



**For Immediate Release**  
Contact: Rick Abbruzzese  
(410) 824-4206  
(410) 790-5002

***NEW POLL SHOWS O'MALLEY WITHIN STRIKING  
DISTANCE OF DUNCAN IN MONTGOMERY  
O'MALLEY'S POSITIVE CAMPAIGN CLOSES GAP TO JUST SIX POINTS***

**BALTIMORE, MD (March 21, 2006)** – A new Mason-Dixon poll released today shows Martin O'Malley within striking distance of Doug Duncan in Montgomery County. The poll of 500 likely voters shows that O'Malley has closed the gap to just six points in the county where Duncan has been county executive for the last 12 years.

“This poll clearly shows that the people of Montgomery County are responding to Martin O'Malley's positive message and vision,” said campaign manager Jonathan Epstein. “The people that know Mr. Duncan best are rejecting his negative attack-style politics, and they are joining others from across the state in supporting Martin O'Malley and Anthony Brown.”

The WTOP, Mason-Dixon poll shows that if the Democratic primary election for Governor were held today, 35% of Montgomery County likely Democratic voters would vote for O'Malley compared to just 41% for Duncan. The poll also shows that O'Malley has a significantly stronger favorable/unfavorable rating. O'Malley had a 7:1 favorable/unfavorable ratio, while Duncan had just a 3:1 ratio.

Duncan, the former Mayor of Rockville, has been presiding over Montgomery County for the last 12 years, and has been a public figure there for over 20.

The O'Malley-Brown Campaign has benefited from a strong volunteer grassroots operation in the County. Hundreds of volunteers spent the Fall going door-to-door in the County educating voters about Martin O'Malley's record and just this past weekend, hundreds of O'Malley-Brown yard signs appeared across the County.

The WTOP- Mason-Dixon Poll was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Washington, D.C. from March 9-14 2006. A total of 500 registered Montgomery County Democratic voters were interviewed countywide by telephone. All indicated that they were likely to vote in the September primary election.

The poll is the latest in a series of positive announcements in recent months, which show significant momentum for the O'Malley-Brown campaign statewide. In January, the O'Malley-Brown campaign announced that they had raised almost as much money as Governor Ehrlich in 2005, and raised \$4.3 million compared to Doug Duncan's \$1.3 million. In February, the O'Malley-Brown campaign received the early and

overwhelming endorsement of the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO, as well the endorsements of a number of elected officials in Prince George's and Montgomery County.

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Friends of Martin O'Malley – 2400 Boston St., Suite 203 - Baltimore, MD 21202 – 410-814-4206 - fax: 410-814-4218

Authority: Friends of Martin O'Malley, Martin F. Cadogan, Treasurer