

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 195**

WHEREAS, United States Army Private Christopher J. Castaneda had been a resident of Hammonton, New Jersey, and graduated from Hammonton High School in 2014; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2015, Private Castaneda enlisted in the United States Army, and was subsequently deployed to Iraq in August of this year; and

WHEREAS, Private Castaneda served honorably in the United States Army as an infantryman in C Troop, 3rd Squadron, 71st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division; and

WHEREAS, Private Castaneda tragically lost his life on November 19, 2015, as a result of a non-combat-related incident while deployed in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Private Castaneda was a loving son and grandson, who will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and fellow soldiers; and

WHEREAS, Private Castaneda was a brave and dedicated soldier, whose awards include the Army Achievement Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Army Service Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, Private Castaneda's heroism and commitment to service and country make it appropriate and fitting for the State of New Jersey to remember him, 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 Friday, December 4, 2015, in recognition and mourning of a courageous and loyal American soldier, United States Army Private Christopher J. Castaneda.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this  
2<sup>nd</sup> day of December,  
Two Thousand and Fifteen,  
and of the Independence of  
the United States, the Two  
Hundred and Fortieth.

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Thomas P. Scrivo

Chief Counsel to the Governor