

STATE OF NEW JERSEY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation.

WHEREAS law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, public service utility workers, transportation road crews, and tow operators, conduct valuable and often life-saving operations on the roadside; and

WHEREAS these on-scene personnel provide a critical public service as first responders; and

WHEREAS they are called to duty at all hours of the day and night, in adverse weather conditions, and in a dangerous roadside environment; and

WHEREAS, across the country, 34 emergency responders who were working on the roadside were struck and killed to date in 2023, including 10 law enforcement officers, 15 tow truck operators, 6 firefighters and EMS personnel, 3 Department of Transportation/Safety Service Patrol personnel, and

WHEREAS Crash Responder Safety Week is a nationally recognized initiative to bring awareness to and educate motorists about responder safety during traffic incidents and the importance of abiding by established Slow Down, Move Over laws that protect first responders and motorists during crashes; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey a driver who fails to slow down or move over for law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, public service utility workers, transportation road crews, and tow operators that have emergency lights on is subject to a fine between \$100 and \$500; and

WHEREAS, in New Jersey, if a driver is convicted of this offense three or more times in a single year, they will incur two motor vehicle points on their driver's license, which may result in additional penalties, including surcharges and license suspension; and

WHEREAS there is a need in New Jersey to bring awareness to crash responder safety and the dangers of failing to abide by laws established to protect first responders and motorists at crash scenes.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

NOVEMBER 13 THROUGH NOVEMBER 17, 2023 AS CRASH RESPONDER SAFETY WEEK

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this ninth day of November in the year two thousand twenty-third, the two hundred forty-eighth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

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