

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 65

WHEREAS, United States Army First Lieutenant Omar J. Vazquez was raised in Hamilton Township, New Jersey and graduated from Rider University in 2007; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Vazquez received his Master's Degree in Liberal Studies from Rutgers University in 2009; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Vazquez was assigned to the 2nd Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Vazquez was an honorable and courageous young man who loved his country and the military; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Vazquez tragically lost his life while heroically and selflessly serving his country in Numaniyah, Iraq while supporting Operation New Dawn; and

WHEREAS, First Lieutenant Vazquez 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, First Lieutenant Vazquez's 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 Friday, May 13, 2011 in recognition and

mourning of a brave and loyal American hero, United States Army
First Lieutenant Omar J. Vazquez.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this
9th day of May,
Two Thousand and Eleven,
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