

September 18, 2012

To: Interested Parties

Fr: John Anzalone / Zac McCrary

Re: Polling Results among Likely Voters in Texas' 23rd Congressional District

Democratic challenger Pete Gallego is leading Republican incumbent Quico Canseco (43% Gallego / 38% Canseco) in the race to represent Texas' 23rd Congressional District. The 23rd is a swing district that is very competitive at the top of the ticket, and Gallego is well-positioned to take advantage of Canseco's unimpressive popularity and job rating. Gallego not only leads Canseco, but also critical undecided voters show a propensity to break for Gallego. If Gallego and his allies are able to fund a robust communication plan rebutting Canseco/GOP attacks, Gallego stands an excellent chance to oust the Republican incumbent.

Pete Gallego leads Quico Canseco by five points, and undecided voters appear more likely to break Democratic than Republican.

- Despite Canseco's incumbency and name-ID advantages, Democrat Pete Gallego currently leads Canseco 43% to 38%.
- Undecided voters (18% of the electorate) are disproportionately Hispanic, a group among whom Gallego overwhelmingly leads (60% Gallego / 20% Canseco).

The 23rd is a very competitive district, with a slight Democratic lean.

- The Presidential race is extremely competitive, with a one-point Obama advantage (46% Obama / 45% Romney).
- A narrow plurality of voters indicates they generally prefer Democrats (44%) to Republicans (41%) in races for Congress.

Canseco's mediocre popularity and job ratings highlight his vulnerability in such a swing district.

- Republican Canseco's 7-point net favorable rating (39% Favorable / 32% Unfavorable) lags Democrat Gallego's more robust 14-point net favorable rating (35% Favorable / 21% Unfavorable).
- Additionally, Canseco's job rating is even more unimpressive (36% Positive / 35% Negative).

Anzalone Liszt Research conducted N=500 live telephone interviews with likely 2012 general election voters in Texas' 23rd CD. Interviews were conducted between September 12-17, 2012. Respondents were selected at random, with interviews apportioned geographically based on past voter turnout. Expected margin of sampling error is $\pm 4.4\%$ with a 95% confidence level.