In April 2011, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2011 Gloucester County Budget.**  
(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/20/11)

**Resolution to Adopt 2011 Gloucester County Budget**

Be it Resolved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$ 144,125,000.00 dollars for the county to be raised by taxation and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.

**MOVE TO ADOPT**

**MOTION TO AMEND**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Damminger					
W. Wallace					
Chila					
DiMarco					
Simmons					
Nestore					
L. Wallace	X				

Comments: No Second

**MOTION TO PREVIOUS QUESTION**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Damminger			X		
W. Wallace	X		X		
Chila		X	X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons			X		
Nestore				X	
L. Wallace				X	

Comments: N/A

**ROLL CALL ON BUDGET**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Damminger			X		
W. Wallace	X		X		
Chila			X		
DiMarco		X	X		
Simmons			X		
Nestore			X		
L. Wallace			X		

Comments: Freeholder Director Damminger allowed the affirmative votes by Freeholder L. Wallace and Freeholder V. Nestore to be recorded despite the fact that they weren't casted during original roll calls.

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/20/11)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2011 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$201,932,795. [\(FY 2011\)](#)**

<b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b>		
<b>SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>FCOA</b>	<b>YEAR 2011</b>
<b>Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)</b>		201,932,795.00
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)</b>		57,807,795.00
<b>Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)</b>	<b>07-190</b>	144,125,000.00

[\(FY 2011\)](#)



**Public Safety**

**The FY 2011 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$48,024,383 For Public Safety. (FY 2011)**

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2011
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	14,782,600.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	897,225.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	946,783.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	153,070.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	7,378,142.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	135,435.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	6,930,133.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	303,758.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	12,557,622.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	3,939,615.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>48,024,383.00</b>

(FY 2011)

***FY 2012***

**Vote**

**In April 2012, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2012 Gloucester County Budget.**  
(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/4/12)

**PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION OF THE 2012 BUDGET.**

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore			X		
Wallace			X		
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/4/12)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2012 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$198,734,460. ([FY 2012](#))**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2012
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		198,734,460.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		58,759,460.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	139,975,000.00

([FY 2012](#))

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2012 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$48,607,733 For Public Safety. ([FY 2012](#))**

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2012
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	14,853,576.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	904,650.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	923,299.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	146,898.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	7,441,110.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	144,685.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	7,220,504.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	303,303.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	12,631,578.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	4,038,130.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>48,607,733.00</b>

([FY 2012](#))

***FY 2013***

**Vote**

**In May 2013, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2014 Gloucester County Budget.**  
(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 5/8/13)

**47549 ADOPTION OF THE 2013 BUDGET – SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR ADOPTION OF THE 2013 COUNTY BUDGET.** This is to provide for the public hearing and vote for adoption of the 2013 County Budget. Copies were provided to all Freeholders and are also available through the Office of the Clerk of the Board.

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 5/8/13)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2013 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$205,930,381. (FY 2013)**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2013
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		205,930,381.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		63,960,381.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	141,970,000.00

(FY 2013)

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2013 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$51,298,314 For Public Safety. (FY 2013)**

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2013
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	15,807,500.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	995,450.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	960,134.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	140,634.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	8,143,069.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	143,000.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	7,332,151.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	301,153.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	8,574,421.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	8,900,802.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>51,298,314.00</b>

(FY 2013)

***FY 2014***

**Vote**

**In April 2014, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2014 Gloucester County Budget.**  
 (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/16/14)

**48340-C ADOPTION OF THE 2014 BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNTY’S BUDGET FOR 2014.**



April 16, 2014

Page 3

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: Lee Lucas, Gibbstown, spoke about property taxes, the budget and insurance costs.

CLOSE

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/16/14)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2014 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$208,035,451. ([FY 2014](#))**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2014
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		208,035,451.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		60,135,451.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	147,900,000.00

([FY 2014](#))

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2014 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$53,872,044 For Public Safety. ([FY 2014](#))**

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2014
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	16,605,000.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	1,039,400.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	639,906.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	143,146.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	8,438,737.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	131,831.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	7,686,561.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	304,419.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	5,467,786.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	13,415,258.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>53,872,044.00</b>

([FY 2014](#))

***FY 2015***

**Vote**

**In April 2015, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2015 Gloucester County Budget.**  
(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/15/15)

**ADOPTION OF THE 2015 BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNTY’S BUDGET FOR 2015.**



April 15, 2015

Page 2

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments:

- Ken Defay, Sewell, asked which services we were eliminating. He also asked when the county budget will be available. Gary Schwarz, Treasurer, stated that the budget is available on-line, in the Treasurer’s Office and in the Clerk of the Board’s Office.
- Lee Lucas, Gibbstown, commented on the county budget. He commented how our budget is lower and we have been hit with reductions in ratables.

CLOSE

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/15/15)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2015 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$207,193,448. ([FY 2015](#))**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2015
Total of General Appropriations (Item 9, Sheet 32)		207,193,448.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		51,393,448.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	155,800,000.00

(FY 2015)

**Public Safety**

The FY 2015 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$54,644,416 For Public Safety. (FY 2015)

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2015
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	17,070,100.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	916,250.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	953,907.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	152,902.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	8,667,579.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	151,075.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	7,737,222.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	313,049.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	5,325,885.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	13,356,447.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>54,644,416.00</b>

(FY 2015)

***FY 2016***

**Vote**

**In April 2016, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2016 Gloucester County Budget.**  
 (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/20/16)

**49817 ADOPTION OF THE 2016 BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNTY’S BUDGET FOR 2016.**

The purpose of this item is to provide for the hearing and adoption of the 2016 County Budget. Copies have been provided to all Freeholders and are also available through the Office of the Clerk of the Board. The Budget was introduced at the March 16, 2016 meeting.

**OPEN**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

**CLOSE**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

**ADOPT**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/20/16)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2016 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$211,583,520. (FY 2016)**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2016
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		211,583,520.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		50,583,520.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	161,000,000.00

(FY 2016)

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2016 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$55,475,952 For Public Safety. (FY 2016)**



<b>8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
<b>(A) Operations</b>	<b>S&amp;W 1</b>	<b>FCOA</b>	<b>for 2016</b>
	<b>OE 2</b>		
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	17,822,816.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	1,020,740.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	992,420.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	144,009.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	8,341,776.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	170,415.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	7,994,032.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	320,715.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	5,312,582.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	13,356,447.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>55,475,952.00</b>

(FY 2016)

**FY 2017**

**Vote**

**In April 2017, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2017 Gloucester County Budget.**

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/19/17)

**50476 MOTION TO ADOPT 2017 GLOUCESTER COUNTY BUDGET**

The Budget was introduced at the March 15, 2017 meeting, setting the date of April 19, 2017 for a hearing and adoption of the 2017 County Budget.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Jefferson			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/19/17)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2017 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$213,319,670. (FY 2017)**

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2017
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		213,319,670.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		48,432,292.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	164,887,378.00

(FY 2017)

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2017 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$56,597,900 For Public Safety.** (FY 2017)

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2017
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	19,899,473.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	1,426,600.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	992,052.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	144,000.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	8,653,893.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	197,053.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	8,519,120.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	336,432.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	5,332,729.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	11,096,548.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>56,597,900.00</b>

