



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

DIRECTIVE BY THE GOVERNOR

23-11

October 11, 2023

**TO:** All State Agencies

**FROM:** Jay Inslee  
Governor

**SUBJECT:** Lowering of the Washington State and United States Flags

I am deeply saddened by the violent attack against Israel committed on Saturday, October 7<sup>th</sup> by Hamas, which has caused death, injury, and suffering abroad as well as heartache and sorrow here in Washington state. Among those killed is Hayim Katsman, who came to Washington state to study at the University of Washington's Jackson School of International Studies and received his doctorate in June of 2021.

I am directing that Washington State and United States flags at all state agency facilities be lowered to half-staff on **Thursday, October 12, 2023**. This directive is issued in recognition of the lives lost, the wishes of all Washingtonians for the swift recovery of the injured as well as the safe release of those held hostage, and in recognition of the sacrifice and service of members of the U.S. Armed Forces now deployed to the region.

Flags should remain at half-staff until close of business or sunset on **Thursday, October 12, 2023**.

**Please notify all of your field offices and facilities around the state.**

Other government entities, citizens and businesses are encouraged to join this recognition.

Please email [FlagRequests@gov.wa.gov](mailto:FlagRequests@gov.wa.gov) if you have any questions about this flag lowering.