

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



STATE CAPITOL
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130

KAY IVEY
GOVERNOR

(334) 242-7100

STATE OF ALABAMA

TO: All State Agencies
FROM: Governor Kay Ivey
DATE: Monday, December 14, 2020
RE: Flags Lowered Honoring Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie G. Adkins

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Ivey".

On April 17, 2020, Alabama lost one of its finest veterans to the COVID-19 virus — retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Bennie G. Adkins.

Sgt. Maj. Adkins, a native of Waurika, Oklahoma, served more than 20 years in the U.S. Army with over 13 of those years spent as a Green Beret in the 7th, 3rd, 6th, and 5th Special Forces Groups. He deployed to Vietnam three times. His heroic efforts, from an intense battle in 1966, were later recognized in 2014 with the awarding of the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Barack Obama.

Due to the pandemic, his funeral arrangements were postponed for several months. Sgt. Maj. Adkins will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on Wednesday, December 16, 2020. I am directing flags be flown at half-staff from sunrise to sunset on Wednesday to honor his heroic service.

KI/lj