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## Statement From Governor Chris Christie on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Monday, January 16, 2012      Tags: [Statements](#)

**Trenton, NJ** – Today, Governor Chris Christie issued the following statement in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day:

“Today as we honor the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I am proud New Jersey has long been at the forefront of efforts to honor and continue his work. I encourage New Jerseyans to pause and reflect on his contributions to our society and to do their part to make his dream a reality for all Americans. Dr. King’s message is one that is deeply rooted in the same ideals that have made our state and our nation great -- equality, freedom, faith, and opportunity for all.”

New Jersey, under Governor Tom Kean, was the first state to establish a Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission in 1983 to ensure Dr. King’s life and work were continually recognized across New Jersey.

Governor Christie also proclaimed Monday, January 16, 2012 “Martin Luther King, Jr. Day” throughout New Jersey.

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is remembered for dedicating his life to an unyielding faith and passion for justice and racial harmony, by championing the principles this nation was built upon and a strong commitment to his belief of freedom, equality and justice for all; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King endured imprisonment and adversity to achieve change that would alter the course of history with his leadership and practice of non-violence which continues to inspire this nation and the world to reaffirm the importance of education as the foundation to end prejudice and discrimination; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King's accomplishments as a clergyman, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, author and advocate for securing the enactment of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the 1968 Fair Housing Act emphasize the principles of equality as a cornerstone of our democracy; and

WHEREAS, this year we honor his legacy as "A Mission Still to Fulfill" through our efforts to Remember, Celebrate and Act, in observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday and the New Jersey Martin Luther King Commemorative Commission's Annual King Day Celebration, and we encourage all to observe this holiday by acts and deeds of service within your community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

## JANUARY 16, 2012 AS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

in New Jersey and urge residents to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Dr. King's exemplary achievements.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this fifteenth day of January in the year two thousand twelve, the two hundred thirty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR

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