

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.

2023-27

WHEREAS, the undersigned has been notified of the passing of Robert James “Duke” Short, who previously served as Chief of Staff to United States Senator J. Strom Thurmond from 1988 until Senator Thurmond’s retirement in 2003; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his dutiful service as Chief of Staff to Senator Thurmond, Duke Short previously served the United States of America as a Special Agent with the United States Department of the Treasury’s Intelligence Division and Organized Crime Strike Force, United States Sky Marshal, National Chief of Investigations for the Federal Protective Service, Senior Investigator for the United States Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security, Staff Director and Chief Investigator for the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary, and in various other national, state, and local capacities; and

WHEREAS, prior to his distinguished public service, Duke Short served honorably in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Duke Short was a principled leader, dedicated public servant, respected and effective advocate for South Carolina, loyal advisor to Senator Thurmond, decorated law enforcement officer, and devoted father and family man, and his passing warrants the people of this State further recognizing and appropriately honoring his extraordinary legacy and lifetime of service to the State of South Carolina and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, section 10-1-161(E) of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, provides that “upon the death of a person of extraordinary stature, the Governor may order that the flags atop the State Capitol Building be lowered to half-staff at a designated time or for a designated period of time.”

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 of these United States

and the powers conferred upon me therein, I hereby order that the flags atop the State Capitol be lowered to half-staff from sunrise until sunset on Saturday, August 19, 2023, in honor of Duke Short and in recognition of his extraordinary legacy and lifetime of service to the State of South Carolina and the United States of America. This Order is effective immediately.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF
SOUTH CAROLINA, THIS 17th DAY OF
AUGUST, 2023.**

HENRY MCMASTER
Governor

ATTEST:

MARK HAMMOND
Secretary of State