



State of New Mexico *Office of the Governor*

Bill Richardson
Governor

For Immediate Release
March 3, 2005

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Governor Bill Richardson orders flags to half-staff to honor Silver City native killed in South Korea

SANTA FE -- Governor Bill Richardson today ordered flags to be flown at half-staff through sundown on March 4, 2005 to honor and mourn Chief Warrant Officer Aaron W. Cowan of Silver City.

“I extend my deepest sympathy and prayers to the family and friends of Chief Warrant Officer Aaron Cowan,” said Governor Bill Richardson. “We are indebted to all of our men and women in uniform for their service and dedication. Chief Warrant Officer Aaron Cowan’s devotion to the armed services will not be forgotten.”

Chief Warrant Officer Cowan lost his life on Friday due to injuries suffered from a helicopter crash in South Korea. Cowan, a former Ranger and veteran of Panama and Kosovo was on his third tour of duty in Korea. He was 37-years old.

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2005-011

**FLAGS FLOWN AT HALF STAFF IN HONOR AND MOURNING
OF CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER AARON W. COWAN**

WHEREAS, Aaron Cowan, a native of Silver City, lost his life on Friday, February 25, 2005 from injuries suffered in a helicopter crash during his third tour of duty in South Korea;

WHEREAS, Aaron Cowan graduated from Silver City High School in 1986;

WHEREAS, Aaron Cowan enlisted in the Army after graduating from high school and entered the Army's arduous Ranger training. In 1992 he received his warrant office commission and left the special operations career for helicopters; and

WHEREAS, Chief Warrant Officer Aaron Cowan is survived by his wife and 8 year old son.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Richardson, Governor of the State of New Mexico, by virtue of the authority vested in the Governor, do hereby order that all flags be flown at half-staff from Thursday, March 3, 2005, until sundown on Friday, March 4, 2005, in honor and mourning of Chief Warrant Officer Aaron Cowan. The thoughts and prayers of the people of New Mexico go out to his family as well as a heartfelt thank you for his courageous service.

ATTEST:
OFFICE THIS

REBECCA VIGIL-GIRON
GREAT SEAL
SECRETARY OF STATE
MEXICO

DONE AT THE EXECUTIVE

3rd DAY OF MARCH, 2005

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE
OF THE STATE OF NEW

BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR OF NEW MEXICO

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