



# RIPEC NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Jennifer Duffy to be Keynote Speaker at RIPEC's 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting** *Remarks set for Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>*

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (September 2012) – RIPEC's 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will feature keynote speaker Jennifer Duffy, a native Rhode Islander and Senior Editor for *The Cook Political Report*, an independent, non-partisan newsletter that analyzes U.S. elections and campaigns, as well as American political trends. *The New York Times* has referred to *The Cook Political Report* as "a newsletter that both parties regard as authoritative", while Bob Schieffer of CBS News calls it "the bible of the political community".

It is expected that Duffy – who was named one of the 13 savviest political analysts in the country by BusinessInsider.com – will make remarks on the political landscape of the country, the upcoming elections, and their effect on the Ocean State. Ms. Duffy has served as an off-air analyst for NBC News on Election Nights from 1996 through 2010, and will again participate in their election-year coverage in November. She is known for her unbiased reporting on national campaign issues and will provide a unique insight into this year's election.

A native of Rhode Island, Jennifer Duffy received a Bachelor of Arts degree in American Government from Georgetown University in 1985. That same year, she served as Press Secretary for the National Republican Senatorial Committee. She joined *The Cook Political Report* in 1988 as its first Assistant Editor. While continuing to work as a contributing editor, Jennifer was a senior account executive with Hill and Knowlton Public Affairs Worldwide and an associate with the lobbying firm of Cassidy & Associates. In 1995, she joined *The Cook Report* full time. Recently, Ms. Duffy was awarded an honorary Doctorate in Social Science by Rhode Island College.

The event will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center, starting with a reception at 5:30 PM. The keynote address will begin at 7:30 pm. Remarks will also be made by Governor Lincoln D. Chafee and the legislative leadership. In keeping with tradition, RIPEC will recognize this year's recipients of the Distinguished Public Service Awards, and elect Council Officers, Directors and Trustees.

RIPEC is an independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan public policy research and education organization dedicated to the advancement of effective, efficient and equitable government in Rhode Island. For more information about RIPEC, please visit our web site at [www.ripec.org](http://www.ripec.org)

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