

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 3, 2008**

# **Decision2008 – Florida**

*The Race for President of the United States*

**Produced by NBC News**  
**with the partnership of Leadership Florida,**  
**the Florida Press Association,**  
**and Florida Public Broadcasting Service, Inc.**

***Live From Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton Florida***

**Boca Raton, FL.** – Decision 2008: Before You Vote, a partnership of Leadership Florida, the Florida Press Association and the Florida Public Broadcasting Service, Inc., released credentialing information today for the upcoming Florida Decision 2008 Republican Presidential Candidate Debate that it will host at Florida Atlantic University on Thursday, January 24. The debate will be held in the Carole and Barry Kaye Auditorium on the campus of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m ET. The debate will be produced by NBC News and broadcast on MSNBC and Florida Public Television from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. This will be the only Florida Republican presidential candidates debate held in 2008, coming just five days before Florida's January 29<sup>th</sup> Presidential Primary.

The debate will air live Thursday evening January 24 from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. on MSNBC, and most Florida Public Broadcasting stations. It also will be streamed live over the web on MSNBC.com and NBC News 2 Go, and will air live on Florida Public Radio. Florida Public Broadcasting is also producing a special program – *Florida Decision 2008: The Primary* - which will focus on Florida issues and will air live from the debate site at FAU, from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m., immediately prior to the Republican debate. Other debate sponsors include AARP and Environmental Defense.

## **DETAILS ABOUT COVERING THE JANUARY 24 DECISION 2008: BEFORE YOU VOTE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES DEBATE AT FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY**

Working members of the media wishing to cover the Florida Decision 2008: Before You Vote Candidates debate on January 24th must be credentialed. Credentialing is available **ONLINE** through the Florida Press Association's website at [www.beforeyouvote.org](http://www.beforeyouvote.org).

**DEADLINE FOR CREDENTIAL APPLICATIONS: 6 P.M. EST Friday, January 11, 2008.**

**HOTELS** - January is the high season in South Florida and we strongly advise that you make your hotel reservations as soon as possible. Florida Decision 2008 has been working with the Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau to save as much hotel space as possible. The Renaissance, Embassy Suites, Hilton Suites, and Holiday Inn Express, all in Boca Raton, have rooms held under the debate block. Please contact these hotels directly to make your reservations.

**CREDENTIALING PROCESS** – Media credentials will be required to gain access to the Media Filing Center in the Grand Palm Room and the Live Oak Pavilion where the Spin Room will be located. Media stand-up positions will be located both outside the Spin Room facing the theatre and inside the Spin Room. **Please note** that media credentials do not provide access to the theatre, the site of the debate. The debate will be broadcast on large monitors in the Media Filing Center for working journalists to watch.

Please fill out the forms below (also available online) and send in the completed forms to apply for credentials, work space in the Media Filing Center, stand-up positions in the Spin Room, live shot positions outside the theatre, order phone lines and reserve space for satellite trucks. Email completed forms as an email enclosure to **the Debate Press team** at [credentials@beforeyouvote.org](mailto:credentials@beforeyouvote.org) or log on to the Decision 2008: Before You Vote Presidential Candidates Debate website and register ONLINE at: [www.beforeyouvote.org](http://www.beforeyouvote.org). Please email your enclosed forms with the subject line **“Debate Press Credentials.”**

**IMPORTANT NOTE** – Media organizations must fill out appropriate forms for each type of service they are applying for: credentials, workspace, and telephones.

**CREDENTIAL APPROVAL PROCESS/MEDIA LOGISTICS CALL** - You will be informed by Thursday, January 17 if your credential application has been approved.

Once credentials have been granted, debate organizers will hold a **media logistics call at 2:00 p.m., Friday January 18** and a debate site survey for broadcast media on Tuesday January 22 from 1:00 to 2:00 PM.

**CREDENTIAL DISTRIBUTION** - Credentials for approved media will be distributed at the Florida Atlantic University Media Filing Center from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, January 23, and starting again at 8 a.m. on Thursday, January 24. Leadership Florida will provide food for credentialed media on the day of the debate in the Media Filing Center, and Florida Atlantic University is hosting a media dinner prior to the debate.

**MEDIA FILING FACILITIES AND SPIN ROOM FOR THE FLORIDA DECISION 2008 PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE** will be co-located in the Student Union Building at Florida Atlantic University. Space is limited, so make sure you apply as soon as possible.

