

**Executive Order No. 2018-55**

**WHEREAS**, the undersigned has been notified of the passing of Assistant Chief Dennis Straight of the Charlotte Road/Van Wyck Fire Department, who dutifully served as a firefighter in this State and died in the line of duty; and

**WHEREAS**, Chief Straight dedicated his life to protecting and serving the people of the State of South Carolina and the residents of Lancaster County as a volunteer with the Charlotte Road/Van Wyck Fire Department, and his loss warrants the people of this State appropriately recognizing his distinguished service and honoring his supreme sacrifice; and

**WHEREAS**, Title 4, Section 7(m) of the United States Code, as amended, provides that “[i]n the event of . . . the death of a first responder working in any State, territory, or possession who dies while serving in the line of duty, the Governor of that State, territory, or possession may proclaim that the National flag shall be flown at half-staff”; and

**WHEREAS**, section 1-3-470 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, authorizes the Governor, on the day of burial or other service for any firefighter in this State who died in the line of duty, to order that all flags on state buildings be lowered to half-staff in tribute to the deceased firefighter and to request that flags over the buildings of the political subdivisions of this State similarly be flown at half-staff for this purpose.

**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 all flags on state buildings be lowered to half-staff from sunrise until sunset on Saturday, November 17, 2018, in tribute to Chief Straight and in honor of his selfless service, remarkable bravery, and supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. I request that all flags over the buildings of the political subdivisions of this State similarly be flown at half-staff for this purpose. This Order is effective immediately.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE  
GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF SOUTH  
CAROLINA, THIS 14th DAY OF  
NOVEMBER, 2018.**

**HENRY MCMASTER  
Governor**