

## Brown leads Bell by 3 points in state Senate race

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State senate candidates Democrat Colin Bell (center) and Republican Chris Brown (right) shake hands after the debate. 2nd Legislative District candidates debate held at Stockton University in Galloway Township. Wednesday Oct. 25, 2017. (Dale Gerhard / Press of Atlantic City)

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GALLOWAY TOWNSHIP — Republican Chris Brown leads Democrat Colin Bell by 3 percentage points in the race for the 2nd Legislative District state Senate seat, according to a Stockton University poll released Friday.

Brown leads Bell 46 percent to 43 percent, with 10 percent undecided or not expressing a choice, according to the poll of 530 likely voters. The results are within the poll's margin of error, which is +/- 4.3 percent.

"Many undecided voters will make up their minds this weekend and determine the outcome of this race," said Sharon Schulman, executive director of the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy.

In a Stockton poll released Sept. 29, the candidates were tied at 46 percent.

In the race for the state Assembly seats in the 2nd District, incumbent Democrat Vince Mazzeo holds a comfortable lead. Mazzeo tops the field at 31 percent, followed by Democratic running mate John Armato at 27 percent. Republicans Vince Sera and Brenda Taube trail with 17 and 18 percent, respectively. Seven percent are undecided or not expressing a choice.