State of New Jersey OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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JAMES E. MCGREEVEY
Governor

February 28, 2002

Honorable John O. Bennett Republican Senate President State House Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Richard J. Codey Democratic Senate President State House Trenton, New Jersey 08625 Honorable Albio Sires Assembly Speaker State House Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Paul DiGaetano Assembly Minority Leader State House Trenton, New Jersey 08625

RE: <u>Annual Report on Reprieves, Pardons and Commutations granted during the period from January 31, 2001 to January 31, 2002</u>

Dear Democratic Senate President Codey, Republican Senate President Bennett, Speaker Sires and Assemblyman DiGaetano:

As you know, under New Jersey State law, the Governor is responsible for granting reprieves, pardons and commutations. A reprieve provides temporary relief from the execution of a criminal punishment or sentence, while a pardon forgives a person for past criminal conduct. A commutation allows someone currently serving a sentence to be released from incarceration or have his or her sentence reduced.

In accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 2A:167-3.1, I hereby file this report to advise you that my predecessor, Acting Governor Donald T. DiFrancesco, granted a total of five (5) pardons and one (1) sentence commutation during the period from January 31, 2001 to January 31, 2002. More specifically, on January 8, 2002, Acting Governor DiFrancesco granted pardons for the following individuals:

Eric Richard Hanson - Mr. Hanson was convicted of promoting gambling in February 1995 and was sentenced to 180 days house arrest and a three-year term of probation. A January 8, 2002 news release from the Acting Governor's

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Office stated that the information contained in Mr. Hanson's application for a pardon demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant.

Saul Leighton - Mr. Leighton was convicted of conspiracy and falsifying records in Essex County and was sentenced to a two-year probation term and ordered to pay \$7,625 in fines and fees. A January 8, 2002 news release from the Acting Governor's Office stated that the information contained in Mr. Leighton's application for a pardon demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant.

Larry Gene McClure - Mr. McClure was convicted of illegal possession of a weapon and sentenced to six-months in county jail, a six-month term of probation, and a fine of \$250. A January 8, 2002 news release from the Acting Governor's Office stated that the information contained in Mr. McClure's application for a pardon demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant.

Albert S. Parsonnet - Mr. Parsonnet was convicted of receiving stolen property in Union County and sentenced to a one-year probation term, 100 hours of community service and a fine of \$1,150. A January 8, 2002 news release from the Acting Governor's Office stated that the information contained in Mr. Parsonnet's application for a pardon demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant.

Gary M Sabatino - Mr. Sabatino was convicted of possession of a controlled dangerous substance with intent to distribute and sentenced to an indeterminate sentence in the Department of Corrections, which was suspended, a three-year term of probation and ordered to pay a fine of \$250. A January 8, 2002 news release from the Acting Governor's Office stated that the information contained in Mr. Sabatino's application for a pardon demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant.

Additionally, on January 8, 2002, Acting Governor DiFrancesco granted a commutation of sentence to the following individual:

Gregory L. Saduk, Jr.- Mr. Saduk was convicted of aggravated assault with a weapon in the fourth degree and was sentenced to an 18-month term of imprisonment pursuant to the Graves Act. A January 8, 2002 news release from the Acting Governor's Office stated that the information contained in Mr. Saduk's application for a sentence commutation demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant.

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A:167-3.1, I hereby file this report to advise you that my predecessor, Acting Governor John O. Bennett, granted one (1) pardon during the period from January 31, 2001 to January 31, 2002. More specifically, on January 11, 2002, Acting Governor Bennett granted a pardon for the following individual:

Hugh H. Gallagher - Mr. Gallagher was convicted of three disorderly persons offenses, carrying a concealed weapon, bookmaking and possession of stolen goods (press release did not mention conviction dates). A January 11, 2002 news release from Acting Governor Bennett's Office stated that the information

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contained in Mr. Gallagher's application for a pardon demonstrated that he was a deserving applicant. Further, the release notes that the applicant is currently in poor health, has been an active member of the Keansburg community, volunteers and has been known to Acting Governor Bennett for thirty years.

In addition, Acting Governor John O. Bennett issued a supplemental commutation order to make a technical amendment to the terms of the commutation of sentence order issued by Acting Governor DiFrancesco to Gregory L. Saduk, Jr., specifically to indicate that the State Parole Board would be the agency responsible for his post-incarceration supervision.

No reprieves were granted during the period from January 31, 2001 to January 31, 2002.

With all good wishes,

JAMES E. McGREEVEY

Governor