

CHAPTER 6
UNIFORM, GROOMING, AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS

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CHAPTER 6

UNIFORM, GROOMING, AND EQUIPMENT STANDARDS

1. GROOMING STANDARDS.

- a. Every volunteer Chaplain, acting in an official capacity, shall present a neat and clean appearance. Uniforms and civilian attire shall be appropriately maintained and tailored for proper fit. It is the responsibility of the VCP coordinator to assist all Chaplains in procuring departmentally-approved uniform items.
- b. All uniformed Chaplains are prohibited from displaying any body art, tattoo(s), brands, intentional scarring, mutilation, or dental ornamentation while representing the Department in any official capacity.

2. UNIFORM STANDARDS.

a. Field Uniform. All volunteer Chaplains shall possess and maintain, ready for immediate use, the field uniform required by this manual. After completing the initial orientation process and prior to volunteering at any departmental office or event, Chaplains will be required to purchase and maintain a minimum of one short- or long-sleeved uniform shirt, one pair of uniform trousers, and one uniform belt. The Chaplain is required to wear the uniform shirt and departmental Volunteer Chaplain ID card when visiting an Area office, and should wear the departmentally-approved trousers, belt, and all-black footwear for scheduled visits to an Area office. When participating in ride-alongs, the Chaplain is required to wear the uniform shirt, uniform trousers, all-black footwear, and have the departmental Volunteer Chaplain ID card on their person. The VCP field uniform consists of the following items:

- (1) Departmentally approved black short-sleeved or long-sleeved polo (required). The “flying wheel” patch and “Chaplain” rocker shall be embroidered on the upper left chest, and the volunteer Chaplain’s last name embroidered on the upper right chest.
- (2) Departmentally approved black trousers (required).
- (3) Black basket-weave uniform trouser belt with a square, solid brass buckle (required).
- (4) Departmentally approved all-black footwear (required).

(5) Departmental Volunteer Chaplain ID card shall be issued by the Department (required).

(a) The ID card is intended to identify the person as a volunteer of the Area while on official program business.

(b) The ID card is the property of the Department and shall be returned upon separation, termination, or resignation from the program.

(c) If the ID card is lost, the Chaplain shall immediately notify their Area commander and the VCP coordinator.

(6) Black all-weather jacket (optional). A “flying wheel” shoulder patch and “Chaplain” rocker shall be sewn on the upper shoulder of each sleeve.

b. Formal Uniform. The Statewide Liaison Chaplain and Division Lead Chaplains shall also purchase a formal uniform in addition to the field uniform. Volunteer Area Chaplains may also purchase a formal uniform upon successful completion of a minimum of a six-month probationary period. The formal uniform consists of the formal jacket, uniform shirt, tie, uniform trousers, belt, socks, and footwear. The VCP formal uniform consists of the following items, which are also identified as either “required” or “optional.”

(1) Departmentally approved white uniform-style long-sleeved Class A shirt (required). A “flying wheel” shoulder patch and “Chaplain” rocker shall be sewn on the upper shoulder of each sleeve.

(2) Departmentally approved dark blue formal uniform jacket (required).

(a) The formal uniform jacket is identical to the uniform personnel Class A jacket described in HPM 73.5, Uniform/Grooming and Equipment Standards, Chapter 5, Regulations for Required Uniform Items, except the color shall be dark blue.

(b) A “flying wheel” shoulder patch and “Chaplain” rocker shall be sewn on the upper shoulder of each sleeve.

(c) A departmentally approved nameplate shall be worn above the right chest pocket.

(d) One service stripe for every two years of service as a volunteer Chaplain for CHP may be worn on the left sleeve. Service stripes shall be black with gold border.

- (3) Departmentally approved dark blue formal uniform trousers (required).
- (4) Departmentally approved black necktie (required).
- (5) An approved departmental VCP badge (required).
- (6) Black basket-weave uniform trouser belt with a square, solid brass buckle (required).
- (7) Dark blue or black socks (required).
- (8) Departmentally approved black high gloss dress shoes (required).
- (9) Departmental Volunteer Chaplain ID card shall be issued by the Department (required).

(a) The ID card is intended to identify the person as a volunteer of the Department while on official program business.

(b) The ID card is the property of the Department and shall be returned upon separation, termination, or resignation from the program.

c. Wearing of the Uniform and Equipment.

(1) The Volunteer Chaplain uniform shall be worn only during official Volunteer Chaplain Program functions and when necessary to travel incidental to duty unless otherwise authorized by the Division Chaplain coordinator.

(2) The professional image expected of volunteer Chaplains requires that each Chaplain assumes responsibility for presenting an appearance that is representative of the Department. While on-duty or when representing the Department, Chaplains shall wear the field uniform unless the Division Chaplain coordinator has authorized appropriate civilian attire to be worn. The Statewide Liaison Chaplain and Division Chaplain coordinator may also authorize the formal uniform to be worn instead of the field uniform.

d. Prohibited Items. While representing the Department, Chaplains shall not wear any of the following items, even if the Chaplain is otherwise authorized to do so (e.g., a retired law enforcement officer). If the Chaplain has a question regarding an item not listed below, the Area commander shall determine whether or not the item is authorized to be worn. The following list is not all-inclusive.

(1) Firearm, firearm holster, or ammunition case.

(2) Sam Browne belt.

- (3) Leather billy, police club, baton, impact weapon, or any other similar item.
- (4) Any type of badge or emblem other than allowed by this manual.
- (5) Pepper spray, mace, or any similar item and its corresponding case.
- (6) Stun gun, Electronic Control Device, or any other similar item.