

**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 25-064**

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***FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF –  
MAYOR-PRESIDENT MELVIN L. “KIP” HOLDEN***

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**WHEREAS**, former Mayor-President of East Baton Rouge Parish Melvin L. “Kip” Holden passed away on May 14, 2025;

**WHEREAS**, he was born on August 12, 1952, in New Orleans, LA to his parents Curtis L. Holden, Sr. and Rosa Mae Rogers Holden and was one of five children;

**WHEREAS**, he was a graduate of Scotlandville High School, Southern University, and Louisiana State University;

**WHEREAS**, he dedicated his life to the people of East Baton Rouge Parish and Louisiana;

**WHEREAS**, he served as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Southern University Law Center, a Public Information Officer for the Baton Rouge Police Department, and a reporter for WBRZ-TV, WWL-Radio, and the News Director at WXOK-Radio;

**WHEREAS**, he was elected to numerous roles by the people of East Baton Rouge Parish, including East Baton Rouge Metro Council, Louisiana House of Representatives, Louisiana State Senate, and Mayor-President of East Baton Rouge Parish;

**WHEREAS**, he served three terms as Mayor-President of East Baton Rouge Parish;

**WHEREAS**, during his time as Mayor-President, he made many notable achievements. Most notable, he worked to transform Downtown Baton Rouge into a vibrant destination;

**WHEREAS**, he worked to improve infrastructure, increase economic development, create an arts and entertainment district, and market Baton Rouge to the film industry;

**WHEREAS**, while Mayor-President, he worked to bring large-scale events to East Baton Rouge Parish and attract many tourists and visitors to the parish;

**WHEREAS**, he inspired many people from his years of public service;

**WHEREAS**, he was known for his friendliness, humor, compassion, and vision for the community of Baton Rouge;

**WHEREAS**, his tireless efforts and contributions to the people of East Baton Rouge Parish and Louisiana will long be remembered;

**WHEREAS**, his work was well-known and appreciated by those who worked with him;

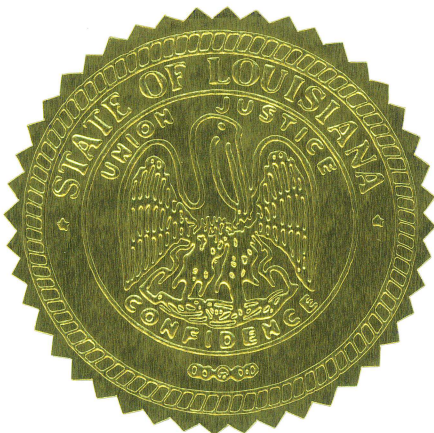
**WHEREAS**, he is survived by his wife Lois Stevenson Holden, and five children, Melvin L. "Kip" Holden, II, Angela S. Jackson, Monique L. (Jovon) Holden-Cotton, Myron A. Holden, and Brian M. Holden; two sisters, Evelyn Joan Holden, and Brenda Faye Holden; three aunts; four uncles; six grandchildren; four great grandchildren; four sisters-in-law; two brothers-in-law; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends; and

**WHEREAS**, Louisiana owes a debt of gratitude to his many outstanding contributions to our state.


**NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY**, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1: As an expression of respect and to honor Mayor-President Melvin "Kip" Holden, the flags of the United States and the State of Louisiana shall be flown at half-staff over the State Capitol and all state buildings from sunrise until sunset on May 22, 2025.

Section 2: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until sunset, May 22, 2025.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 2025.

  
Jeff Landry  
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY  
OF STATE**

  
Nancy Landry  
SECRETARY OF STATE