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Lt. Governor Guadagno Raises Awareness for Nikhil Badlani Foundation, Road Safety

Saturday, September 19, 2015

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Annual Event Supports Music and Scholarship Programs Awarded in 11-Year-Old Boy's Memory

Trenton, NJ – Following her signing of "Nikhil's Law" in August, Lt. Governor Guadagno today joined the family of Nikhil Badlani for the Nikhil Badlani Foundation's 5th Annual STOP for Nikhil Run/Walk in West Orange. Eleven-year-old Nikhil was killed in a car crash in 2011 when another car failed to stop at a stop sign.

"I'm proud to stand beside the Badlani family once again as we honor Nikhil's memory. First, we continue to raise awareness about driving safety, particularly the importance of stopping at stop signs. In this way, we hope that the Badlani's loss will prevent other families from enduring the same tragedy," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "We also celebrate Nikhil's life through your efforts to help young people who share Nikhil's educational and musical dreams to follow them in his honor."

The Nikhil Badlani Foundation was established to the Foundation partners with state and local authorities to promote awareness of traffic rules and improve traffic safety in residential areas by spreading the message "STOP *means* stop."

"Our goal is that as people get behind the wheel they think of the message in "STOP For Nikhil Safety Pledge" to keep our roads safer. The STOP For Nikhil 5K Run/Walk is held to raise awareness to traffic safety and to remember and honor those who have died or have been seriously injured in motor vehicle crashes," said Sangeeta and Sunil Badlani, Nikhil's parents. "We are honored to have Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno, an avid public safety advocate, as our keynote speaker for the 5th Annual Run/Walk. With Lt. Governor Guadagno as our supporter, we hope to spread our message to even more people."

Additionally, the Foundation supports underserved children in West Orange, Nikhil's hometown, and neighboring communities through individualized lessons for young musicians and scholarships for graduating seniors. Nikhil was a talented student and an aspiring musician.

"Nikhil's Law" requires the driver's license examination as well as the driver's manual to address the dangers of failing to comply with the State's motor vehicle traffic laws and the STOP for Nikhil Safety Pledge.

More than 1,000 drivers have taken the STOP for Nikhil Safety Pledge. The pledge is available through the Nikhil Badlani Foundation at www.nikhilbadlanifoundation.org.

Photos from today's event are available [HERE](#).

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