

# Kitsap County Fire Chiefs Association

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## Dress Uniform Standard

- Subject:** Dress uniform standard
- Purpose:** To standardize the use of fire service dress uniforms (Class A) in Kitsap County in order to promote a uniform appearance.
- Scope:** This voluntary standard will apply to all fire service agencies within Kitsap County. For the purpose of this standard, the term “department” will refer to fire departments, fire districts, or any other fire agency. Honor Guard Class A uniforms are outside the scope of this policy.
- Policy:** It shall be the policy of the Kitsap County Fire Chiefs Association, that all personnel shall present a neat, clean, and consistent appearance when wearing the Class A uniform.

### Section 1.0 Uniform Class Definitions

In order to establish a standard dress uniform for fire agencies, the following definitions shall identify the different classifications of uniform dress.

- 1.1.1 Class A Uniform – Indicates the Service dress uniform.
- 1.1.2 Class B Uniform – Indicates the standard work uniform with the agency badge, which typically includes a button down shirt and trousers.
- 1.1.3 Class C Uniform – Indicates a secondary work uniform which typically includes a dark t-shirt with the district logos.
- 1.1.4 Class D Uniform – Indicates alternate work uniforms. Said uniforms to be worn for night response, during physical training, special projects manipulative training, wildland fires, etc. May be used as a standard uniform for volunteer personnel.

### Section 2.0 Class A Uniform

- 2.1 Uniform Coat – Made of black fabric as follows:
  - a. **Males.** Double-breasted with three welt pockets, one on each hip and one on left breast, and three, fire department (FD) buttons down each forefront.

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b. **Females.** Single-breasted with one welt left breast pocket and four, fire department (FD) buttons on the left front.

### **Correct Wear**

Button all buttons.

2.2 Pants – Made of plain authorized black fabric with fore and aft creases, belt loops, zippered fly front closure, and two side and back pockets. May be either straight legged or slightly flared. Fabric of trousers must match the uniform coat.

### **Correct Wear**

Button all buttons, close all fasteners, and wear a belt through all loops. Trousers shall hang approximately 2 inches from the floor at the back of the shoe.

2.3 Shirt – Long sleeved, made of plain white fabric with plain buttons, epaulets, and void of department markings

2.4 Hat – **Male and Female.** A military style cap with black visor, rigid standing front, flaring circular rim and black cap band and a detachable black or white cap cover. Rank on hat badge shall meet badge criteria in Section 3.0.

Chin strap and front hat badge color as follows:

2.4.1 Chief Officers – Gold strap and badge

2.4.2 Company Officers – Silver strap and badge

2.4.3 Firefighter/Paramedic – Black strap, silver badge

2.4.4 Chaplains – Gold strap and badge

2.4.5 Prevention – Gray strap, gold badge

2.4.6 The corresponding 911 chin strap is authorized as an optional strap for all ranks.

2.5 Collar Insignias – Shall be 5/8 inch diameter without backing and worn on the collar of the uniform coat only. Shall meet the badge criteria in Section 3.0

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- 2.6 Department Patch – To be worn centrally located on both sleeves of the uniform coat only. The top of the patch shall be located  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch below the shoulder seam.
- 2.7 Sleeve Markings – The Class A uniform coat shall have sleeve markings indicative of rank. Both arm sleeves to have stripes encircling the entire sleeve. Bottom of the first stripe will be  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the cuff. Stripes shall be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick and have  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch separation between stripes.
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|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2.7.1 Chief of Department      | Five (5) gold stripes  |
| 2.7.2 Deputy Chief             | Four (4) gold stripes  |
| 2.7.3 Division/Assistant Chief | Three (3) gold stripes |
| 2.7.4 Battalion Chief          | Two (2) gold stripes   |
| 2.7.5 Captain                  | Two (2) silver stripes |
| 2.7.6 Lieutenant               | One (1) silver stripe  |
| 2.7.7 Apparatus Operator       | Two (2) blue stripes   |
| 2.7.8 Firefighter/Paramedic    | One (1) blue stripe    |
| 2.7.9 Chaplain                 | One (1) gold stripe    |
| 2.7.10 Prevention Officers     | None                   |
- 2.8 Service Markings – The Maltese cross shall represent five (5) years of active service and shall be the same color as the sleeve markings. Crosses shall be in a row horizontally and be  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch above the stripes. Crosses are to be worn on the right sleeve of the uniform coat only.
- 2.9 Military Service Markings – Honorably discharged veterans and active duty military personnel may wear a single red stripe on the left arm only,  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch above the last sleeve marking.
- 2.10 Name Tag – To be worn on the uniform coat, centered over the right side of the chest. The name tag shall be the same metal color as the badge. All lettering shall be black, identifying the first and last name or first initial and last name and rank of the member.