(FY 2017)

***FY 2018***

**Vote**

**In March 2018, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2018 Gloucester County Budget.**  
(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/28/18)

**51058 ADOPTION OF THE 2018 BUDGET – PUBLIC HEARING AND VOTE FOR ADOPTION OF THE COUNTY’S BUDGET FOR 2018.**

The Budget was introduced at the February 21, 2018 meeting, setting the date of March 21, 2018 for a hearing and adoption of the 2018 County Budget. **This was introduced at the February 21, 2018 Freeholder meeting.**

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Dammingier			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/28/18)

**Total Appropriations**

The FY 2018 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$217,336,725. ([FY 2018](#))

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2018
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		217,336,725.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		47,336,725.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	170,000,000.00

([FY 2018](#))

**Public Safety**

The FY 2018 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$57,238,739 For Public Safety. ([FY 2018](#))

B. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2018
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	19,770,859.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	1,432,150.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	1,010,728.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	186,679.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	9,122,534.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	199,761.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	8,667,025.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	343,161.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	5,359,894.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	11,145,948.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>57,238,739.00</b>

([FY 2018](#))

**FY 2019**

**Vote**

**In March 2019, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2019 Gloucester County Budget.**  
 (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/20/19)

**ADOPTION OF THE 2019 GLOUCESTER COUNTY BUDGET**

**RESOLUTION ADOPT 2019 GLOUCESTER COUNTY BUDGET**

Be it Resolved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$174,000,000.00 dollars for the county to be raised by taxation and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.

The Budget was introduced at the February 20, 2019 meeting, setting the date of March 20, 2019 for a hearing and adoption of the 2019 County Budget. This was introduced at the February 20, 2019 Freeholder meeting.

	Motion	Second	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Freeholder Barnes			X			
Freeholder Christy			X			
Freeholder Jefferson			X			
Freeholder Lavender			X			
Freeholder Simmons		X	X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/20/19)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2019 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$221,121,669. ([FY 2019](#))**

<b>EXPLANATORY STATEMENT</b>		
<b>SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET</b>	<b>FCOA</b>	<b>YEAR 2019</b>
<b>Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)</b>		221,121,669.00
<b>Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)</b>		47,121,669.00
<b>Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)</b>	<b>07-190</b>	174,000,000.00

([FY 2019](#))

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2019 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$57,186,033 For Public Safety. ([FY 2019](#))**

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2019
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	20,350,818.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	1,572,713.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	1,052,758.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	200,016.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	9,343,745.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	203,756.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	9,256,523.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	408,643.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	5,336,374.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	9,460,687.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>57,186,033.00</b>

(FY 2019)

**FY 2020**

**Vote**

**In March 2020, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2020 Gloucester County Budget.**  
 (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/18/20)

**52407 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020.**

Be it Resolved by the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the County of Gloucester that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of \$178,000,000.00 dollars for the county to be raised by taxation and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.

**ADOPT**

FREEHOLDER	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Freeholder Barnes			X			
Freeholder Christy			X			
Freeholder Jefferson		X	X			
Freeholder Lavender			X			
Freeholder Simmons			X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/18/20)

**Total Appropriations**

The FY 2020 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$225,333,122. ([FY 2020](#))

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT		
SUMMARY OF APPROVED BUDGET	FCOA	YEAR 2020
Total of General Appropriations ( Item 9, Sheet 32)		225,333,122.00
Less: Anticipated Revenues (Item 5, Sheet 9)		47,333,122.00
Amount to be Raised by Taxation - County Purpose Tax (Item 6, Sheet 9)	07-190	178,000,000.00

([FY 2020](#))

**Public Safety**

The FY 2020 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$57,689,839 For Public Safety. ([FY 2020](#))

B. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS			
(A) Operations	S&W 1 OE 2	FCOA	for 2020
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages		25-250-1	21,568,678.00
Other Expenses		25-250-2	1,790,200.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages		25-254-1	1,111,560.00
Other Expenses		25-254-2	217,825.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages		25-270-1	9,949,353.00
Other Expenses		25-270-2	238,427.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages		25-275-1	9,427,464.00
Other Expenses		25-275-2	431,000.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages		25-280-1	4,086,147.00
Other Expenses		25-280-2	8,869,185.00
<b>TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:</b>			<b>57,689,839.00</b>

([FY 2020](#))

***FY 2021***

**Vote**

In March 2021, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2021 Gloucester County Budget. (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/17/21)

**53031 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE APPROVED COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2021, AS AMENDED.**

The County Budget for 2021 was introduced at the February 17, 2021 Commissioner's meeting, and set the date of March 17, 2021 for a hearing and adoption of the 2021 County Budget.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Commissioner Barnes			X			
Commissioner Christy			X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner Lavender			X			
Commissioner Simmons		X	X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/17/21)

**Total Appropriations**

The FY 2021 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$237,767,935. ([FY 2021](#))

**EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

**SUMMARY OF CURRENT FUND SECTION OF APPROVED BUDGET**

	YEAR 2021
	XXXXXXXXXXXX
<b>1. Total Appropriations</b>	237,767,935.00
<b>2. Less: Anticipated Revenues Other Than Current Property Tax</b>	55,267,935.00
<b>3. Difference: Amount to be Raised by Taxes - County Purpose Tax</b>	182,500,000.00

([FY 2021](#))

**Public Safety**

The FY 2021 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$57,880,057 For Public Safety. ([FY 2021](#))

CURRENT FUND -			
8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS	FCOA		
(A) Operations - (continued)			for 2021
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages	25-250	1	22,026,599.00
Other Expenses	25-250	2	1,950,800.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages	25-245	1	1,183,671.00
Other Expenses	25-245	2	239,365.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages	25-270	1	9,986,177.00
Other Expenses	25-270	2	228,430.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages	25-275	1	10,903,431.00
Other Expenses	25-275	2	501,030.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages	25-275	1	3,550,104.00
Other Expenses	25-275	2	7,310,450.00

(FY 2021)

***FY 2022***

**Vote**

**In April 2022, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2022 Gloucester County Budget.**  
 (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 4/6/22)



**53767 PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2022.**

**OPEN**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons			X			
Commissioner Jefferson		X	X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes	X		X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**CLOSE**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons			X			
Commissioner Jefferson		X	X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes	X		X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**ADOPT**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

**Comments:**

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 4/6/22)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2022 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$249,517,554. ([FY 2022](#))**

<b>Summary of Appropriations</b>		<b>2022 Budget</b>
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages	86,963,388.00
	Other Expenses	101,608,905.00
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations		21,218,753.00
3. Capital Improvements		859,942.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)		38,866,566.00
	<b>Total General Appropriations</b>	<b>249,517,554.00</b>

([FY 2022](#))

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2022 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Total Of \$62,052,579 For Public Safety.** ([FY 2022](#))

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS	FCOA		
(A) Operations - (continued)			for 2022
PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:			
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages	25-250	1	23,162,639.00
Other Expenses	25-250	2	2,215,150.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages	25-245	1	1,254,971.00
Other Expenses	25-245	2	328,956.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages	25-270	1	10,991,041.00
Other Expenses	25-270	2	251,041.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages	25-275	1	2,817,489.00
Other Expenses	25-275	2	9,187,350.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages	25-280	1	11,237,042.00
Other Expenses	25-280	2	606,900.00

([FY 2022](#))

***FY 2023***

**Vote**

**In March 2023, Simmons Voted Yea To Adopt The FY 2023 Gloucester County Budget.**  
 (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/15/23)

**54417 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023.**

**MOTION TO OPEN TO THE PUBIC**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**MOTION TO ADOPT**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/15/23)

**Total Appropriations**

**The FY 2023 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$244,104,590. ([FY 2023](#))**

<b>Summary of Appropriations</b>		<b>2023 Budget</b>
1. Operating Expenses:	Salaries & Wages	87,417,013.00
	Other Expenses	96,094,716.00
2. Deferred Charges & Other Appropriations		24,084,938.00
3. Capital Improvements		733,772.00
4. Debt Service (Include for School Purposes)		35,774,151.00
<b>Total General Appropriations</b>		<b>244,104,590.00</b>

([FY 2023](#))

**Public Safety**

**The FY 2023 Gloucester County Budget Appropriates A Toal Of \$62,895,543 For Public Safety. ([FY 2023](#))**

8. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS  (A) Operations - (continued)	FCOA		for 2023
	PUBLIC SAFETY FUNCTIONS:		
Emergency Response			
Salaries & Wages	25-250	1	24,515,542.00
Other Expenses	25-250	2	1,973,400.00
Medical Examiner			
Salaries & Wages	25-245	1	1,292,256.00
Other Expenses	25-245	2	328,956.00
Sheriff's Department			
Salaries & Wages	25-270	1	10,804,637.00
Other Expenses	25-270	2	251,041.00
Department of Corrections			
Salaries & Wages	25-275	1	2,322,374.00
Other Expenses	25-275	2	9,187,350.00
Prosecutor's Office			
Salaries & Wages	25-280	1	11,613,087.00
Other Expenses	25-280	2	606,900.00

(FY 2023)

***Budget/Spending Mechanisms***

**Exceed Tax Levy**

**In April 2011, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/6/11)

**45582 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR GLOUCESTER COUNTY CALENDAR YEAR 2011 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Damminger			X		
W. Wallace	X		X		
Chila			X		
DiMarco		X	X		
Simmons			X		
Nestore				X	
L. Wallace				X	

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/6/11)

**In April 2013, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/24/13)

**47503 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.** Second reading of this resolution for adoption will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.0% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to "bank", or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2013. The County will not need these funds in 2013 but it is prudent to maximize options for the future.

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore			X		
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/24/13)

**In April 2014, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/16/14)

**48340-B RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2014 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.**

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

CLOSE

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

ADOPT

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes					
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 4/16/14)

**In March 2013, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To Exceed The County Budget Tax Levy Limits.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/27/13)

**RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET TAX LEVY LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2013 IN ACCORDANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/27/13)

**Exceed Appropriations**

**In February 2022, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/16/22)

**53660 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2022 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP, and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2022. This Resolution is a budgetary process resolution. The public hearing **will be held March 2, 2022.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/16/22)

**In February 2021, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/3/21)

**52977 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2021. The public hearing will be held February 17, 2021.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Commissioner Barnes			X			
Commissioner Christy			X			
Commissioner Jefferson			X			
Commissioner Lavender			X			
Commissioner Simmons		X	X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/3/21)

**In February 2020, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/5/20)

**52325 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2020 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP, and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2020. The public hearing will be held February 19, 2020.

FREEHOLDER	MOTION	SECOND	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Freeholder Barnes						
Freeholder Christy			X			
Freeholder Jefferson		X	X			
Freeholder Lavender			X			
Freeholder Simmons			X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

b

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/5/20)

**In February 2019, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/6/19)

**51673 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK AND SETTING THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2019. The public hearing will be held February 20, 2019.

	Motion	Second	AYE	NAY	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Director DiMarco	X		X			
Freeholder Barnes			X			
Freeholder Christy						X
Freeholder Jefferson			X			
Freeholder Lavender			X			
Freeholder Simmons		X	X			
Director Damminger			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/6/19)

**In February 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/7/18)

**51007 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

Introduction of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% vs. 2.5% in calculating its budget CAP and allow the County to “bank” or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2018. **The public hearing will be held February 21, 2018.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/7/18)

**In February 2023, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/1/23)

**54392 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

Final adoption of this Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% in calculating its budget cap, and al the County to "bank" or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2023. This was introduced at February 15, 2023 Commissioners' Meeting and will allow the County to bank unused allowances ir budget calculations given the County being substantially below the allowable cap on appropriations in fu years.

**MOTION TO OPEN TO THE PUBIC**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson						X
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**MOTION TO CLOSE PUBLIC PORTION**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson						X
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

**MOTION TO ADOPT**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel			X			
Deputy Director Simmons	X		X			
Commissioner Jefferson						X
Commissioner DeSilvio			X			
Commissioner Barnes		X	X			
Commissioner DiCarlo			X			
Director DiMarco			X			

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 3/1/23)

**In March 2017, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/15/17)

**50412 RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

This Resolution will allow the County to use 3.5% in calculating its budget cap and allow the County to "bank" or use in future years any amounts not needed in 2017. This was introduced at the February 15, 2017 Freeholder Meeting.

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Jefferson			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A



(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/15/17)

**In March 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/4/15)

**RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14.**

OPEN

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: Lee Lucas, Gibbstown, had a question regarding the CAP Resolution to establish a CAP Bank.

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/4/15)

**In February 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution To “Exceed The County Budget Appropriation Limits”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 2/4/15)

**RESOLUTION TO EXCEED THE COUNTY BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK N.J.S.A. 40A: 4-45.14.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 2/4/15)

***Fees***

**Emergency Services**

**In November 2014, Simmons Voted Yea On An Ordinance Increasing The Emergency Medical Services Transportation Fee Per Transport From \$700 To \$750.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 11/25/14)

**ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

GCEMS seeks reimbursement from insurance carriers for emergency medical service treatment and transportation provided to patients. Under the current fee structure adopted in 2014, GCEMS charges up to \$700.00 per transport and up to \$17.00 per loaded mile. This ordinance would increase the transport charge to \$750.00, and the loaded mile fee would remain as is at \$17.00 per loaded mile. Rates charged by New Jersey Basic Life Support (EMS) providers range from \$550 to \$850 for transport, and \$14 to \$18 for mileage. The fees reflect the maximum amount sought from insurance carriers, including Medicare and Medicaid, and not the actual reimbursement received by GCEMS. In 2013, GCEMS realized \$3,802,249.86 in reimbursement from insurance carriers. Per the policy previously approved the Board of Chosen Freeholders, Gloucester County residents are not required to pay any out-of-pocket costs associated with GCEMS services.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila	X		X		
Barnes			X		
Christy			X		
DiMarco			X		
Simmons		X	X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 11/25/14)

**In January 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On An Ordinance Increasing The Emergency Medical Services Transportation Fee Per Transport From \$750 To \$800.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/17/18)

**50959 ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE OF FEES FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

GCEMS seeks reimbursement from insurance carriers for emergency medical service treatment and transportation provided to patients. Under the current fee structure adopted in 2015, GCEMS charges up to \$750.00 per transport and up to \$17.00 per loaded mile. This ordinance will increase the basic rate to \$800.00 and the loaded mile fee would remain as is at \$17.00 per loaded mile. Per the policy previously approved the Board of Chosen Freeholders, Gloucester County residents are not required to pay any out-of-pocket costs associated with GCEMS BLS services. Public hearing is scheduled for February 7, 2018.

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/17/18)

**Public Meetings**

**In January 2018, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution “Fixing A Fee To Be Paid By Members Of The Public For Receiving Personal Notice Of Meetings”.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/5/18)

**Motion to approve Resolutions 1 through 51 by Consent**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Deputy Director Chila	X		X		
Freeholder Barnes			X		
Freeholder Christy			X		
Freeholder DiMarco			X		
Freeholder Jefferson			X		
Freeholder Simmons		X	X		
Director Damminger			X		

**50911 RESOLUTION fixing a fee to be paid by members of the public for receiving personal notice of meetings pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act.** Any person may request that a public body mail to him or her copies of any regular meeting schedule upon prepayment by such person of a reasonable sum, if any has been fixed by resolution of the public body to cover the costs of providing such notice.

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 1/5/18)

**COVID**

**Testing**

**In February 2022, Simmons Voted Nay On A Resolution To Rescind The County’s “COVID Testing Policy”.** (Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/2/22)

**MOTION TO RESCIND THE 12/29/21 COVID TESTING POLICY**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Commissioner Konawel	X		X			
Deputy Director Simmons				X		
Commissioner Jefferson				X		
Commissioner DeSilvio		X	X			
Commissioner Barnes				X		
Commissioner DiCarlo				X		
Director DiMarco				X		

Commissioner Konawel asked the Director if clarification could be made on the public portion policy for zoom meetings. Discussion ensued and it was agreed that should we have to resume zoom meetings in the future, that the suggestion would be taken under advisement.

Commissioner DeSilvio read a statement on the record and then made a motion Opposing the Extension of Executive Order by Governor Murphy Beyond the Public Health Emergency, without second. Deputy Director Simmons made a motion to postpone indefinitely. Commissioner Barnes seconded. Roll Call vote is reflected below.

(Gloucester County Commission, [Meeting Minutes](#), 2/2/22)

**Social**

**DEI**

**In October 2015, Simmons Voted Yea On A Resolution Supporting The “Gloucester County Minority Recruitment Advisory Committee To Increase The Diversity Of Law Enforcement Agencies In Gloucester County.”** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 10/21/15)

**49501 RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY MINORITY RECRUITMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO INCREASE THE DIVERSITY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN GLOUCESTER COUNTY.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Chila			X		
Barnes			X		
Christy	X		X		
DiMarco		X	X		
Simmons			X		
Jefferson			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 10/21/15)

**Social Media**

**In March 2013, Simmons Seconded And Voted Yea On A Resolution “Authorizing An Amendment To The Gloucester County Social Media Policy,” Which Appeared To Impose Greater Restrictions And Punishment For Speech Critical Of The County Government.** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/13/13)

- **Freeholder Wallace Appeared To Believe The Amendment Would Result In An Employee Could “Lose Their Job If They Said ‘Freeholders Suck’.”** (Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/13/13)

**47392 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT TO THE GLOUCESTER COUNTY SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY.**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore					
Wallace					
Chila	X				
Simmons		X			
Barnes					
Taliaferro					
Damminger					

Comments: Freeholder Wallace said this leaves a free speech rights concern. He asked would employees lose their job if they said “freeholders suck”. He asked to table and rework.

**MOTION MADE TO TABLE**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore		X	X		
Wallace	X		X		
Chila				X	
Simmons				X	
Barnes				X	
Taliaferro				X	
Damminger				X	

Comments: N/A

**MOVE TO THE PREVIOUS QUESTION**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

**FINAL VOTE**

	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain
Nestore				X	
Wallace				X	
Chila	X		X		
Simmons		X	X		
Barnes			X		
Taliaferro			X		
Damminger			X		

Comments: N/A

(Gloucester County Commission, Meeting Minutes, 3/13/13)

**ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

***Regulations***

**Heating Systems**

**In 2023, The LD-3 Slate Of Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli Announced Their Opposition To A Proposed Ban On Gas Stoves.** “Still, with two new members nominated by Murphy, the BPU is likely to approve the measure. Burzichelli and Moriarty also said he would oppose Murphy’s proposal to only sell electric cars in New Jersey by 2035. “Instead of undercutting the

state automobile industry’s economic viability and restricting consumer choice, we should incentivize to achieve these sustainability goals,” said Moriarty. In addition to Burzichelli and Moriarty, four Democratic Assembly candidates – Heather Simmons and Dave Bailey in the 3rd district and Cody Miller and Dan Hutchison in the 4th – also signed on as opponents of the electric heating systems mandate.” ([NJ Globe](#), 7/26/23)

### ***Environmentalist Associations***

**In 2023, The NJ LCV Endorsed Bailey, Simmons, And Burzichelli.** “New Jersey League of Conservation Voters (New Jersey LCV), the political voice for the environment, announced their slate of endorsements for the 2023 New Jersey legislative elections, encompassing 56 candidates across 24 districts of which 40% are women and 26% are candidates of color. New Jersey LCV works to elect viable candidates, without regard to party affiliation, who have demonstrated an active or affirmative willingness and capacity to advance New Jersey LCV’s pro-environment priorities. “We could not be prouder of the dedicated, pro-environment leaders in this round of legislative endorsements, and we look forward to electing them to office and working together to build a more equitable and sustainable clean energy future for our children and grandchildren,” said Allison McLeod, Senior Policy Director, New Jersey LCV. “Codifying 100% clean energy by 2035, advancing offshore wind, and strengthening our democracy are all on the ballot. That’s why it’s important that every registered voter participate and support these environmental champions.” New Jersey LCV has endorsed the following candidates for the General Election on November 7, 2023: New Jersey LCV State Legislative Endorsements New Jersey’s 2nd Legislative District: Caren Fitzpatrick for Assembly New Jersey’s 3rd Legislative District: John Burzichelli for State Senate Heather Simmons for State Assembly Dave Bailey for State Assembly.” ([Insider NJ](#), 7/6/23)

## **HEALTHCARE**

### ***Flu Shot***

**In October 2015, Simmons Posted A Photo That Called For People To Get A Flu Shot.**  
(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 10/21/15)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 10/21/15)

## **SOCIAL ISSUES**

*Abortion / Women's Issues*

### **Reproductive Health**

**In June 2023, Simmon's Joint Campaign Page Posted That She Supports The Idea That "Reproductive Health Care Decisions Are Between Women And Their Doctors".** (Joint Campaign Profile 2023, [Facebook](#), 6/24/23)



(Joint Campaign Profile 2023, [Facebook](#), 6/24/23)

### **Menstrual Equity**

**In March 2023, Simmon Posted In Support Of Healthcare Equity And The “Period Equity Is Period Justice’ Menstrual Product Drive”** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 3/8/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 3/8/23)

***LGBTQ+***

**Pride**

**In July 2023, Simmons Posted That She Was Happy To See The Pitman Pride Alliance At The Pitmam Parade.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)





(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)

**In July 2023, Simmons Praised The Pitman Pride Alliance For Their Attendance At The Pitmam 4th of July Parade.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/4/23)

**In July 2017, Simmons Posted Photos Celebrating At The Woodbury Community Pride Month Ceremony.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/1/17)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 7/1/17)

***Race / Diversity***

**NAACP**

**In May 2022, Simmons Posted That She Was Attending And Speaking At A Gloucester County NAACP Event.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/16/22)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/16/22)

**POLITICAL**

***Ethics And Controversies***

**Potential Conflicts**

**In 2010, During Her First Campaign For Gloucester County Freeholder Board, Simmons Called For Additional Support For Gloucester County College.** "Simmons was raised in

Philadelphia in a family that prized education and stressed its importance. She was valedictorian of her class at St. Joseph's University. Her first professional job was in public relations at Gloucester County College. She remained there for 13 years, earned a master's degree in public relations and began teaching. "The community college was a place of opportunity and access," Simmons said. Six years ago, she left the college and started her own media consulting business where she does contracted community relations work for schools and non-profit organizations. One of her main campaigning issues is the relationship between Gloucester County College, Rowan University and the county. "I think Gloucester County College can do a whole lot more in the area of driving our economic development strategy," Simmons said. "I think it's a little bit behind the time in terms of what other community colleges in the region are doing in terms of offering access to baccalaureate degrees. "If elected, I'll do everything I can do to support that - to make sure it's tax-neutral wherever possible. Because we need to be helping people move forward in their lives." Simmons also said Gloucester County Institute of Technology's tuition should be paid at the county level to relieve the local districts of the burden." (*Gloucester County Times*, 10/10/10)

- **“Gloucester County College, Which Receives Funding From The Freeholders, Has Used Her Services. She Is A Newcomer To Politics.”** “Literature handed out by Simmons and Zimmerman also does not mention specific issues. There are quotes about "hard decisions" and "improving the quality of life in Gloucester County," along with detailed resumés. Their slogan is: "New Leadership for a Better Gloucester County." Simmons, of Glassboro, is a public relations consultant whose company, Heather Simmons Communications, promotes educational institutions and nonprofit organizations in numerous news releases sent to media outlets. Gloucester County College, which receives funding from the freeholders, has used her services. She is a newcomer to politics. Zimmerman, a Mantua Township committeeman and former president of the town's school board, is a police captain in Pitman.” (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 10/11/10)

**In 2011, A Republican Candidate Filed A Petition With The NJ Commissioner Of Education Claiming The Glassboro School District Had Violated State Law By Campaigning For Budget Passage Using Public Funds By Employing Simmons As A PR Consultant Who Listed Annual Budget Passage As A Goal.** “A Glassboro man has filed a petition with the state Commissioner of Education claiming the borough's school board has violated state law by campaigning for budget passage using public funds. Allen Louie, a Glassboro resident and Republican candidate for borough council, filed the petition Tuesday that alleges Heather Simmons, contracted by the Glassboro School District for public relations services, "engaged in an ongoing campaign to ensure passage of the school budget for 2012," according to the petition. Simmons, owner of Heather Simmons Communications and a county freeholder seeking election this November, has been contracted by the school district for services since 2005 for \$36,000 a year. The petition sites documents drawn up by Simmons from 2009, 2010, and 2011 that outline her goals for the upcoming years including to "annually pass the proposed school budget." According to state law, "all activities involving promotional effort to advance a particular position on school election or any referenda are prohibited." "(Louie) was outraged that money, that could be used to keep teachers or buy textbooks, was instead being used for an illegal purpose," said attorney Mark Cimino, Louie's lawyer. "It is illegal under state

law to use public money to campaign for a particular outcome of an election, whether it be a referendum or voting for somebody." Included in the petition are memos from 2009, 2010 and 2011 on the letterheads of Simmons' consulting firm that list the highlights of the previous year's achievements including passing the third, fourth and fifth consecutive district budgets, engaging in community relations activities and increasing communications among administration, school board members, parents and non-parents. The letters also detail Simmons' plans for the upcoming years, including increased communication between the superintendent and parents; getting media coverage of school events; boosting parent involvement; and "passing the budget again" by campaigning on behalf of the district throughout the year." (*Gloucester County Times*, 9/21/11)

- In April 2012, The Petition Was Called Weak By A Judge.** "A petition alleging that Glassboro Public Schools' community relations consultant, Gloucester County Freeholder Heather Simmons, had campaigned for passage of district budgets was called flimsy this week by a judge. The petition, filed with the Commissioner of Education in September by Glassboro resident Allen Louie, alleged that Simmons "engaged in an ongoing campaign to ensure passage of the school district budget for 2012," according to the original petition. Administrative Law Judge Jeff Masin told Louie, a 2011 Republican candidate for borough council, and his attorney Mark Cimino, that their "evidence was not strong enough," according to Cimino. The judge's opinion was sent to the Commissioner of Education for review. The commissioner has 45 days to decide whether to accept, reject or amend the judge's opinion. "I think the judge recognized what everyone else recognized - that it was clearly a politically motivated stunt, and those kinds of things clearly have no place in a court of law," said Simmons, a Democrat, who was a candidate for a seat on the Gloucester County Freeholder board when the petition was filed. "It was baseless," Simmons added. "The judge's decision was a recognition that not only wasn't there anything improperly done here, even the allegations were frivolous." Included with the petition were memos from Simmons that listed the highlights of her previous years' accomplishments including passing the third, fourth and fifth consecutive school district budgets, engaging in community relations activities and increasing communications among administrators, school board members, parents and non-parents." (*Gloucester County Times*, 4/5/12)

### **Campaign Tactics**

**In 2010, Simmons And Gloucester Co. Democrats Were Criticized By Republicans For Using Inflammatory Cancer Imagery On Attack Mailings Despite Her Opponents Having Both Suffered Losses Of Loved Ones To Cancer; Simmons Defended The Mailer.** "It started in August, when New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie vetoed legislation to fund women's health clinics throughout the state. "It's one of the most despicable political stunts I've ever seen," Wallace said of the mailing. "I don't think the residents of Gloucester County want to hear this kind of nonsense." The first side of the mailer depicts a female cancer patient -- her hair lost as a result of chemotherapy treatment -- and a line asking, "Why would Larry Wallace and Vincent Nestore's Republican cronies in Trenton cut life-saving cancer screening programs?" The other side shows an anxious looking woman and predicts fewer women will receive early breast cancer screening as a result of Christie's veto. Neither Wallace, a small business owner, nor Nestore, a high school physical education teacher, has ever held a political office. But the two

candidates -- both 48 -- have lost immediate family members to cancer. Wallace's son died of cancer a decade ago at the age of 9, and Nestore lost his fiancée to the disease. Half a dozen more of Nestore's family have suffered from cancer. "I don't think they understand that cancer touches almost everyone in some way shape or form," said Wallace. "To make that part of a smear campaign or mudslinging in a desperate attempt to win office, I think points directly toward their character." The mailing, paid for by Robert Zimmerman and Heather Simmons for Freeholder, is the latest ad put out by the Democratic machine in Gloucester County. Simmons, 41, said women should be up in arms at what she says is Christie's stance to politicize medical care. "I stand by my feeling that I cannot support a governor or a party that would cut breast cancer screening," said Simmons, of Glassboro. "I have been in the situation of being denied prescriptions and procedures by insurance companies presuming to make decisions for me. "I simply do not believe that the government or those companies should be making medical decisions for me, my children or anyone else." Two television ads sponsored by the Gloucester County Democrat Committee against the GOP slate have featured actors portraying millionaires throwing their fictional support to Wallace and Nestore because of tax cuts given to some of the wealthiest residents in the state." (*Courier Post*, 10/27/10)

