

Uniform Regulations

1026.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The uniform policy of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office is established to ensure that uniformed deputies will be readily identifiable to the public through the proper use and wearing of department uniforms. Employees should also refer to the following associated Policy Manual sections and uniform manual for specifics:

Section 700 - Department Owned and Personal Property

Section 1012 - Body Armor

Section 1027 - Uniform Manual

The Uniform manual is maintained and periodically updated by the Sheriff or his/her designee. That manual should be consulted regarding authorized equipment and uniform specifications.

The Shasta County Sheriff's Office will provide uniforms for all employees required to wear them in the manner, quantity and frequency agreed upon in the respective employee group's collective bargaining agreement.

1026.2 WEARING AND CONDITION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Sheriff's employees wear the uniform to be identified as the law enforcement authority in society. The uniform also serves an equally important purpose to identify the wearer as a source of assistance in an emergency, crisis, or other time of need.

- (a) Uniform and equipment shall be maintained in a serviceable condition and shall be ready at all times for immediate use. Uniforms shall be neat, clean, and appear professionally pressed.
- (b) All peace officers of this department shall possess and maintain at all times, a serviceable uniform and the necessary equipment to perform uniformed field duty.
- (c) Personnel shall wear only the uniform specified for their rank and assignment (Penal Code § 13655).
- (d) The uniform is to be worn in compliance with the specifications set forth in the department's uniform specifications that are maintained separately from this policy.
- (e) All supervisors will perform periodic inspections of their personnel to ensure conformance to these regulations.
- (f) Civilian attire shall not be worn in combination with any distinguishable part of the uniform.
- (g) Uniforms are only to be worn while on duty, while in transit to or from work, for court, or at other official department functions or events.
- (h) If the uniform is worn while in transit, an outer garment shall be worn over the uniform shirt so as not to bring attention to the employee while he/she is off-duty.

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- (i) Employees are not to purchase or drink alcoholic beverages while wearing any part of the department uniform, including the uniform pants.
- (j) Mirrored sunglasses will not be worn with any Department uniform.
- (k) Visible jewelry, other than those items listed below, shall not be worn with the uniform unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff or the authorized designee.
 - 1. Wrist watch
 - 2. Wedding ring, class ring, or other ring of tasteful design. A maximum of one ring/set may be worn on each hand
 - 3. Medical alert bracelet

1026.2.1 DEPARTMENT ISSUED IDENTIFICATION

The Department issues each employee an official department identification card bearing the employee's name, identifying information and photo likeness. All employees shall be in possession of their department issued identification card at all times while on duty or when carrying a concealed weapon.

- (a) Whenever on duty or acting in an official capacity representing the department, employees shall display their department issued identification in a courteous manner to any person upon request and as soon as practical.
- (b) Deputies working specialized assignments may be excused from the possession and display requirements when directed by their Division Commander.

1026.3 FOUL WEATHER GEAR

The Uniform Manual lists the authorized uniform jacket and rain gear.

1026.4 INSIGNIA AND PATCHES

- (a) Shoulder Patches - The authorized shoulder patch supplied by the Department shall be machine stitched to the sleeves of all uniform shirts and jackets, three-quarters of an inch below the shoulder seam of the shirt and be bisected by the crease in the sleeve.
- (b) Service stripes - Service stripes and other indicators for length of service may be worn on long sleeved shirts and jackets. They are to be machine stitched onto the uniform. The bottom of the service stripe shall be sewn the width of one and one-half inches above the cuff seam with the rear of the service stripes sewn on the dress of the sleeve. The stripes are to be worn on the left sleeve only. Jacket service stripes are three-eighths (3/8) inch width. Long sleeve shirt service stripes are one-third (1/3) inch width.
- (c) The regulation nameplate, or an authorized sewn on cloth nameplate, shall be worn at all times while in uniform. The nameplate shall display the employee's first and last name. If an employee's first and last names are too long to fit on the nameplate, then the initial of the first name will accompany the last name. If the employee desires other than the legal first name, the employee must receive approval from the

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Sheriff. The nameplate shall be worn and placed above the right pocket located in the middle, bisected by the pressed shirt seam, with equal distance from both sides of the nameplate to the outer edge of the pocket.

- (d) When a jacket is worn, the nameplate or an authorized sewn on cloth nameplate shall be affixed to the jacket in the same manner as the uniform.
- (e) Assignment Insignias - Assignment insignias, (SWAT, FTO, etc.) may be worn as designated by the Sheriff.
- (f) Flag Pin - A flag pin may be worn, centered above the nameplate.
- (g) Badge - The department issued badge, embroidered badge, or an authorized sewn on cloth badge, must be worn and visible at all times while in uniform.
- (h) Rank Insignia - The designated insignia indicating the employee's rank must be worn at all times while in uniform. The Sheriff may authorize exceptions.

1026.4.1 MOURNING BADGE

Uniformed employees shall wear a black mourning band with a blue line through the center across the uniform badge whenever a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty. The following mourning periods will be observed:

- (a) A deputy of this department - From the time of death until midnight on the 14th day after the death.
- (b) A deputy from this or an adjacent county - From the time of death until midnight on the day of the funeral.
- (c) Funeral attendee - While attending the funeral of an out of region fallen officer.
- (d) National Peace Officers Memorial Day (May 15th) - From 0001 hours until 2359 hours.
- (e) As directed by the Sheriff.

1026.5 POLITICAL ACTIVITIES, ENDORSEMENTS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS

Unless specifically authorized by the Sheriff, Shasta County Sheriff's Office employees may not wear any part of the uniform, be photographed wearing any part of the uniform, utilize a department badge, patch or other official insignia, or cause to be posted, published, or displayed, the image of another employee, or identify himself/herself as an employee of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office to do any of the following (Government Code §§ 3206 and 3302):

- (a) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any political campaign or initiative.
- (b) Endorse, support, oppose, or contradict any social issue, cause, or religion.
- (c) Endorse, support, or oppose, any product, service, company or other commercial entity.

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- (d) Appear in any commercial, social, or non-profit publication, or any motion picture, film, video, public broadcast, or any website.

1026.6 OPTIONAL EQUIPMENT - MAINTENANCE, AND REPLACEMENT

- (a) Any of the items listed in the Uniform Manual as optional shall be purchased totally at the expense of the employee. No part of the purchase cost shall be offset by the Department for the cost of providing the Department issued item.
- (b) Maintenance of optional items shall be the financial responsibility of the purchasing employee. For example, repairs due to normal wear and tear.
- (c) Replacement of items listed in this order as optional shall be done as follows:
 1. When the item is no longer functional because of normal wear and tear, the employee bears the full cost of replacement.
 2. When the item is no longer functional because of damage in the course of the employee's duties, it shall be replaced following the procedures for the replacement of damaged personal property. (Policy Manual § 700)

1026.6.1 RETIREE BADGES

The Sheriff may issue identification in the form of a badge, insignia, emblem, device, label, certificate, card or writing that clearly states the person has honorably retired from the Shasta County Sheriff's Office. This identification is separate and distinct from the identification authorized by Penal Code § 25455 and referenced in the Retired Deputy CCW Endorsement Policy in this manual.

A badge issued to an honorably retired peace officer that is not affixed to a plaque or other memento will have the words "Honorably Retired" clearly visible on its face. A retiree shall be instructed that any such badge will remain the property of the Shasta County Sheriff's Office and will be revoked in the event of misuse or abuse (Penal Code § 538d).

1026.7 UNAUTHORIZED UNIFORMS, EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES

Shasta County Sheriff's Office employees may not wear any uniform item, accessory or attachment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform and Equipment Specifications or by the Sheriff or designee.

Shasta County Sheriff's Office employees may not use or carry any safety item, tool or other piece of equipment unless specifically authorized in the Uniform Manual or by the Sheriff or designee.