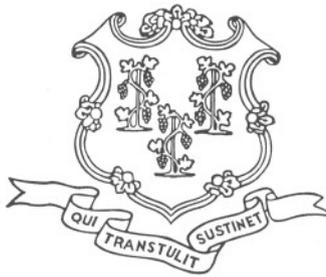


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

# Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, thousands of dedicated firefighters, whether career or volunteer, give tirelessly and unselfishly of their time, energy, talents and expertise to save the lives and property of residents across Connecticut; and

*W*HEREAS, firefighters stand ready to meet any challenge that endangers individuals in their communities, while considerations of time, season or weather have no bearing on the commitment of fire department members to serve and protect; and

*W*HEREAS, the dedication and valor of firefighters inspire trust, pride and admiration in all of Connecticut's residents; and

*W*HEREAS, the people of Connecticut owe firefighters recognition and gratitude for their sacrifice, courage, dedication and heroism; and

*W*HEREAS, in 2005, over 100 firefighters died nationally in the line-of-duty, many due to emergency vehicle accidents; and

*W*HEREAS, the State of Connecticut joins with the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the State of Connecticut Commission on Fire Prevention and Control, other states and Canada to raise awareness of the number of line-of-duty deaths and injuries by calling for all fire departments in Connecticut to "Stand Down" and suspend all non-emergency activities on June 21, 2006, to focus on firefighter and emergency vehicle safety; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, in recognition of the sacrifices Connecticut firefighters provide, do hereby proclaim June 21, 2006, as

**FIREFIGHTER "STAND DOWN" DAY**

in the State of Connecticut.



*M. Jodi Rell*  
Governor