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- 2.11 Tie – Black in color, knotted with either a four-in-hand, half Windsor or Windsor knot. Wear the top of the knot parallel to and slightly above the top of the shirt collar closure, hiding the shirt button. The bottom hangs within 1 inch of the top of the belt buckle. The tie does not cover the belt buckle. May be hand tied or clip-on.
- 2.12 Badge – The coat badge shall be metal and meet the badge criteria as set forth in Section 3.0. It is to be worn on the left breast in badge holder of uniform coat only.
- 2.13 Belt – Black in color, minimum width 1 inch, maximum width 1 ½ inch.
- 2.14 Shoes – Plain toed; oxford style black, low quarter, lace shoe, made of smooth leather or synthetic leather. Gloss black finish.
- 2.14a. Females - Same as males or; plain black, dress pumps with closed heels and toes. –Heels shall be no higher than 2-3/4 inches. Wedge heels are not authorized. Gloss black finish.

### Section 3.0 Badge Criteria

- 3.1 Badge is to be worn on the left breast of the Class A uniform coat. Metal badges must be placed in a badge holder. Badge color, insignia indicative of rank or position shall meet the standards as described in this section.
- 3.2 Chief Officers – shall be gold metal, with a red center backing. Shall have the following bugles indicative of rank located in the badge center.
  - 3.2.1 Fire Chief Five (5) gold, crossed bugles
  - 3.2.2 Deputy Chief Four (4) gold, crossed bugles
  - 3.2.3 Division /Assistant Chief Three (3) gold, crossed bugles
  - 3.2.4 Battalion Chief Two (2) gold, crossed bugles
- 3.3 Company Officers – shall be silver metal, with a silver center backing. Shall have the following bugles indicative of rank located in the badge center.
  - 3.3.1 Captain Two (2) silver, parallel bugles

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- 3.3.2 Lieutenant One (1) silver, vertical bugle
- 3.4 Line Personnel – Badge shall be silver metal, with a silver center backing. Shall have the following insignia indicative of their position located in the badge center.
  - 3.4.1 Firefighter Silver scramble
  - 3.4.2 Apparatus Operator Silver scramble
  - 3.4.3 Firefighter/Paramedic Silver Caduceus
- 3.5 Chaplain – Badge shall be gold metal, with a blue center backing. Shall have the following insignia indicative of their position located in the badge center.
  - 3.5.1 Chaplain Gold Cross
- 3.6 Prevention: Code Enforcement, Public Information, Public Education – Badge shall be silver metal, with a silver center backing. Shall have the following insignia indicative of their position located in the badge center or on the collar insignia.
  - 3.6.1 Inspector Silver scramble INSP
  - 3.6.2 Public Information Officer Silver scramble PIO
  - 3.6.3 Public Educator Silver scramble (None)

## Section 4.0 Display of Meritorious Citations

- 4.1 Meritorious citations shall include, but are not limited to, Executive Fire Officers Designation (EFO) from the National Fire Academy, any designation achieved from the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CFO, CTO, CMO, FO), or a meritorious citation issued by the authority having jurisdiction for acts of valor.
- 4.2 Ribbons – Ribbons issued for achievement or meritorious conduct may be worn on the Class A uniform jacket.
  - 4.2.1 Ribbons shall be worn centered on the right breast area, opposite the badge and just above the name plate or tag.

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4.2.2 Three ribbons will make a row. When more than three ribbons are worn, a subsequent row is begun and centered above and touching the lower row of three.

4.2.3 Ribbons will be arranged in order of precedence. Ribbons on each row will be arranged with those closest to the badge being the highest. When more than one row is worn, those ribbons in the upper rows will be higher in precedence than those in any lower row. Order of precedence:

- Medal for valor
- Other agency citation for meritorious actions
- EFO
- CFO
- CTO
- CMO
- FO

4.2.4 A ribbon backing plate is recommended for the orderly display of three or more ribbons. Pre-made bar arrays may be purchased from military uniform suppliers and provide an orderly display of multiple ribbons.

4.3 Medals – Medals will only be worn on the day of issue, and the corresponding ribbon will be placed on the ribbon array after the day of receipt. Medals are pinned and worn on the pocket below the badge.

4.4 Departments may include additional photos or illustrations to enhance organizational standardization.