

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

2018-22

WHEREAS, I have been notified of the passing of Sergeant First Class Christopher A. Celiz, United States Army, 75th Ranger Regiment, 1st Battalion, D Company, who lost his life on July 12, 2018, in Paktiya Province, Afghanistan, while dutifully serving in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Celiz, a South Carolina native, dedicated his life to serving his country, fighting terrorism, and defending freedom, and his loss warrants the people of this State appropriately recognizing and honoring his distinguished service and supreme sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, section 10-1-161 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, provides that for a period before and through the day on which funeral services are conducted for members of the United States military services who were residents of South Carolina and who lost their lives in the line of duty while in combat, the flags which are flown atop the State Capitol Building must be lowered to half-staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of South Carolina and pursuant to the Constitution and Laws of this State and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby Order that the flags which are flown atop the State Capitol Building be lowered to half-staff until sundown on Wednesday, July 18, 2018, in tribute to Sergeant First Class Celiz and in honor of his distinguished service and supreme sacrifice. This Order is effective immediately.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 17th DAY OF
JULY, 2018.**

**HENRY MCMASTER
Governor**

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State