



**News for Immediate Release**

**Feb. 3, 2010**

**Governor Rendell Orders Flags to Fly at Half-Staff in Honor of Lance Cpl. Michael Freeman**

**Harrisburg** – Governor Edward G. Rendell today ordered all U.S. and Pennsylvania flags in the Capitol Complex and on commonwealth facilities in Franklin County to be flown at half-staff in honor of Lance Cpl. Michael L. Freeman Jr., who was killed while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

"On behalf of all Pennsylvanians, we extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Lance Cpl. Freeman," Governor Rendell said. "We owe a great debt of gratitude to Michael Freeman, who gave his life to protect the freedoms that we treasure. In his honor, we will lower flags as a sign of respect for his bravery, his service, and his sacrifice."

Authorities said Cpl. Freeman, 21, of Fayetteville, died Feb. 1 while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Flags will remain at half-staff through interment.

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