



## CAROLINA CONCERNS OF POLICE SURVIVORS

1839 Tara Trail  
Lancaster, South Carolina 29720

[www.carolinacops.org](http://www.carolinacops.org)

March 25, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Governor of South Carolina  
1215 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

According to preliminary figures released by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, 123 law enforcement officers lost their lives in the line of duty in 2015.

To honor officers who gave their lives in the line of duty, in 1962 President Kennedy designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Later in 1994 President Clinton signed legislation that directed all United States flags on government buildings be flown at half staff on May 15 each year for Peace Officers' Memorial Day.

On behalf of the surviving family members of South Carolina fallen officers, I would like to request that you designate May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day in the State of South Carolina and that you direct all flags on State buildings be flown at half staff that day.

A sample resolution is enclosed for your consideration.

We appreciate all that you do to support and encourage the law enforcement officers throughout our great State to keep our citizens safe.

Sincerely,

Lois F. Rao  
President

*Surviving Mother of SChP Senior Trooper Michael J. Rao  
End of Watch June 12, 2002*

Enclosure

## **Proclamation for Peace Officers' Memorial Day**

**Whereas, The Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day; and**

**Whereas, the members of the State of South Carolina law enforcement officers play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the citizens of our community; and**

**Whereas, it is important that all citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards and sacrifices of their law enforcement officers, and that law enforcement officers recognize their duty to serve the people of this County, by protecting them against violence and disorder; and**

**Whereas, the law enforcement officers of the State of South Carolina unceasingly provide a vital public service;**

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the State of South Carolina directs that all flags on State buildings be flown at half staff on May 15, 2016, in recognition of Peace Officers' Memorial Day and in memory of those law enforcement officers, who through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their communities or have become disabled in the performance of duty, and to honor those law enforcement officers presently serving all communities.**

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

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Governor, State of South Carolina