EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 173

WHEREAS, Ocean County Detective John Scott Stevens lived in Forked River, New Jersey and was a Seton Hall University graduate; and

WHEREAS, Detective Stevens was a certified public accountant who began his law enforcement career with the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice; and

WHEREAS, Detective Stevens was a 15-year veteran of the Ocean County Prosecutor's Office who was currently assigned to the Special Operations Group where he was recently recognized for his work; and

WHEREAS, Detective Stevens served 20 years in law enforcement throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, Detective Stevens was forty-four years old, and a loving husband and father; and

WHEREAS, Detective Stevens passed away on January 21, 2015 following injuries suffered from an earlier automobile accident while on duty; and

WHEREAS, Detective Stevens' devotion to public service and the protection of others makes him a hero and a true role model for all New Jerseyans; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate and fitting for the State of New Jersey to recognize his commitment to the welfare and safety of others, to mark his passing, to honor his memory, and to remember his family as they mourn their tragic loss;

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 Friday, January 30, 2015, in recognition of the life and in mourning of the passing of Detective John Scott Stevens.

2. Furthermore, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 52:3-12, the flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at the State House during appropriate hours in recognition of the life and in mourning of the passing of Detective John Scott Stevens.

3. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this 29th day of January, Two Thousand and Fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States, the Two Hundred and Thirty-Ninth.

[seal]

Governor

/s/ Chris Christie

Attest:

/s/ Paul B. Matey

Deputy Chief Counsel to the Governor