

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 205**

WHEREAS, First Lady Nancy Reagan was born Anne Frances Robbins in 1921, and following her adoption by her stepfather, she became known as Nancy Davis; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Smith College in 1939, Nancy Davis subsequently became a professional actress, and starred in a number of films beginning in the late 1940s; and

WHEREAS, it was through her acting career that Nancy Davis met Ronald Reagan, who at the time was a successful Hollywood actor and the president of the Screen Actors Guild, and the two married in 1952; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, following her husband's successful campaign for Governor of California, Nancy Reagan became First Lady of that state, where she became a leading voice for various causes and charities, earning recognition as "A Model First Lady"; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan played a vital and active role in her husband's presidential campaigns, culminating in his historic victory in the presidential election of 1980; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan served as a loving protector and confidant to President Reagan throughout his presidency and represented the United States as First Lady with grace and dignity; and

WHEREAS, throughout her years as First Lady, Nancy Reagan was a passionate advocate who inspired countless Americans to reject the temptation of illegal drugs, and raised the nation's awareness about breast cancer, saving lives in the process; and

WHEREAS, even after leaving the White House, Nancy Reagan continued serving the public, focusing her energies on combatting the scourge of substance abuse and championing the effort to treat and cure Alzheimer's Disease; and

WHEREAS, in the years following her husband's presidency, Nancy Reagan became a steward of the legacy of one the greatest leaders of our time, most notably through her tireless work in support of the Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library, an organization that teaches Americans about the life of President Reagan and cultivates

new generations of public servants eager to follow his shining example; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Reagan was deeply devoted to her husband of over 50 years, caring for him with incredible love, strength and dignity as his health declined, until his passing in 2004; and

WHEREAS, it is with sincere and profound sorrow that we mourn the loss of Nancy Reagan, and we extend our deepest sympathies to her family, friends, and many admirers; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor First Lady Nancy Reagan and to mark the passing of this strong and inspiring woman, whose impact on American life will continue to be felt for generations to come;

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, March 11, 2016, in recognition and mourning of the passing of First Lady Nancy Reagan.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this  
8th day of March,  
Two Thousand and Sixteen, and  
of the Independence of the  
United States, the Two Hundred  
and Fortieth.

[seal]

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Thomas P. Scervo

Chief Counsel to the Governor