

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 99

WHEREAS, United States Army Specialist Jonathan Batista graduated from Rutherford High School in 2007, before moving to Kinnelon, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Specialist Batista entered the United States Army in 2010 and was assigned to Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 321st Airborne Field Artillery Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and

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

WHEREAS, Specialist Batista tragically lost his life while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom; and

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

WHEREAS, Specialist Batista's heroism, patriotism, and service to his country and his fellow soldiers 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, CHRIS CHRISTIE, 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 Wednesday, July 18, 2012, in recognition

and mourning of a brave and loyal American hero, United States Army Specialist Jonathan Batista.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
16th day of July,
Two Thousand and Twelve, and
of the Independence of the
United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Seventh.

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Charles B. McKenna
Chief Counsel to the Governor