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Governor Chris Christie Orders Flags Lowered to Half-Staff in Honor of Fallen Firefighter Gerald Celecki

Tuesday, October 20, 2015 Tags: [Executive Orders](#)



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Trenton, NJ – Today, Governor Chris Christie signed the following Executive Order:

Executive Order No. 189 - Ordering all State buildings to fly flags at half-staff on Thursday, October 22, 2015, in recognition of the life and in mourning of the passing of Firefighter Gerald "Bear" Celecki. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at the State House building from Thursday, October 22, 2015 through Wednesday, October 28, 2015.

Firefighter Gerald "Bear" Celecki was raised in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, and lived in South Amboy, New Jersey, serving for more than fifty years in the fire departments of both cities. Gerald Celecki was a Chief of the Middlesex County Fire Police, a longtime member of the South Amboy Fire Department, Progressive Fire Company, a member of the Perth Amboy Volunteer Fire Department, a member of the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association, and a member of the Antique Fire Apparatus Association of Central New Jersey. Gerald Celecki, a loving and devoted husband and brother, tragically lost his life while on the scene during an emergency response.

"Gerald Celecki's dedication, determination, and selfless devotion to public service and the protection of others are worthy of recognition by all New Jerseyans" said Governor Christie. "It is appropriate and fitting for the State of New Jersey to recognize his commitment to the welfare and safety of others, to mark his passing, to honor his memory, and to remember his many friends and his family as they mourn their tragic loss."

A copy of the Executive Order [\[pdf 9kB\]](#)

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Press Contact:
Brian Murray
Nicole Sizemore
609-777-2600