

Personal Appearance Standards

1044.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

In order to project uniformity and neutrality toward the public and other members of the ~~Department~~ [\[department/office\]](#), employees shall maintain their personal hygiene and appearance to project a professional image appropriate for this ~~Department-~~ [\[department/office\]](#) and for their assignment.

1044.2 GROOMING STANDARDS

Unless otherwise stated and because deviations from these standards could present officer safety issues, the following appearance standards shall apply to all employees, except those whose current assignment would deem them not appropriate, and where the Chief of Police has granted exception.

1044.2.1 HAIR

Hairstyles of all members shall be neat in appearance. For male sworn members, hair must not extend below the top edge of the uniform collar while assuming a normal stance.

For female sworn members, hair must be no longer than the horizontal level of the bottom of the uniform patch when the employee is standing erect, worn up or in a tightly wrapped braid or ponytail.

1044.2.2 MUSTACHES

A short and neatly trimmed mustache may be worn. Mustaches shall not extend below the corners of the mouth or beyond the natural hairline of the upper lip.

1044.2.3 SIDEBURNS

Sideburns shall not extend below the bottom of the outer ear opening (the top of the earlobes) and shall be trimmed and neat.

1044.2.4 FACIAL HAIR

Facial hair other than sideburns, mustaches and eyebrows shall not be worn, unless authorized by the Chief of Police or his or her designee.

1044.2.5 FINGERNAILS

Fingernails extending beyond the tip of the finger can pose a safety hazard to officers or others. For this reason, fingernails shall be trimmed so that no point of the nail extends beyond the tip of the finger.

1044.2.6 JEWELRY~~AND ACCESSORIES~~

~~No jewelry or personal ornaments shall be worn by officers on any part of the uniform or equipment, except those authorized within this manual. Jewelry, if worn around the neck,~~ [For the purpose of this policy, jewelry refers to rings, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, wristwatches, and tie tacks or tie bars. Jewelry shall present a professional image and may not create a safety concern for the](#)

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[department/office] member or others. Jewelry that depicts racial, sexual, discriminatory, gang-related, or obscene language is not allowed.

- (a) Necklaces shall not be visible above the shirt collar.
- (b) Earrings shall
- (c) be

~~-- worn by uniformed sworn members, detectives or special assignment personnel without permission of the Chief of Police or his/her designee. Only one ring~~

- (a) small and worn only in or on the earlobe.
- (b) One ring or ring set may be worn on each hand of the
- (c) [department/office] member. No rings should be of the type that would cut or pose an unreasonable safety risk to the member or others during a physical altercation, if the member is assigned to a position where that may occur.
- (d) One small bracelet, including a bracelet identifying a medical condition, may be worn on one arm.
- (e) Wristwatches shall be conservative and present a professional image.
- (f) Tie tacks or tie bars worn with civilian attire shall be conservative and present a professional image.

1044.3 TATTOOS

While on-duty or representing the [Department/Office] in any official capacity, members should make every reasonable effort ~~should be made~~ to conceal tattoos or other body art. At no time while the member is on-duty or representing the [Department/Office] in any official capacity ~~;~~ shall any offensive tattoo or body art be visible ~~(examples -~~ Examples of offensive tattoos ~~would~~ include ~~;~~ but are not ~~be~~ limited to those that exhibit or advocate discrimination; those that exhibit gang, those which depict racial, sexual, discriminatory, gang related, or obscene language) supremacist, or extremist group affiliation; and those that depict or promote drug use, sexually explicit acts, or other obscene material.

1044.4 BODY PIERCING OR ALTERATION

Body piercing or alteration to any area of the body visible in any authorized uniform or attire that is a deviation from normal anatomical features and which is not medically required is prohibited. Such body alteration includes, but is not limited to:

- (a) Tongue splitting or piercing.
- (b) The complete or transdermal implantation of any material other than hair replacement.
- (c) Abnormal shaping of the ears, eyes, nose or teeth

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- (d) Branding or scarification.

1044.4.1 COSMETICS

Cosmetics shall be subdued and blended to closely resemble natural skin color and present a professional appearance. The wearing of false eyelashes by an officer is prohibited.

1044.4.2 EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the requirements of this order will only be granted for medical reasons supported by documentation from a licensed physician verifying that a prohibitive medical condition exists. Such documentation shall be reviewed and approved by the Chief of Police.

The Chief of Police, or his/her designate, may authorize exceptions to this policy to accomplish a police purpose.

1044.5 EXEMPTIONS

Members who seek cultural (e.g., culturally protected hairstyles) or other exemptions to this policy that are protected by law should generally be accommodated (Government Code § 12926). A member with an exemption may be ineligible for an assignment if the individual accommodation presents a security or safety risk. The Chief of Police should be advised any time a request for such an accommodation is denied or when a member with a cultural or other exemption is denied an assignment based on a safety or security risk.