- **Simmons Ultimately Lost Her 2010 Campaign Following A Recount.** "Despite Democratic freeholder candidates spending more than \$300,000 in their bid for two open seats here, and despite their call for a recount of every ballot in Gloucester County, Freeholders-elect Vincent Nestore and Larry Wallace prevailed over Democrats Heather Simmons and Robert Zimmerman. Only 119 votes separated Simmons from Nestore after provisionals were counted a week after Election Day. Thursday morning marked the end of the three-day recount, where Simmons picked up four extra votes, decreasing Nestore's lead to 115. "I had no predisposed expectation other than I just had a strong desire to ensure all votes that were cast were counted," said Sen. Fred Madden, chairman of the county Democrats. "And now we have that." The Democrats called for a recount of all machines and paper ballots on the last day to make appeals. The process started on Tuesday when all machines were recounted. Those numbers didn't change. When election commissioners counted the more than 7,000 paper ballots, Simmons picked up four votes. According to Stephanie Salvatore, county superintendent of elections, two of the ballots were originally dismissed because of red ink. Two more had check marks next to candidates' names instead of filled-in circles." (*Gloucester County Times*, 12/3/10)
- **However, Simmons Was Tapped To Served As A Freeholder In 2011 With Stephen Sweeney Stepping Down.** "Democrats have made their selection to fill the vacant freeholder seat, and it's someone who should be a familiar face to voters. Members of the Gloucester County Democratic Party met Friday night and unanimously selected Heather Simmons to fill the seat vacated by former director Stephen Sweeney at the end of 2010. Simmons, along with running mate Robert Zimmerman, lost to Republican freeholders Larry Wallace and Vince Nestore in November in a tight election. Following a recount - requested by the Democratic Party - only 115 votes separated Simmons and Nestore, the second-place vote-getter. Consequently, Simmons may have been the natural choice to fill the vacancy, but Democratic Party chairman Sen. Fred. Madden said Simmons was simply the best candidate among those who applied. "She's a great individual. Very smart, articulate. I'm very confident with the way she will represent the party," said

Madden, D-4 of Washington Township. "I just believe the party at large sees her as a solid candidate." Simmons, who runs a small media and community relations firm, said she was flattered to have been selected by the party." (*Gloucester County Times*, 1/15/11)

**In 2011, Complaints Were Filed “Over A Campaign Commercial In Which Now-Elected Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons, Adam Taliaferro And Lyman Barnes Appeared To Be Talking With Officers. The Complaint Claimed The Trio Were Speaking With Gloucester County Sheriff's Officers, But It Was Later Thrown Out.”** “A year after Gloucester Republicans slammed Democratic freeholder candidates for using county sheriff's officers and equipment in a campaign commercial, GOP chairman Larry Wallace claims to have plugged the loophole in the law to prevent another occurrence. Wallace announced Thursday his part in drafting state Senate and Assembly bills that would address the gap in the law, which currently allows the use of government employees and resources for partisan purposes like campaign ads. Last year, complaints were filed over a campaign commercial in which now-elected Democrat Freeholders Heather Simmons, Adam Taliaferro and Lyman Barnes appeared to be talking with officers. The complaint claimed the trio were speaking with Gloucester County sheriff's officers, but it was later thrown out. The images did not appear in the commercial for enough time to warrant prosecution. "I was frustrated last year that nothing could be done about this. They broke policy and that's when I found out about this loophole in the law," Wallace said. "I wanted to figure out how to prevent this from happening again." State Senate Bill S2223 and Assembly Bill A3007 are sponsored by Sen. Samuel Thompson, R-12, of Middlesex County, and Assemblywoman Amy Handlin, R-13, of Monmouth County. The Republican Gloucester County freeholder also called on Senate President Stephen Sweeney, a West Deptford Democrat, "not to block it" from hitting the Senate floor.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 10/12/12)

### Miscellaneous

**In 2011, The *Gloucester County Times* Awarded A “Jeers” To Simmons For A “Lack Of Freeholder Decorum” For Accusing A Republican Freeholder Without Support That He Disrespects Women.** “- JEERS: To lack of freeholder decorum: Democratic Freeholder Heather Simmons Wednesday night turned an allegation that Republican Freeholder Larry Wallace had intervened in departments Simmons oversees into an unsupported claim that Wallace disrespects women. And Wallace, in response, huffed that the 2011 election was starting early - actually, one of his more restrained comments of late. As we've stated before, creative freeholder tension over different ideas is good, but elevating petty slights into major public incidents is not.” (*Gloucester County Times*, 3/5/11)

### *Campaign Finance*

#### Public Contractors

**2011: “The Joint Campaign Committee For Gloucester County Democratic Freeholders Warren Wallace, Lyman Barnes And Heather Simmons Got \$134,300 From Contractors.”** “The biggest recipient of donations from contractors was a political action committee called CSC NJ, which is run by Cablevision and took in \$145,200. Constructors for Good Government, another PAC, came in second with \$139,310. The joint campaign committee for Gloucester County Democratic Freeholders Warren Wallace, Lyman Barnes and Heather Simmons got

\$134,300 from contractors. Next on the list were Middlesex County Democratic Freeholders Charles Tomaro, at \$125,175, and Carol Barrett Bellante, at \$120,675. The engineering firm CME Associates, usually one of the state's top donors, did not report its contributions last year, even though it is required by state law. In 2010, CME made \$346,650 in contributions, the second most of any contractor in the state. A search of ELEC's database, which does not provide a complete picture of the company's donations, reveals its partners made thousands of dollars in contributions last year.” (*Star Ledger*, 4/6/12)

**In 2017, NJ ELEC Noted That Simmons’ Gloucester Co. Campaign Slate Was The Second Largest Recipient Of Funds From Public Contractors.** “Following another trend, the biggest recipients of contractor contributions were county-level candidates, including five of the top ten. Topping the list was Senate President Stephen Sweeney (D-3), whose reelection campaign appears to be the most expensive legislative district race in U.S. history with combined spending of nearly \$18.7 million. Two federal independent spending-only committees that backed him also received contractor support- General Majority PAC (\$47,500) and New Jerseyans for a Better Tomorrow (\$41,750). Table 3 Top Ten Recipients of Contractor Contributions in 2017 RECIPIENT AMOUNT Stephen Sweeney for Senate / EFO Stephen Sweeney, John Burzichelli and Adam Taliaferro \$179,680 Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes & Jim Jefferson for Freeholder (Gloucester County) \$166,500.” (NJ ELEC, 4/9/18)

