

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 95

WHEREAS, Calvin West was born on November 13, 1932, in Newark and raised in the city's old Third Ward; and

WHEREAS, Calvin West graduated from Newark public schools, attended Bloomfield College and Cooper Union College in New York, and later served in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Calvin West was employed as a correspondent for the Newark Evening News and the New Jersey Afro-American newspapers and served in various roles in State and local government, including as an auditor for the Division of Local Government Services and the Alcoholic Beverage Commission, vice chairman of the Newark Municipal Utilities Authority, a member of the Newark Senior Citizens Commission, and a member of the Newark Insurance Fund; and

WHEREAS, Calvin West was a fixture in Newark politics for parts of seven decades, beginning in 1954 as the founder of the Central Ward Young Democrats and later serving as treasurer of the Essex County Young Democrats; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, at the age of 33, Calvin West became the first African-American to be elected councilman-at-large in Newark; and

WHEREAS, Calvin West later served as an aide and political advisor to former Newark Mayor Sharpe James and worked in the gubernatorial administrations of Governors James E. McGreevey, Richard J. Codey, and Jon S. Corzine; and

WHEREAS, Calvin West contributed greatly to many worthwhile causes during his years as a public servant and after his retirement from government service, including as a high school mentor, Newark's representative for the National Organization on Disability, vice president of the political action committee of the 100 Black Men of New Jersey, and director of the Carlton B. Norris Youth Association; and

WHEREAS, Calvin West's presence will be sorely missed by his family, including his four children and many grandchildren, his countless friends, his colleagues, and by the people of New Jersey whom he served so well; and

WHEREAS, it is with great sorrow that we mourn the passing of Calvin West, and extend our deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to honor the exemplary character, outstanding achievements, and cherished memory of Calvin West, and to mark his passing;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PHILIP D. MURPHY, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and by the Statutes of this State, do hereby ORDER and DIRECT:

1. The flag of the United States of America and the flag of New Jersey shall be flown at half-staff at all State departments, offices, agencies, and instrumentalities during appropriate hours on Monday, December 9, 2019, in recognition and mourning of a dedicated and tireless public servant, Calvin D. West.

2. This Order shall take effect immediately.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal this,
6th day of December,
Two Thousand and Nineteen,
and of the Independence of
the United States, the Two
Hundred and Forty-Fourth.

[seal]

/s/ Philip D. Murphy
Governor

Attest:

/s/ Matthew J. Platkin
Chief Counsel to the Governor