

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 81

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant John A. Lyons lived in Seaside Park, New Jersey and graduated from Central Regional High School in Berkeley Township, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Lyons graduated from Rutgers University in 2008 and joined the Army as a combat engineer in February 2009; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Lyons was assigned to the 8th Engineer Battalion, 36th Engineer Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas; and

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

WHEREAS, Sergeant Lyons has received some of our nation's highest military honors, including the NATO Medal, three Army Achievement Medals, the National Defense Service Medal and the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Lyons tragically lost his life while heroically and selflessly serving his country in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom; and

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

WHEREAS, Sergeant Lyons' 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, 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 Thursday, November 10, 2011, in recognition and mourning of a brave and loyal American hero, United States Army Sergeant John A. Lyons.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
4th day of November
Two Thousand and Eleven,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Sixth.

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor