

UNIFORM STANDARDS

1511

(No. 1 January 2010)

The uniform items described in this handbook and exhibits meet CAL FIRE uniform standards. The Department may consider and approve additional uniform garment items submitted by vendors providing garment material and construction meets required Department needs and color matches. Items will be purchased and maintained by all uniformed personnel as specified in [Section 1501.1](#).

CLASS A – DRESS UNIFORM

The CAL FIRE dress uniform will be worn when appropriate to formal meetings, special events, or gatherings.

CLASS B – WORK RESPONSE UNIFORM

The CAL FIRE work/response uniform will be worn by employees working in the field and where the dress or administrative work uniform is not appropriate or practical.

CLASS C – ADMINISTRATIVE WORK UNIFORM

The administrative work uniform is authorized and intended to be worn where it is not appropriate to wear a full dress uniform, but where semi-formal dress is desired. Examples of activities where an administrative work uniform would be appropriate include: public relation activities, office work, fire prevention programs, training, meetings, special events, etc.

UNIFORM PURCHASING INFORMATION

1511.1

(No.1 January 2010)

A detailed guide to purchasing these items, including general policy information, is contained in the CAL FIRE Purchasing Guide in the 1500 Section of this Handbook ([See Exhibits](#)). The purchasing guide provides detailed descriptions, policy guidelines, and manufacturer and item reference numbers necessary to procure uniform items, including insignia. Sections 1511.2 through Section 1511.3, provides additional departmental protocols for approved uniform items and insignia.

UNIFORM PROTOCOLS

1511.2

(No. 1 January 2010)

CAPS

All Class A dress caps are to be worn with the Class A dress uniform when outdoors. A dress cap is never worn indoors, with the exception of honor guard members, or as directed for special ceremonial events.

All dress caps purchased after May 15, 2001, shall be of the specification outlined in the appropriate exhibit. Previously approved dress caps manufactured by Midway and Bernard cap companies, purchased prior to May 15, 2001, may continue to be worn as the dress uniform cap at the employee's option.

SHIRT – (CLASS A WHITE, NOMEX IIIA, CHIEF OFFICER, ADMINISTRATIVE)

Chief Officers may wear the Nomex IIIA Uniform Shirt, Chief Officer shirt, or Administrative shirt, depending on the work assignment application.

NECKTIE

The necktie will always be worn with the Class A Uniform. Optional for the Class B or Class C Uniform.

COAT – CLASS A

Badge must be visible and not covered by lapel.

T-SHIRT - DARK NAVY BLUE

The t-shirt may be worn without uniform shirt while performing arduous work activities to prevent soiling or damage to the work uniform shirt. T-Shirt may also be worn during normal work hours performing routine station activities providing there is no expectation of the employee having business interaction with the public. The t-shirt will not be worn in lieu of the uniform shirt while out performing official business interacting with the public. Supervisors and managers have the discretion, with good judgment, to provide direction to employees as to specific situations when and where the t-shirt may be worn in lieu of the uniform shirt. Employees are responsible for maintaining their t-shirts in presentable condition.

FOOTWEAR

Employees in emergency response assignments shall reference Health and Safety Handbook Section 1727 for detailed shoe requirements and specifications.

TROUSERS (ADMINISTRATIVE)

The administrative work trouser is not approved for response. The trouser may be worn in uniform wear applications when there is no expectation of immediate response to emergencies. In uniform wear situations, where the employee is subject to immediate response, the Class B uniform shall be worn.

The administrative work trouser will not be worn with the Nomex IIIA Uniform Shirt.

CAP - BASEBALL STYLE

Members of Incident Command Teams are authorized to wear a red or dark navy blue cap on team assignments, as designated by the Region Chief.

HAT - WIDEBRIM

A rank insignia badge may be worn on the front of the widebrim hat.

SWEATSHIRT

May be worn in lieu of uniform shirt while performing work activities during cold weather.

JOB SHIRT

May be worn in lieu of uniform shirt while performing work activities during cold weather.

POLO SHIRT

Authorized only as approved by Unit Chief or Program Administrator.

FLEECE

Approved as an outerwear garment or as a layered garment, including under the approved PPE for the circumstance. Not approved as a stand alone PPE garment.

SWEATER

Sweaters will be worn without the CAL FIRE shoulder patches, badge or nameplate. The sweater is intended for casual wear in the office or for additional warmth while doing fieldwork. Sweaters will not be worn in lieu of approved jackets when departmental identification is required.

UNIFORM INSIGNIA PROTOCOLS

1511.3

(No.1 January 2010)

SERVICE STARS

Placement of stars will conform as shown in the Collar Brass exhibit ([see Exhibit](#)).

EMS PIN

Worn, centered employees who have successfully completed EMT/First Responder/First Aid Training, and who maintain their proficiency and certification. Worn to the left of the flag pin if worn together.

COLLAR BRASS

Worn on all required uniform shirts ([see Exhibit](#)).

UNIFORM EXCEPTIONS – MODIFIED ASSIGNMENT

1511.4

(No. 1 January 2010)

Uniform personnel on approved modified work assignment, whose condition does not allow for the wearing of the approved uniform garments, may be accommodated by the Unit or program manager on a case by case basis. Managers should consult with the return to work coordinator and Headquarters Human Rights Officer regarding such accommodations.

SAFETY CLOTHING

1511.5

(No. 1 January 2010)

Safety clothing is used by the department and worn as necessary, dictated by the type of emergency response, by all response employees.

NOMEX SHIRT:

It is mandatory that specific ink be utilized for silk screening (See Exhibit).

Silk screening for Nomex shirts may ONLY be done at Cuesta or Valley View Camps or as approved by the Deputy Director, Chief of Fire Protection Programs.

[\(see next section\)](#)

[\(see HB Table of Contents\)](#)

[\(see Forms or Forms Samples\)](#)