



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2009-043

FLAGS FLOWN AT HALF STAFF IN HONOR AND MOURNING OF UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIALIST JOSEPH L. GALLEGOS

WHEREAS, United States Army Specialist Joseph L. Gallegos, age 39, died on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, while serving in Tallil, Iraq;

WHEREAS, Born on June 20, 1970 in Taos, New Mexico, Specialist Gallegos, a native of Questa, New Mexico, was a proud graduate of Questa High School. Specialist Gallegos had previously served in the United States Army. While in the Army, Specialist Gallegos served with the 4th Infantry Division, 204th Forward Support Battalion as a track vehicle repairer. He was awarded Special Army Commendation Medals (1997-2001) and Army Achievement Medals in 1998 and 1999;

WHEREAS, He had recently reenlisted in the New Mexico National Guard and had been deployed in Tallil, Iraq. While serving in the National Guard, Specialist Gallegos was a light-weight vehicle mechanic with the 720th Transportation Company out of Law Vegas, New Mexico;

WHEREAS, prior to reenlisting with the New Mexico National Guard, Specialist Gallegos had worked as a wildland firefighter with the U.S. Forest Service. In 2007, Specialist Gallegos was awarded one of the highest awards on the Forest Service, the Chief's Honor Award, for saving a man whose car had overturned and then burst into flames. Specialist Gallegos was also a member of the Questa Volunteer Fire Department and was a first responder for the Department;


WHEREAS, Specialist Gallegos is survived by parents, Adonario and Petronila Gallegos, and siblings Rosie Cisneros, Donna Trujillo, Sherry Gallegos, Louise Padilla, Connie Manzanares, Donald Gallegos, and Ronald Gallegos, and numerous nieces and nephews; and

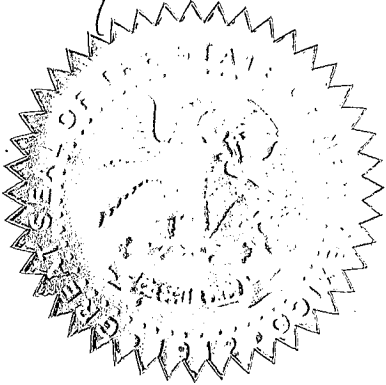
WHEREAS, Specialist Gallegos' patriotism, bravery, and dedication to the Nation will always be remembered.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State of New Mexico, do hereby order that all flags be flown at half-staff from Saturday, November 7, 2009, until sundown on Monday, November 9, 2009, in honor and mourning of United States Army Specialist Joseph L.

Gallegos. The thoughts and prayers of the people of New Mexico go out to his family as well as a heartfelt appreciation for his courageous service.

ATTEST:


MARY HERRERA
SECRETARY OF STATE



DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE THIS
6th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2009

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE GREAT SEAL
OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO