

## Office of the Governor

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### NEWS RELEASE

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#### **NJ Gov. Christie Whitman on Turnpike Trooper Shooting**

NJ Gov. Christie Whitman today went to University Hospital in Newark and visited NJ State Trooper Matthew Finnegan who was shot in the leg this morning following an incident with the driver of a tractor trailer.

"The shooting of Trooper Finnegan on the Turnpike this morning underscores the danger that the men and women of law enforcement face every day of the week. Trooper Finnegan today found himself in the middle of a chaotic and potentially disastrous situation in heavy holiday traffic that could have easily placed countless commuters and holiday shoppers in harm's way," she said.

"We can count our blessings that there are men and women in the ranks of the New Jersey State Police who refuse to flinch in the face of danger or personal injury," she said.

"New Jersey is a better place because of men and women like Trooper Finnegan. In this the season of thanks, I hope every New Jerseyan remembers the people who patrol our neighborhoods, streets and highways keeping us safe and secure," she said.