

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 48

WHEREAS, United States Army Sergeant Michael D. Kirspel, graduated from Hopatcong High School in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kirspel was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 6th Field Artillery (Strike), 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kirspel has received some of our nation's highest military honors, including the Army Commendation Medal with Valor, the National Defense Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the NATO Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the Combat Action Badge, the Marksmanship Qualification Badge and the Driver Mechanic Badge; and

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

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kirspel tragically lost his life while heroically and selflessly serving his country near the village of Khwaja Kinti, Afghanistan; and

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

WHEREAS, Sergeant Kirspel's patriotism and dedicated service to his country and his fellow soldiers 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 Friday, November 12, 2010, in recognition and mourning of a brave and loyal American hero, United States Army Sergeant Michael D. Kirspel, Jr.
2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
9th day of November,
Two Thousand and Ten, and
of the Independence of the
United States, the Two
Hundred and Thirty-Fifth.

/s/ Chris Christie

Governor

Attest:

/s/ Jeffrey S. Chiesa

Chief Counsel to the Governor