**2021: “A Joint Committee For Democratic Gloucester County Commissioners Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes And Jim Jefferson Got \$147,500 From Contractors, And Some Local Candidates And Party Organizations Also Made The List.”** “New Jersey’s public contractors tamped down their political contributions last year, dropping their annual giving to the lowest level on record, according to preliminary data released Tuesday by the New Jersey Election Law Enforcement Commission. Totaled, public contractors gave about \$7.8 million in 2020, a 16% drop from the \$9.3 million donated in 2019 and just \$195,181 less than the \$8 million they reported giving in 2012, the previous recorded low, though late or amended reports submitted after April 5 could cause last year’s contributions to exceed 2012’s figures. The pandemic likely affected the giving, said ELEC Executive Director Jeff Brindle, adding that last year’s political lull — one that saw campaigning drastically shift and cancelled most fundraising events for months as all attention turned to the virus — likely contributed to the decline. But ELEC officials don’t expect that lull to continue into this year’s state elections. “With elections looming for both the governor’s seat and both legislative houses this year as well as more fundraising events being held due to an easing of the virus threat, contributions from these donors are likely to bounce back,” Brindle said General Majority PAC, a super PAC with ties to South Jersey powerbroker George Norcross, topped the recipients list with \$178,200 in contractor donations. It was also at the top last year. The next three slots were occupied by Middlesex County Democrats. Middlesex County Clerk Nancy Pinkin’s campaign got \$157,150, while the campaigns of County Commissioners Leslie Koppel and Charles Tomaro received \$156,400 and \$149,900 respectively. A joint committee for Democratic Gloucester County Commissioners Heather Simmons, Lyman Barnes and Jim Jefferson got \$147,500 from contractors, and some local candidates and party organizations also made the list.” ([NJ Globe](#), 4/6/21)



*Democrat Affiliations*

**Salem County Democrats**

**In June 2023, Simmon’s Joint Campaign Page Posted That Her Campaign Ticket Had Been Endorsed By The Salem County Democrats.** (Joint Campaign Profile 2023, [Facebook](#), 6/2/23)



(Joint Campaign Profile 2023, [Facebook](#), 6/2/23)

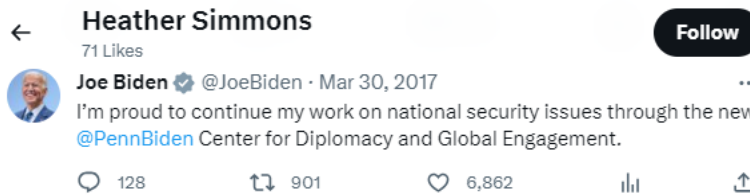
**Bill Clinton**

**In 2011, Simmons Listed Bill Clinton As One Of Three Figures She Would Love To Have Dinner With Bill Clinton And Praised His Intellectualism.** “Q. If you could have dinner with three historical figures, who would you pick and why? A. The author of “The Pillars of the Earth,” Ken Follett. It’s my favorite book and it talks about the construction of Medieval cathedrals in England. I’ve read it probably four times. That kind of thing I find fascinating: How different people at different times lived and yet their concerns and their struggles were so similar to ours. I just admire anyone who can weave a tale. Another one would be Bill Clinton, because I think he’s probably one of the most intellectual presidents we have had. And since he’s left the Oval Office he’s been involved in so many value-oriented activities. I would just love to have an

audience and listen to somebody with that level of intelligence and that level of experience. I would pick my father. My father passed away 12 years ago. So he has no idea, except from Heaven, what I’m doing with my life. I would love to sit with him and say, “Dad, whaddya think?” I miss him and think about him every day and wonder, “Dad, what would you have to say about this craziness?”” ([NJ.com](#), 8/14/11)

**Joe Biden**

**In March 2017, Simmons ‘Liked’ A Tweet That Promoted Joe Biden And His Work With The Penn-Biden Center For Diplomacy And Global Engagement.** (Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 3/30/17)



(Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 3/30/17)

**Corey Booker**

**In August 2022, Simmons Posted A Photo With Corey Booker While Touring South Jersey Tech Park At Rowan University.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/18/22)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/18/22)

**In August 2017, Simmons Posted Photos With Corey Booker At The Port Of Paulsboro.**  
(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/4/17)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 8/4/17)

**Elizabeth Warren**

**In January 2017, Simmons ‘Liked’ A Tweet That Supported Senator Warren’s And Her Protest Of The Muslim Travel Ban.** (Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 1/28/17)



(Personal Profile, [Twitter](#), 1/28/17)

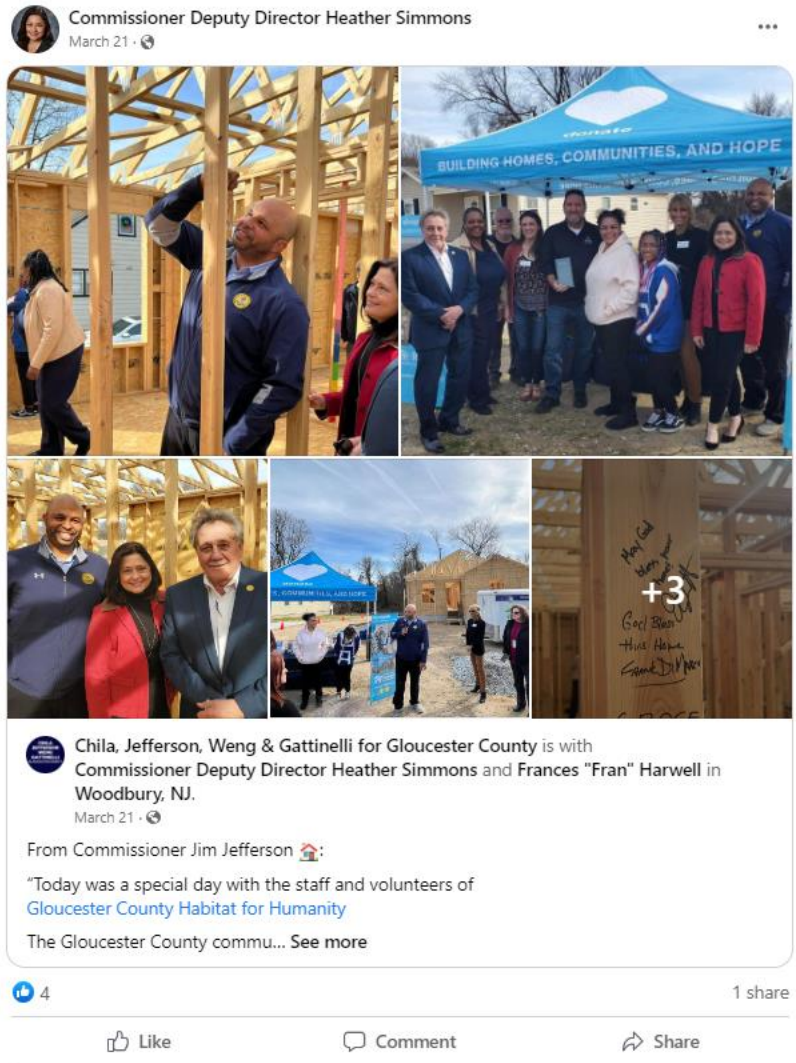
**Jim Jefferson**

**In May 2023, Simmons Posted Praise For Commissioner Jim Jefferson.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/16/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/16/23)

