

**CHAPTER 7**  
**ELITE HONOR GUARD**  
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**CHAPTER 7**  
**ELITE HONOR GUARD**

1. GENERAL.

a. The Elite Honor Guard is responsible for representing the Department at high-profile functions and serves at the direction of the Commissioner. The Elite Honor Guard shall be trained to expertly carry out honor guard functions, including United States of America Flag (Colors) details, Color Guard details, funeral details, special ceremonies, and gun salutes as assigned.

2. COMPOSITION.

a. The Elite Honor Guard will consist of two squads, a north and a south squad. The north squad will carry out details occurring north of the Bakersfield Area. The south squad will be responsible for details occurring within or south of the Bakersfield Area.

b. Each squad will be comprised of 20 officers and four sergeants and will be commanded by a lieutenant.

3. SELECTION.

a. The Academy will advertise vacant positions, via comm-net, as needed.

b. Uniformed personnel interested in participating should have experience in formal drill and ceremony or be willing to acquire the skills necessary to expertly carry out Elite Honor Guard functions.

c. Individuals selected for assessment will complete an evaluation process that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Category 10 Inspection.

(2) Individual group performance in basic drill and ceremony functions.

(3) Execution of an honor guard detail, per Department policy.

d. Selections will also focus on officers with a strong work ethic, dedication to the Department, those in good physical condition and who maintain an outstanding uniform appearance.

4. TRAINING.

- a. Initial training shall be conducted at the Academy. Refresher training may be held at the Academy and when deemed necessary.
- b. All members of the Elite Honor Guard squad should be cross-trained to ensure all members can perform any given function expertly.
- c. Training and formation instructions shall be contained in Academy lesson plans, which will be coordinated and developed by the Academy's Regular Basic Course Director.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES. Elite Honor Guard squads shall be prepared to expertly perform the following functions:

- a. Flag presentations.
- b. Pallbearers.
- c. National Colors details.
- d. Honor Guard details.
- e. Drill competitions.
- f. Gun salutes.
- g. Color guard details.
- h. Escorts.
- i. Ceremonial representation.
  - (1) Memorial services/funerals.
  - (2) Parades.
  - (3) Civic events and state affairs.
  - (4) Other official functions.

6. REQUESTS FOR ELITE HONOR GUARD PARTICIPATION.

a. Requests for the Elite Honor Guard's participation shall be directed through the chain of command to the Office of the Commissioner.

b. The Academy will serve as the liaison between the Office of the Commissioner and the Elite Honor Guard commanders to coordinate deployments with the requesting Division.

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