**CELL PHONE COVERAGE.** There is good cellular coverage at FAU and onsite at the debate facility.

**INTERNET WIRED AND WIFI WIRELESS SERVICE:** The Decision 2008 partners and Florida Atlantic University will provide free wireless Internet service to journalists in the press filing center and Spin Room. Wired Ethernet orders **must** be made directly to

SoapboxSBX (formerly Soapbox), and will entail a set-up fee. Please e-mail requests directly to Jim Jiranek at [Jim@SoapboxSBX.com](mailto:Jim@SoapboxSBX.com) or fax request to 717/854-7839. For further information, call Jim Jiranek at 717/817-2370.

**NOTE: Deadline for wired Ethernet orders is Friday January 11, 2008.**

**PHONE ORDERS:** Hard line phone orders must be made directly to SoapboxSBX. There will be a charge for phone lines, and there will be an additional charge for an actual phone handset, if that is requested. All phone orders must be placed by a news organization directly with SoapboxSBX. Please e-mail requests directly to Jim Jiranek at [Jim@SoapboxSBX.com](mailto:Jim@SoapboxSBX.com) or fax it to (717) 854-7839. For further information, call Jim Jiranek at 717/817-2370.

**REMINDER – DEADLINE FOR PHONE AND ETHERNET ORDERS IS FRIDAY JANUARY 11.**

**DON'T FORGET TO FILL EACH FORM THAT IS RELEVANT TO YOUR NEEDS**

**QUESTIONS** - Please direct all inquiries to Sara Bennett at Leadership Florida, [mediarelations@beforeyouvote.org](mailto:mediarelations@beforeyouvote.org).

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# MEDIA CREDENTIAL FORM

✉ EMAIL: [credentials@beforeyoutvote.org](mailto:credentials@beforeyoutvote.org)    📠 FAX: (850) 577-3608    💻 COMPLETE ONLINE: [www.beforeyoutvote.org](http://www.beforeyoutvote.org)

The following form must be submitted for each individual for whom you are requesting credentials. Media organizations with multiple reporters must fill out one form for each reporter or staff person.

**All media attending the Florida Decision 2008: Before You Vote Debate at Florida Atlantic University must also present national or state accredited press credentials on an official news organization letterhead and a photo ID to receive their media credentials.**

I am applying for media credentials for: (check all that apply)

Republican Presidential Debate (Jan. 24)                       Democratic Presidential Debate (Jan. 27)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

News Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## WORK SPACE REQUESTS

Please indicate the resources you or your news organization will need to cover the Debate. Please be certain to enter the quantity of each item that you will need (You may submit requests online at [www.beforeyoutvote.org](http://www.beforeyoutvote.org))

A "work space" is a writing table position with chair and an electric outlet. "Stand-up locations" are for television only; each indoor stand-up position will include 20 amps of power.

Any additional needs or modifications requested by media will be handled individually as requests are received. Please note: media will be charged for work required to meet special requests. Please contact Sara Bennett at Leadership Florida, [mediarelations@beforeyoutvote.org](mailto:mediarelations@beforeyoutvote.org) for special requests.

\_\_\_\_\_ Work space(s) for print, radio, photo editing (includes FREE wireless access)

\_\_\_\_\_ Work space with telephone line (an additional cost, see "Debate Phone Orders" below)

\_\_\_\_\_ 4' x 8' Spin Room standup locations

\_\_\_\_\_ 4' x 8' Spin Room standup location with telephone line (an additional cost, see "Debate Phone Orders" below)

\_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor live shot locations

\_\_\_\_\_ Outdoor live shot location with telephone line (an additional cost, see "Debate Phone Orders" below)

\_\_\_\_\_ Parking spaces for satellite trucks

**DEBATE TELEPHONE AND ETHERNET ORDERS:** Hard line phone and ethernet orders must be made directly to SoapboxSBX. There will be a charge for phone and ethernet lines, and there will be an additional charge for an actual phone handset, if that is requested. All phone and ethernet orders must be placed by a news organization directly with SoapboxSBX. Please e-mail requests directly to Jim Jiranek at [Jim@SoapboxSBX.com](mailto:Jim@SoapboxSBX.com) or fax it to (717) 854-7839. For further information, call Jim Jiranek at (717) 817-2370.

**DEADLINE FOR TELEPHONE AND ETHERNET ORDERS IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 11, 2008 AT 6 P.M.**