**In March 2023, Simmons Posted Support For Jim Jefferson And His Campaign.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 3/21/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 3/21/23)

**Jeff Van Drew**

**In May 2018, Simmons Posted A Photo With Then Democrat Jeff Van Drew.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/19/18)



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 5/19/18)

**Kyle Miller**

**In January 2023, Simmons Posted An Endorsement For The Election Of Woodbury Mayor Kyle Miller.** (Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 1/5/23)



(Official Profile, [Facebook](#), 1/5/23)

**Stephen Sweeney**

**In February 2012, Simmons Posted Photos At An Event With Then New Jersey Senate President Stephen Sweeney.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 2/8/12)



Album Mobile Uploads



(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 2/8/12)

**PERSONAL**

***Additional Background Notes***

**“Simmons Was Valedictorian Of The Class Of 1991 At St. Joseph's University In Philadelphia. She Has A Master's Degree From Rowan. She Has Operated Her Own Public Relations Firm, Heather Simmons Communications, Since 2004.”** (*Gloucester County Times*, 3/14/10)

**Simmons Is Known To Have Previously Served As The Spokesperson For Glassboro School District.** “In Glassboro, where benchmarks were not all achieved at Dorothy Bullock, Thomas Bove and Glassboro Intermediate School, spokeswoman Heather Simmons said the district is looking at ways of helping its economically disadvantaged, special education and African-American students. "We are trending in the right direction but still falling short with these subgroups," she said. The district is emphasizing guided reading, small-group instruction, inquiry-based instruction, connected math that reaches across other disciplines and has added math and literacy coaches this year. Professional development in understanding poverty is continuing.” (*Courier Post*, 1/15/10)

- **In 2007, Simmons Claimed Glassboro Administrators Did Not Know That Glassboro High Student And Quarterback Justin Breaker Faced Charges For**

**Alleged Rape While He Attended School.** “It's time for Glassboro High School to get its house in order. An alleged rapist, who could face 20 years in prison and be required to register as a sex offender under Megan's Law, is roaming the hallways and school administrators knew nothing? Charged with first-degree aggravated sexual assault, second-degree sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual conduct and aggravated criminal restraint for an incident on April 1 involving a 15-year-old girl, Justin Breaker was allowed to take the football field as the school's starting quarterback? He was permitted to sit next to your daughter in math class? According to Heather Simmons, public relations coordinator for Glassboro Public Schools, school administrators did not know until Wednesday that the senior was indicted by a Salem County grand jury. "They did not know of the charges until (Wednesday) when they read it in the newspaper," Simmons said. A statement released by the district on Thursday read: "The administration of the Glassboro Public School District acted to suspend Glassboro High School senior Justin Breaker on Wednesday, December 5 immediately after learning about the indictment against him from the Salem County Prosecutor's Office. Breaker will attend classes at the Gloucester County Alternative School in Deptford until the case is resolved. The suspension precludes Breaker from participating in any school-related or extracurricular activities." That's awfully nice. Glad to hear it. But how did this happen? How could school officials not know the status of a student who transferred into their school from Schalick prior to the start of the school year with such a questionable past? According to court records, Breaker, 19, and Mark A. Wood II, 19, of Pittsgrove, were arrested by police shortly after the April 1 incident. They were held at the Salem County Correctional Facility in lieu of \$100,000 full cash bail. Breaker remained there until April 7. But when it became time for football season to begin, Breaker was in Glassboro. He put on his pads and helmet, going about his business as if no cloud hung over his head. It boggles the mind how school officials had no clue as to what was going on. It's inexcusable for a school district to have this type of situation over its head and not realize it.” (Kevin Minnick, Columnist, *The Daily Journal*, 12/7/07)

- **“Breaker, Charged In April With Gang Raping A Juvenile Girl In Pittsgrove, Salem County, Was Indicted On Several Charges Nov. 28.”; Breaker Was Only Suspended In Glassboro In Early December 2007.** “Glassboro school officials said Thursday they immediately suspended the high school football team's starting quarterback earlier this week after learning of sexual assault charges against him. The suspension, which began Wednesday, limits Justin Breaker, 19, from participating in "any school-related or extracurricular activities." In a statement, officials also said Breaker will attend the Gloucester County Alternative School in Deptford until the case is resolved. Breaker, charged in April with gang raping a juvenile girl in Pittsgrove, Salem County, was indicted on several charges Nov. 28. He played in Glassboro High School's South Jersey Group 1 championship game win over Paulsboro on Dec. 1. Glassboro school officials said they had no knowledge of the criminal charges against Breaker until they read accounts in a local newspaper on Wednesday. First Assistant Salem County Prosecutor William Brennan said Breaker faces charges of first-degree aggravated sexual assault, second-degree sexual assault, aggravated criminal sexual contact and criminal restraint stemming from an April 1 incident in Pittsgrove. He declined to provide details of the alleged incident

because the victim is a juvenile. Two others were charged in the incident. A juvenile male has already pleaded guilty, Brennan said. Heather Simmons, spokeswoman for the Glassboro School District, wrote in an e-mail on Thursday that "the administration acted yesterday (Wednesday) in the best interest of the school and student body." She did not answer questions concerning the school's discipline policy." (*Courier Post*, 12/7/07)

- **Simmons Claimed That If The School Had Known About The Charges Earlier, It Would Have Acted Earlier.** "Interim Glassboro School Superintendent Leonard D. Fitts suspended Breaker immediately after district officials learned of the indictment, district spokeswoman Heather Simmons said. Fitts did not return messages left at his office yesterday. "To my knowledge nobody knew," Simmons said. "I don't know if anyone at the school has been in touch with the prosecutor's office. "I'm sure if they [the school] had learned earlier, they would have acted earlier," she said. Because Breaker is an adult, the prosecutor's office was not obligated to notify schools of his arrests, according to the state Attorney General's Office. Calls to A.P. Schalick High School in Pittsgrove, where Breaker was a student at the time of the alleged attack, were not returned. The Glassboro district does not have a policy concerning student athletes facing criminal charges and their eligibility to play, Simmons said." (*Philadelphia Inquirer*, 12/7/07)

### ***Miscellaneous Social Media***

#### **Bill Cosby**

**In January 2012, Simmons Posted A Photo Of Bill Cosby Speaking At An Event She Attended.** (Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 1/16/12)

Album Mobile Uploads



Heather Simmons added a new photo.

January 16, 2012 · 🌐



At Rowan for MLK Breakfast...Bill Cosby the guest speaker



👍 28

4 comments 1 share

↪ Share

(Personal Profile, [Facebook](#), 1/16/12)