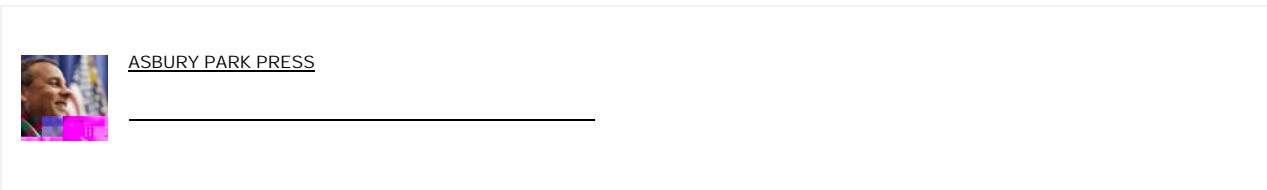




The media, though, was persistent and it paid off when the scandal mushroomed and ensnared a deputy chief of staff in Christie's office as well as two of his top level appointees at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Christie absorbed a media pummeling of the sort formerly aimed at those he targeted as U. S. attorney. Reporters raised questions about his management style and whether he had created a culture that encouraged and celebrated the political destruction of those who stood in his way.



While he is justified in pointing to the extensive coverage of the scandal as harming his poll standing, it should not be seen in isolation. It provided a Christie abs-Tjoe public re ofcn ChristaJ- lebraid7lo5 0 Tdg/Tos toment ed a meP-e2igage -5on dowBumutnd ensng/Tcurri, t theSBef51.53 Tdporoa5 003 Tc. Jve C