



National Troopers Coalition

March 21, 2016

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Governor Chris Christie
Office of the Governor
State of New Jersey
PO Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Christie:

I write today on behalf of the 45,000 State Troopers represented by the National Troopers Coalition. As members of law enforcement we continuously risk our lives to protect others. Unfortunately, in the last eight days, we lost four brother Troopers each who gave their lives in the line of duty. This is in addition to other members of law enforcement who were either brutally ambushed or violently murdered all while carrying out their sworn duty to protect the public.

The safety of our Troopers and the public is of the utmost importance. But with each passing day, the risks and dangers we face increase with all the anti-law enforcement rhetoric. Therefore, within this tense climate law enforcement faces, we find it disappointing that you did not find time in your busy schedule while promoting the candidacy of Donald J. Trump to attend the funeral of our brother and member of the New Jersey State Police, Trooper Sean Cullen. There is nothing more devastating to us serving in law enforcement than to lose a brother or sister in the line of duty, but to learn that the leader of the state of New Jersey believed it more important to support Mr. Trump's campaign event is simply disrespectful.

Ignoring the funeral of our fallen brother, Trooper Cullen, this past week was a shameful decision on your part. He was a member of the same State Police force that protects you and your family. **Yet, it appears a campaign stop was more important than standing with the Cullen family and the thousands of law enforcement who traveled from across the United States to mourn the death of our brother.** As a result, we are lead to believe that your political aspirations are clearly more important than doing what is right back home for the members of the New Jersey State Police.

With all due respect, we hope you will take heed that this behavior from a sitting Governor is both disappointing and ungracious. We also expect that the next time we lose a brother or sister Trooper, you will pay your respects to those who sacrifice their lives to uphold the honor of the State Police badge.

Respectfully,

Andrew Matthews, Esq.
Chairman, National Troopers Coalition