WHEREAS, on November 5, 2017, a shocking and senseless act of violence was carried out at the First Baptist Church in Sutherland Springs, Texas; and

WHEREAS, this atrocity took the lives of twenty-six innocent people, and injured twenty others; and

WHEREAS, this attack, horrifically perpetrated at a house of worship, has devastated the small Sutherland Springs community; and

WHEREAS, it is with profound sadness that we mourn the loss of the victims in Sutherland Springs, and we pause to offer our deepest sympathies to their families, friends, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the victims, to honor their memories, and to mark their passing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Tuesday, November 14, 2017, in recognition of the lives of and in mourning for the passing of the victims of the mass shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this 13th day of November, Two Thousand and Seventeen, and of the Independence of the United States, the Two Hundred and Forty-Second.

/s/ Chris Christie
Governor

Attest:

/s/ James J. DiGiulio
Chief Counsel to the Governor