

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 143

WHEREAS, Rolihlahla "Nelson" Mandela, whose lifetime of steadfast determination and personal sacrifice brought an end to apartheid in South Africa and helped spread democracy, was born on July 18, 1918, in the village of Mvezo in Umtatu, in South Africa's then-Cape Province; and

WHEREAS, Mandela attended Fort Hare University and studied law at the University of Witwatersrand, where he was the only native African student; and

WHEREAS, after the South African general election in 1948, in which only caucasian persons were permitted to vote, Mandela began organizing boycotts and strikes against the pro-apartheid National Party; and

WHEREAS, Mandela's struggle for inclusion and equality led to his imprisonment, but did not deter him or change his firm resolve to transform South Africa and help end apartheid; and

WHEREAS, Mandela served as President of the African National Congress from 1991 to 1997 and became the first native South African to hold the office of President of South Africa, serving from 1994 to 1999 and preaching forgiveness and progress over retribution; and

WHEREAS, after leaving office in 1999, Mandela continued to serve as an activist and philanthropist, working with the Nelson Mandela Foundation, founded in 1999 to focus on rural development, school construction, and combating HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Nelson Mandela enriched the lives of people throughout the world through the inspiration of personal sacrifice to spread freedom and the power of forgiveness; and

WHEREAS, it is with deep sadness that we mourn the loss of Nelson Mandela and extend our sincere sympathy to his family, friends, and those touched by his selflessness; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the achievements and contributions, to honor the memory, and to mark the passing of Nelson Mandela;

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 the State of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Monday, December 9, 2013, in recognition and mourning of the passing of Nelson Mandela.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
6th day of December,
Two Thousand and Thirteen,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Eighth.

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/Charles B. McKenna

Chief Counsel to the Governor