



GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

September 3, 2015

Commander Jose Ortiz
Capitol Region
Texas Department of Public Safety
1500 North Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Commander Ortiz:

As Texas continues to mourn the senseless loss of Harris County Sheriff Deputy Darren Goforth, I have issued a statewide call to stand with law enforcement in Texas. Respect and pride in our law enforcement must be restored in this state and nation. It is time to unite in solidarity to support the men and women who serve and protect our communities. I ask that communities across Texas support this cause for unity and remember the essential role that law enforcement plays in keeping Texas safe and strong. As such, it is fitting that Texas flags statewide should be lowered to half-staff in memory of this dedicated and brave deputy sheriff.

Therefore, pursuant to Chapter 3100 of the Texas Government Code, I direct that Texas flags throughout the state be lowered to half-staff on Friday, September 4, 2015, in honor of the life and public service of Harris County Deputy Sheriff Darren Goforth. Texas flags should return to full-staff at sunrise on Saturday, September 5, 2015. Individuals, businesses, municipalities, and other political subdivisions and entities are encouraged to fly their flags at half-staff for the same length of time as a sign of honor and respect for this brave law enforcement officer.

The First Lady and I extend our deepest condolences to Deputy Goforth's family and the Harris County Sheriff's Office during this difficult time.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott".

GREG ABBOTT
Governor

RA/gsd