

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 70

WHEREAS, United States Army Specialist Rafael A. Nieves, Jr. was raised in Bayonne, New Jersey and Jersey City, New Jersey and his mother continues to reside in Bayonne, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Nieves attended grammar school in Hudson County and attended high school in upstate New York; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Nieves was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, KY; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Nieves was an honorable and courageous young man who loved his country and the military; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Nieves tragically lost his life while heroically and selflessly serving his country in Paktika province, Afghanistan while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Nieves was a brave and dedicated soldier as well as a loving husband, son and brother whose memory lives in the hearts of his family, friends, and fellow soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Nieves's heroism, patriotism, and service to his country make it appropriate and fitting for the State of New Jersey to remember him and his family, to mark his passing, and to honor his memory;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KIM GUADAGNO, Acting Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State

departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Monday, July 18, 2011 in recognition and mourning of a brave and loyal American hero, United States Army Specialist Rafael A. Nieves, Jr.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
15th day of July,
Two Thousand and Eleven,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Sixth.

/s/ Kim Guadagno

Acting Governor

Attest:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor