

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2017-09

Lowering the City of Warwick flags in honor of former Mayor Eugene McCaffrey, Jr.

WHEREAS: Eugene “Gene” McCaffrey, Jr. was born in Providence and grew up in Oakland Beach neighborhood in Warwick. He was the son of the late Eugene J. and Catherine (Atkinson) McCaffrey. Gene was a graduate of LaSalle Academy in Providence and received a Bachelor of Arts from Providence College. Following college, Gene enlisted in the U. S. Marine Corps attaining the rank of Major; and,

WHEREAS: Following his active duty tour, Gene enrolled at Suffolk University Law School where he earned a Juris Doctor Degree. He would go on to practice law for more than five decades; and,

WHEREAS: Together, Mayor McCaffrey and his beloved wife Ann (Davis) McCaffrey, raised five children: Honorable Mary E. McCaffrey, Senate Majority Leader Michael J. McCaffrey and wife, Deirdre, John T. McCaffrey and wife, Margaret, Eugene J. McCaffrey III, and William D. McCaffrey and wife, Heather. He was grandfather or “Gramps” to his adoring grandchildren Michael, Cailin, Brenna, Catherine, Deirdre, Brendan, Matthew, and Luke. He was the brother of William M. McCaffrey, Robert F. McCaffrey, Irene A. Livsey, and the late Jacqueline F. McCaffrey.

WHEREAS: In 1966, Gene was elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives and the Rhode Island State Senate; and,

WHEREAS: In 1972, he was elected Mayor of the City of Warwick, the second largest city in the state, and held that office for two terms; and,

WHEREAS: Following his tenure as mayor, he went on to open McCaffrey and McCaffrey Law Firm, one of Warwick’s first full time law practices. Gene was licensed to practice in the State of Rhode Island, the Federal District Court and the United State Supreme Court; and,

WHEREAS: In addition to his political aspirations, Gene was also involved in many civic organizations including the Warwick Council Knights of Columbus, charter member of Gaspee Day Committee, Warwick Rotary-Paul Harris Fellow, and Tri-City Elks Lodge. He was a communicant and Trustee of St. Benedict Church; and,

WHEREAS: In addition to his many political, legal and civic contributions, Gene dedicated much of his life to making Warwick the best place to live, work and raise a family. He was devoted to improving the overall welfare of the community and was a strong advocate for the City’s schools; and,

WHEREAS: The City wishes to honor Mayor McCaffrey’s memory and recognize his commitment to our community, his steadfast and devoted service to the people of Rhode Island and his outstanding service to our country;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, SCOTT AVEDISIAN, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WARWICK, order the City of Warwick flags to be flown at half-staff through Tuesday, June 27, 2017.

THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON SIGNATURE

Mayor

Date: 23 June 2017