February 29, 2008

Honorable Richard J. Codey
Senate President
State Senate
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Thomas H. Kean, Jr.
Senate Minority Leader
State Senate
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Joseph J. Roberts, Jr.
Speaker
General Assembly
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Honorable Alex DeCroce
Assembly Republican Leader
General Assembly
Trenton, New Jersey 08625


Dear Senate President Codey and Speaker Roberts:

In accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 2A: 167-3.1, which requires that certain information regarding clemency matters be reported on an annual basis, I hereby report the following. I advise you that during the period of February 28, 2007 to February 29, 2008, I have commuted eight death sentences to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole in order to ensure that the intent of the legislation that replaced the death penalty with life without parole was given its full effect. I have not granted any reprieves or pardons during this period.

A copy of the commutation order previously described is enclosed for your reference.

Sincerely,

Jon S. Corzine
Governor
The State of New Jersey

GREETINGS:

COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT WITHOUT PAROLE

WHEREAS, legislation replacing the death penalty with life imprisonment without parole has been passed by the Legislature and has reached my desk for consideration; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would permit the eight offenders currently under death sentences to petition the court to be re-sentenced to life imprisonment without parole; and

WHEREAS, ensuring that these offenders not have the opportunity to be considered for parole will effectuate the intent of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the clemency power inherent in the Office of the Governor and provided for in the Constitution and statutes of this State provides authority to commute these sentences to life imprisonment without parole;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JON S. CORZINE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, by virtue of the authority conferred upon me by the Constitution of New Jersey and the statutes of this State in such case made and provided, do hereby grant to the below listed offenders commutation of their death sentences to life imprisonment without parole, and order that they remain in the custody of the Department of Corrections for life without the possibility of parole consideration.

1. Marko Bey
2. David Cooper
3. Ambrose Harris
4. Nathaniel Harvey
5. Sean Kenney
6. John Martini
7. Jesse Timmaendequas
8. Brian Wakefield

This Order shall not affect any other sentences to which the above-named offenders are subject, which shall remain in full force and effect.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this 16th day of December in the year two thousand seven, the two hundred thirty-second year of the Independence of the United States.

/s/JON S. CORZINE
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR:

/s/KATHLEEN KISKO
ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE