

Atlanta Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure



APD.SOP.2130 Dress Code
Effective Date: October 10, 2024



Chief Darin Schierbaum

Signature by: DS

Date 10/10/2024

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

APD Staff,

The Policy and Standards Section is dedicated to providing the department, and its employees, with accurate, understandable and transparent policies. In order to publish policies that reflect the most up-to-date standards, the Policy and Standard Section regularly reviews all policies to ensure that they are reflective of the current mission and objectives of the Atlanta Police Department.

The Dress Code Policy has been reformatted to provide structure and easier access when searching for appropriate attire. Please read the policy thoroughly so that the appropriate uniform is being worn properly.

Thank you and stay informed!

Policy and Standards Section
Planning, Research, and Accreditation Unit



TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. PURPOSE	3
2. POLICY	3
3. RESPONSIBILITIES	3
4. ACTION	3
4.1 Uniformed Personnel	3
4.2 General Appearance	4
4.3 Uniforms for Officer, SPO and Investigator	6
4.4 Uniform for Sergeants and above	8
4.5 Training Uniform	10
4.6 Ballistic Vest & Duty Equipment	11
4.7 Outerwear	14
4.8 Patches and Pins	17
4.9 Specialized Units	18
5. DEFINITIONS	24
6. CANCELLATIONS	25
7. REFERENCES	25



1. PURPOSE

To establish procedures for all approved uniforms and equipment worn by all Atlanta Police Department employees (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 26.1.1)

2. POLICY

Employees representing the City of Atlanta Police Department in an official capacity must adhere to the required uniform, clothing, and equipment regulations outlined in this policy.

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

3.1 All supervisors must ensure that employees comply with the requirements of this directive.

3.2 All employees must abide by the requirements in this directive. Failure to comply with the authorized uniform may result in disciplinary action.

3.3 Unauthorized persons are not allowed to wear any Atlanta Police uniforms and equipment.

4. ACTION

4.1 UNIFORMED PERSONNEL

4.1.1 Employees must:

1. Be clean and neatly groomed.
2. Present a professional appearance and image.
3. Instill a degree of personal discipline.
4. Be easily recognized as a representative of the Atlanta Police Department.

4.1.2 Employees must wear a conspicuously visible name tag while in uniform. The only exception to this rule is when the employee is wearing rain gear or a traffic direction vest.

**This Section, 4.1.2, may not be deleted, revised, or amended pursuant to the Court Order in Calhoun, et al. v. Pennington, et al. 1:09-CV-3286-TCB. Consult the City of Atlanta Department of Law with any questions or concerns. **

4.1.3 Employees must wear Atlanta Police Department (APD) approved uniforms and equipment approved by the Department under the following conditions: (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 41.3.4)

1. On duty
2. Job-related court appearances
3. Working approved extra jobs
4. Attending or participating in approved events
5. When operating a marked patrol vehicle

4.1.4 Sworn employees must wear their uniforms with the shirt tucked into the pants. When wearing a Class A or B, the shirt edge should align with the front fly opening, and the outside edge of the exposed belt buckle forms a straight "gig line." For long-sleeved uniform shirts, the sleeves will not be rolled up or under and buttoned at the wrist. Any undershirts, undergarments, t-shirts, or any other clothing worn under the uniform will not extend past the sleeves of the short-sleeve uniform shirt.



Atlanta Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure

APD.SOP.2130 Dress Code
Effective Date: October 10, 2024



- 4.1.5 Uniforms and equipment must be clean, fit properly and be well maintained.
- 4.1.6 The following uniform additions are to be in the color silver for ranks of Officer, SPO and Investigator. Gold will be used for the rank of sergeants and above:
 - 1. Badges
 - 2. Epaulets and rank insignia
 - 3. Collar Insignia
 - 4. Buttons
 - 5. Name tags
 - 6. Dress Hatbands
 - 7. Service stripes
 - 8. Service Since Pins
 - 9. Buckles, snaps, and metal parts of duty gear
- 4.1.7 Employees have the option to carry a briefcase or duty bag to carry police-related equipment. Cases must be professional in appearance and must not detract from the uniform. Handbags and purses are prohibited while in uniform.
- 4.1.8 Employees appearing in court are required to be in uniform or follow the courts dress code requirements.
- 4.1.9 The Chief of Police or designee has the option to grant exceptions to the dress code requirements. Requests must be forwarded in writing through the employee's chain of command to the Chief of Police.

4.2 GENERAL APPEARANCE

4.2.1 Tattoos and Brands

- 1. Employees on duty are prohibited from exposing tattoos or brands anywhere on the body that are:
 - a. Obscene, indecent, or offensive
 - b. Inappropriate for law enforcement
 - c. That advocate sexual, racial, or religious discrimination.
- 2. Tattoo/brands that exceeds one third of the exposed body part, or those that are above the collarbone and visible when wearing open collar clothing, will not be exposed while on duty with the exception of officers in undercover assignments.
- 3. Officers are permitted to wear flesh-tone arm sleeves that covers the tattoo/brand when wearing a short-sleeve uniform. (See photo).



4.2.2 BODY PIERCING

On-duty employees are prohibited from body piercings, with the exception of the ears. Listed below are the standards for the piercing of the ears and the wearing of earrings or gauges.



1. Uniformed employees have the option to wear earrings through the ears that do not constitute a potential safety hazard.
2. Ear lobe gauges can be a potential safety hazard and therefore are prohibited from being larger than 6.35 mm or ¼ inch. If the ears are gauged, flesh-tone solid disc gauges are required.
3. Earrings worn are to be conservative stud-style and cannot extend beyond the edge of the earlobe.

4.2.3 HAIR

1. Employees' hair must be:
 - a. A natural hair color. Unnatural hair colors such as, but not limited to, green, pink, blue and purple are prohibited.
 - b. Locks, twists, and braids must conform to uniform standards and must be kept neat, and off the collar while in uniform.
 - c. Uniformed employees who wish to have their hair longer must secure their hair in a safe and neat manner above the bottom collar in a conservative fashion.
 - d. Bangs must not extend lower than the top of the eyebrow.
2. Hair Accessories
 - a. Plain and conservative pins, combs, headbands, elastic bands, and barrettes have the option to be used to keep hair in place. Headbands and elastic bands must be a conservative color so as not to detract from the uniform.
 - b. Headbands, if worn, must be no more than one-inch wide. Employees must select hair accessories that do not present a safety hazard.
 - c. Hard hair accessories for fashion (such as beads, metal wire, shells, ect) are prohibited.

4.2.4 ALLOWABLE FACIAL HAIR:

1. Mustaches:
 - a. Must be neatly trimmed and not obscure the upper lip.
 - b. Must not extend below the corner of the mouth or more than ½ inch beyond the corner of the mouth.
2. Sideburns:
 - a. Must be no more than one-inch wide
 - b. Must be neatly trimmed.
3. The maximum length of the beard cannot exceed one-fourth of an inch and must be neatly trimmed.
4. SWAT team members are prohibited from having beards. Employees in undercover assignments have the option to deviate upon approval of their section or unit commander.



4.2.5 MAKE-UP

Make-up, if worn, must be applied conservatively and complement the uniform. Eyelash extensions may be worn in a natural, conservative manner not to exceed fourteen millimeters.

4.2.6 FINGERNAILS

1. Fingernail polish must be conservative
2. Ornamentation is not allowed
3. Fingernails must not exceed a nail length of one-fourth inch as measured from the tip of the finger. Artificial or press-on nails must meet the same requirements.

4.2.7 JEWELRY

1. Employees have the option to wear one ring on each hand, and one wristwatch or bracelet on each wrist. Wedding sets worn on the same finger will count as one ring.
2. Employees may wear necklaces that do not present a potential safety hazard and that can be hidden under the uniform.

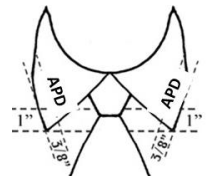
4.3 UNIFORMS FOR OFFICER, SPO & INVESTIGATORS

4.3.1 CLASS A

Class A is considered the formal dress uniform and is required when formal attire is required such as funerals and ceremonies. Officers are permitted to wear this uniform as an option while on duty.

The Class A Uniform consists of the following:

1. The long-sleeve blue uniform shirt affixed with silver buttons and the APD Patches sewn on both shoulders.
 - a. Senior police officers --One chevron on each sleeve affixed below the APD patch on both sleeves.
 - b. Investigators-- one chevron on each sleeve affixed below the APD patch on both sleeves with the word investigator displayed below the chevron.
2. Metal breast badge secured in the designated spot over the left breast.
3. Silver metal collar insignias worn parallel to the outermost edge of the collar, from the outermost edge and 1" from the tip of the collar.
4. Silver metal name plate affixed on the seam of the pocket.
5. Department-approved blue tie.
6. Formal uniform pants tailored to allow the bottom of the pant legs to touch the top of the shoes when the employee is standing. Pants legs must be straight hemmed (no pleats or cuffs.).



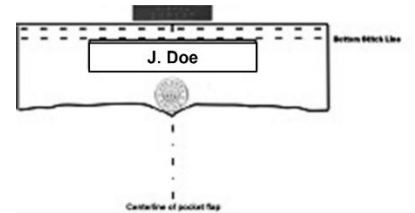


Atlanta Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure

APD.SOP.2130 Dress Code
Effective Date: October 10, 2024



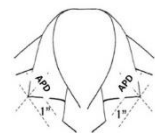
7. Duty belt with holster and accessories.
8. Dress cap (when requested).
9. Black shoes to match the finish of the duty belt.
10. White gloves (when requested).
11. Dress Coat (optional) must be worn with:
 - a. Badge on the left breast side of the coat
 - b. Atlanta Police patch on each shoulder
 - c. Nameplate on the right breast pocket flap
 - d. A “Serving Since” pin is optional and must be attached to the nameplate (five or more years of service)
 - e. Note that when wearing a Dress Coat, only a firearm and is required – not the entire duty belt.



4.3.2 CLASS B

The Class B uniform for all ranks is a less-formal version of the class A uniform. The Class B uniform requirements are:

1. Long or Short sleeve blue uniform shirt affixed with silver buttons and the APD Patches sewn on both shoulders.
 - a. Senior police officers --One chevron on each sleeve affixed below the APD patch on both sleeves.
 - b. Investigators-- one chevron on each sleeve affixed below the APD patch on both sleeves with the word investigator displayed below the chevron.
2. Metal breast badge and name plate secured in the same fashion as Class A.
3. For the short-sleeve shirt, silver collar insignias are to worn centered on the collar with the centerline of the insignia bisecting the point of the collar. The insignia forms the longest side of the triangle formed by both edges of the collar and the insignia.
4. Formal uniform pants tailored to allow the bottom of the pant legs to touch the top of the shoes when the employee is standing. Pants legs must be straight hemmed (no pleats or cuffs.).
5. Firearm secured onto a black leather belt. (If wearing this uniform in public, A vest and duty gear is required)
6. Black shoes that match the leather of the belt.





4.3.3 DEPARTMENT UNIFORM (CLASS C)

The Departmental Uniform is a standard work uniform. The Departmental uniform consists of the following:

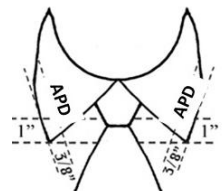
1. A short or long-sleeve Stryke PDU Rapid shirt with an APD patch sewn into each shoulder.
2. The long or short-sleeve shirt with have a silver Atlanta Police badge stitched into the left side of the shirt and a cloth nametag stitched into the right side of the shirt bearing the officers name in silver.
3. Investigators and Senior Patrol Officers will affix a patch with one silver chevron on each sleeve immediately below the APD patch, but no further than one-fourth inch on both sleeves. The investigator patch will display “investigator” below the chevron.
4. The Stryke PDU Rapid shirts will be worn with the collar button unfastened.
5. Stryke cargo pants tailored to allow the bottom of the trouser legs to touch the top of the shoes when the employee is standing.
6. Duty belt with holster and accessories.
7. Black boots or work shoes.
8. Employees wearing the Departmental uniform must wear the approved nylon duty belt. Plain leather or high gloss is NOT allowed with this uniform. The under belt, outer belt, and all carriers must be made of the same material. Suspenders may be worn under the outer carrier.
9. Outer Carriers will be worn over this uniform when operating a marked patrol vehicle or when outside in the public.

4.4 UNIFORM – SERGEANTS AND ABOVE

4.4.1 CLASS A

Class A is considered the formal dress uniform and is required when formal attire is required such as funerals and ceremonies. Sergeants and above are permitted to wear this uniform as an option while on duty. The Class A Uniform consists of the following:

1. The long-sleeve blue (White for Captain and above) uniform shirt affixed with gold buttons and the APD Patches sewn on both shoulders.
 - a. The rank of Lieutenant and above must wear epaulets with their assigned rank on each shoulder.
 - b. The rank of Sergeant must have a patch with three gold chevrons on each sleeve affixed one-fourth inch below the APD patch on both sleeves
2. Gold metal breast badge secured in the designated spot over the left breast.



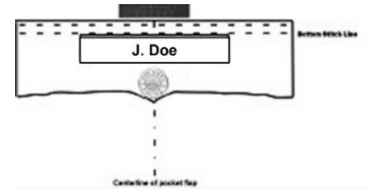


Atlanta Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure

APD.SOP.2130 Dress Code
Effective Date: October 10, 2024



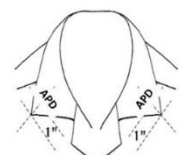
3. Gold metal collar insignias worn parallel to the outermost edge of the collar, from the outermost edge and 1” from the tip of the collar.
4. Gold metal name plate affixed on the seam of the pocket.
5. Department-approved blue tie.
6. Formal uniform pants tailored to allow the bottom of the pant legs to touch the top of the shoes when the employee is standing. Pants must be straight-hemmed (no pleats or cuffs) with a black stripe that begins at the waistband and runs down the outside seam.
7. Duty belt with holster and accessories.
8. Dress cap and White gloves (when requested).
9. High gloss black shoes.
10. Dress Coat (optional) must be worn with:
 - a. Badge on the left breast side of the coat and Gold Metal nameplate on the right breast pocket flap.
 - b. Atlanta Police patch on each shoulder.
 - c. A firearm with magazines (not a full duty belt)
 - d. Appropriate metal rank insignias on both shoulder and the following rank on the jacket of the sleeves:
 - A Major must have one gold braid stripe
 - A Deputy Chief must have two gold braid stripes
 - An Assistant Chief of Police must have three gold braid stripes
 - The Chief of Police must have four gold braid stripes



4.4.2 CLASS B

The Class B uniform for all ranks is a less-formal version of the class A uniform. The Class B uniform requirements are:

1. Long or Short sleeve blue, or white for Captains and above, uniform shirt affixed with gold buttons and the APD Patches sewn on both shoulders.
 - a. The rank of Lieutenant and above must wear epaulets with their assigned rank on each shoulder.
 - b. The rank of Sergeant must have a patch with three gold chevrons on each sleeve affixed one-fourth inch below the APD patch on both sleeves.
2. Metal breast badge and name plate secured in the same fashion as Class A.
3. For the short-sleeve shirt, gold collar insignias are to be worn centered on the collar with the centerline of the insignia bisecting the point of the collar. The insignia forms the longest side of the triangle formed by both edges of the collar and the insignia.





Atlanta Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure

APD.SOP.2130 Dress Code
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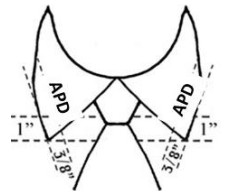


4. Formal uniform pants tailored to allow the bottom of the pant legs to touch the top of the shoes when the employee is standing. Pants must be straight-hemmed (no pleats or cuffs) with a black stripe that begins at the waistband and runs down the outside seam.
5. Firearm secured onto a black leather belt.
6. Black shoes that match the leather of the belt.

4.4.3 DEPARTMENT UNIFORM (CLASS C)

The Departmental Uniform is a standard work uniform. The Departmental uniform consists of the following:

1. A short or long-sleeve Stryke PDU Rapid shirt with APD patches sewn into each shoulder.
2. The long or short-sleeve shirt with have a gold Atlanta Police badge stitched into the left side of the shirt and a cloth nametag stitched into the right side of the shirt bearing the supervisors name in gold.
 - a. The rank of Lieutenant and above must wear epaulets with their assigned rank on each shoulder.
 - b. The rank of Sergeant must have a patch with three gold chevrons on each sleeve affixed one-fourth inch below the APD patch on both sleeves.
3. The Stryke PDU Rapid shirts will be worn with the collar button unfastened.
4. Stryke pants tailored to allow the bottom of the trouser legs to touch the top of the shoes when the employee is standing.
5. Duty belt with holster and accessories
6. Black boots or work shoes.
7. Employees wearing the Departmental uniform must wear the approved nylon duty belt. Plain leather or high gloss is NOT allowed with this uniform. The under belt, outer belt, and all carriers must be made of the same material. Suspenders may be worn under the outer carrier.
8. Sergeants - Outer Carriers will be worn over this uniform when operating a marked patrol vehicle or when outside in the public.



4.5 TRAINING UNIFORM

The Following will be the standard training uniform for all ranks and should be worn when attending training, including range qualifications, unless otherwise specified:

1. A black polo shirt with the employee's name embroidered over the right breast and the City of Atlanta Police seal embroidered over the left breast.
2. Khaki or Grey cargo pants.
3. Black shoes or boots.



4.6 BALLISTIC VESTS & DUTY EQUIPMENT

4.6.1 Wearing a Ballistic Vest (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 41.3.5)

1. Uniformed sworn employees at the rank of Sergeant and below must always wear their ballistic vest when on duty or working an extra job, unless outlined below.
2. Uniformed sworn employees in non-enforcement assignments, such as those assigned to office or administrative areas, are not required to wear their ballistic vest unless they are:
 - a. Performing a task that involves acting in a law enforcement capacity
 - b. Driving in a marked Patrol Vehicles
 - c. Outside of their assigned office or administrative area
 - d. When directed by a supervisor
3. Non-uniformed sworn employees must wear their ballistic vests under the following conditions:
 - a. When executing a warrant or a tactical field operation
 - b. When engaged in any high-risk situation
 - c. When directed by a supervisor
4. Employees who hold the rank of Lieutenant and above will wear their ballistic vest at their discretion, considering their safety and the safety of others.
5. Sworn employees who are not required to wear their ballistic vest must have it readily available and accessible while on duty.
6. Damaged ballistic vests or tactical armor must be turned in to the Property Control Unit for repair or replacement by the manufacturer. An incident report must be completed and accompany the damaged ballistic vest. Employees are prohibited from repairing their ballistic vests.

4.6.2 LOAD-BEARING UNIFORM VEST CARRIER

Unless otherwise approved by a unit commander, a Blue Load-Bearing Ballistic Vest Carrier must be worn on the outside of the Departmental Uniform with the following setup:

1. A cloth Atlanta Police badge must be affixed to the left breast of the carrier. A cloth nameplate must be affixed to the right breast of the carrier.
 - a. The following will be placed on the employee's weapon side of the vest zipper:
 - b. Double handcuff pouch
 - c. Flashlight pouch
 - d. Tourniquet pouch or APD-issued individual first aid kit (IFAK)



2. On the reaction side of the vest zipper:
 - a. Conducted Energy Weapon holster
 - b. Radio pouch (see above photo).
 - c. The body-worn camera must be worn in the center of the vest

4.6.3 TACTICAL & RIFLE RATED BODY ARMOR (CALEA 6th ed. Standard 41.3.6)



(Front of Tactical Body Armor)



(Rear of Tactical Body Armor)

1. Sworn employees in high-risk assignments must wear Tactical and/or Rifle-Rated armor in addition to their standard-issued body armor when engaged in high-risk or tactical operations, including but not limited to barricaded gunman situations, warrant executions, riots, etc.
2. While wearing Tactical & Rifle- Rated Body armor, all appropriate ballistic panels must be inserted into their proper locations.
3. All armor carriers will be worn with the employee's name visibly affixed to the top front of the vest with an embroidered cloth nametag.
4. The armor carriers will have a visible patch with "ATLANTA POLICE" affixed to the back. The patch will be large enough that the sworn employee will be easily identified as an Atlanta Police Officer to the general public.



a. (Rifle-Rated Armor, Tourniquet, & Helmet with Shield)

5. The body-worn camera will be attached to the front center of the carrier with the issued Molly Mount.
6. A tourniquet will be secured in the proper pocket on the front of the body armor carrier.
7. Damaged Armor or helmets must be turned in to the Property Control Unit for repair or replacement by the manufacturer. An incident report must be completed and accompany the damaged equipment. Employees must not attempt to repair the body armor themselves.

4.6.4 EQUIPMENT AND DUTY GEAR

1. All duty gear and equipment must be APD issued or approved.
2. All duty gear must always be kept clean and well-maintained. All gear must be of matching style and appearance.
3. Required equipment for all employees at the rank of Lieutenant and below:
 - Body-worn camera
 - Under belt, duty belt with belt keepers
 - OC canister and carrying case
 - Department Issued firearm and holster
 - Issued Conducted Energy Weapon and holster (Sergeants and below)
 - Expandable baton and scabbard
 - Handcuffs
 - Flashlight and holder
 - Radio and case
 - Double magazine case with magazines and ammunition
 - Tourniquet
 - Department issued Smartphone (if assigned one)
4. The under belt must be worn through the belt loops of the uniform pants. The duty belt must be 2 ½ inches wide and either leather, high-gloss, or nylon material.
5. The duty belt must be worn over the under belt and secured by four to six belt keepers. The following items are required on the duty belt with or without a vest carrier:



- a. The APD-issued or approved firearms must be carried in an APD-approved holster on the duty belt. The firearm must be clean, fully loaded, and in good operating order. The holster must be worn over the trouser leg seam on the Officer's weapon side.
 - b. The expandable baton and scabbard must be worn on the duty belt on the weapon side to the rear of the holster. One belt keeper must be worn between the scabbard and the holster.
 - c. The OC canister and case must be worn on the duty belt on the employee's weapon side forward of the holster.
 - d. The ammunition magazine must be fully loaded and carried in a case on the duty belt in front of the radio on the employee's reaction side. Double magazine cases must be worn containing two fully loaded spare ammunition magazines.
6. When wearing the full duty belt the following items are required:
- a. The radio case must be worn on the duty belt on the employee's reaction side and over the trouser leg seam.
 - b. The tourniquet must be worn on the employee's weapon side, between the OC canister and APD-issued or approved firearm.
 - c. The APD-issued flashlight and holder must be worn opposite the weapon side to the rear of the radio case.
 - d. The handcuffs will be carried in a case to the rear of either the radio or expandable baton. Employees have the option to carry a second pair of handcuffs in either a handcuff case or secured by a belt keeper. Hinged handcuffs are not allowed. Handcuffs must be silver or grey in color.

4.7 OUTERWEAR

4.7.1 HEADGEAR

1. The APD approved fur trooper cap is optional. The hat badge must be attached to the visor on the front of the cap. The trooper cap can be worn with earflaps up or down.
2. The APD-approved black knit "watch cap" is optional, but if worn, it will be worn with the words "ATLANTA POLICE" facing forward.

Both, the silver and/or gold embroidered black knit "watch caps" must be worn with the words "ATLANTA POLICE" on the front side of the cap, as indicated below:



Silver Embroidery



Gold Embroidery



3. All employees at the rank of Lieutenant and below are allowed to wear the approved “baseball cap” with their Departmental uniform.
 - a. The cap must not be altered in any way from its original design unless approved by the Chief of Police.
 - b. The cap is only to be worn with the bill and APD patch facing forward.



4.7.2 FOOTWEAR

1. Employees in uniform must wear black, plain, lace-up shoes or boots. Shoes and boots must be clean, in good repair, and polished (if applicable). The heel and sole cannot exceed 1½ inches in height.
2. When wearing Class A or Class B, shoes and boots must match the finish of their duty belt.
3. Socks are to be dark blue or black.

4.7.3 SWEATER

1. Employees have the option to wear the black wool V-neck sweater with the Class A uniform long-sleeved shirt with a tie or with an APD embroidered black turtleneck.
2. The Atlanta Police Department patch must be sewn into both shoulders of the sweater.
3. The metal breast badge or an embroidered cloth badge must be worn on the left breast side and the metal nameplate or embroidered name patch must be worn on the right breast side.
4. The appropriate rank epaulet must be worn on the shoulders of the sweater for Lieutenants and above.

4.7.4 JACKET

1. All employees have the option to wear a black waist-length or leather jacket.
2. Jackets must have APD shoulder patches on both shoulders. The metal breast badge or an embroidered cloth badge must be worn over the left breast side of the jacket. The nameplate or an embroidered patch must be worn over the right breast side of the jacket.
3. The black or brown leather jacket must have pull-down identification panels on both the front and back of the jacket.
4. A scarf is optional and can be worn with the jacket. The scarf must be solid black or dark blue. It must be worn around the neck, and the ends must be tucked into the inside of the jacket.



5. The appropriate rank epaulet must be worn on the shoulders of the jacket for Lieutenants and above.
6. When wearing a jacket with a Load-Bearing Uniform Vest Carrier, the jacket must be worn beneath the carrier where possible. If a jacket is worn on the outside of Load Bearing Uniform vest carrier, it must remain open so not to obstruct the officer's ability to access equipment.

4.7.5 TRAFFIC VEST

(CALEA 6th ed. Standard 61.3.2e)

1. The APD issued reflective traffic safety vest should must worn by all employees under the following conditions:
 - a. While directing traffic
 - b. Investigating traffic accidents
 - c. Working school crossings
2. The Traffic Vest is to be worn on the outside of the Load Bearing Uniform Vest and must remain open so not to obstruct the officer's ability to access equipment.
3. Employees have the option to wear high-visibility rain gear instead of the traffic safety vest when appropriate.

4.7.6 RAIN GEAR

1. Employees have the option to wear an APD-approved rain suit. The rain suit, consisting of pants and a jacket, must be a high visibility color the words "Police" or "Atlanta Police" written on the back in silver reflective material.
2. If the Rain Gear is worn on the outside of Load-Bearing Uniform Vest, it must remain open so not to obstruct the officer's ability to access equipment.
3. Employees have the option to wear the APD-approved rain jacket instead of the rain suit provided it meets the same standards as above.

4.7.7 UNDERGARMENTS

1. Employees must wear black or dark blue socks. Employees wearing full boots (8-inch cut or extending to mid-calf) have the option to wear white socks, provided the socks are not visible under the uniform pants.
2. Undershirts, if visible at the neck, must be solid black in color, well-fitting, and in good repair. Undershirts or t-shirts must not extend beyond the sleeve of the uniform shirt.

4.7.8 GLOVES

1. Employees have the option to wear black leather or fabric gloves. Gloves must be a solid color, completely covering the front and back of the hands.
3. Employees directing traffic or working as school crossing guards must wear white or colored high-visibility gloves.



4.8 PATCHES & PINS

4.8.1 PATCHES AND SPECIALTY ROCKERS

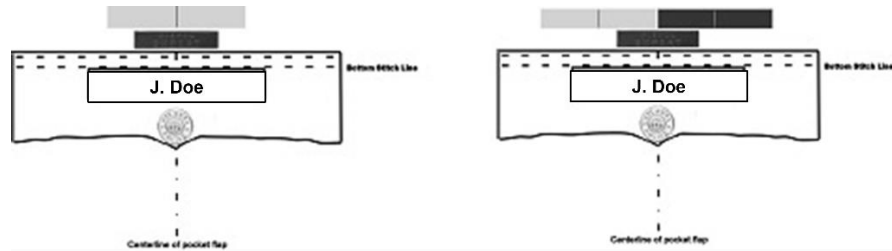
1. Employees assigned to specialized assignments/Special Certifications may wear a unit-specific patch or rocker below their Atlanta Police Department (APD) patch on each shoulder of their uniform shirt, sweater, or jacket. Specialty assignment patches have the option to be worn by the following:
 - K9 Unit
 - SWAT Unit
 - Airport Explosive Ordinance Disposal (EOD) Squad
 - Motors Unit
 - Mounted Patrol
 - ACE Unit
 - APEX Unit
 - High-Intensity Traffic Team
 - Accident Investigation Unit
 - Aviation Unit
 - Community-Oriented Policing Section
 - Honor Guard
 - Tactical Field Operator
 - Field Training Officer
 - Negotiator
2. Employees have the option to wear one service stripe for every five years of service with the APD. Service stripes must be worn diagonally toward the body, on the left sleeve, and two inches above the cuff on the long-sleeve uniform shirt and the uniform jacket. Service stripes must be one inch in length.

4.8.2 PINS

1. Employees are allowed to wear up to five approved Pins on the uniform shirt and one Pin on the tie.
2. The American flag pin can be worn on the right shirt pocket flap to the right of the nameplate. The American flag pin cannot exceed 5/8 inch by 1/2 inch in size. An American flag ribbon bar can be worn centered above the nameplate.
3. Employees with five or more years of service can wear the “Serving Since” bar attached to the nameplate. Letters must be black in color and state “serving since” followed by the year the employee began service with the APD.
4. The pistol expert or marksman award pin can be worn over the nameplate during the year after the employee qualifies as expert or marksman.
5. When worn, the Award ribbon bars are to be worn above the nameplate. Multiple ribbon bars are optional and can be worn in the same manner and must count as one “pin”. If a single award ribbon is displayed, it must be worn immediately above the top of the shirt pocket flap, centered on the flap, and above the pistol expert or marksman award (if applicable).



6. If more than one award ribbon is allowed, all award ribbons must be aligned on the same horizontal plane and centered on the pocket flap. Award ribbons must not extend beyond the edges of the pocket flap.



7. The mini-Atlanta Police badge pin, or the City Seal tie clasp can be worn with the tie.
8. Pins or insignia depicting membership in a law enforcement-related association can be worn on the left breast pocket flap or a single pin on the tie.
9. Pins or insignia that designate completion of a law enforcement-related educational or training course can be worn above the nameplate and award ribbons centered on the pocket flap.
10. Pins or insignia that designate military service are optional and can be worn on the left breast pocket flap or the navy-blue tie.
11. Employees cannot wear campaign or political buttons or items depicting political preference or philosophy on their uniforms or when representing the APD.

4.9 SPECIALIZED UNITS

4.9.1 SWAT & ARST

Sworn employees assigned to SWAT and ARST will wear the following:

1. A sage-green tactical uniform
2. subdued black and green Atlanta police patch with Swat rocker on each shoulder
3. An embroidered cloth police badge on the left breast
4. An embroidered cloth nametag on the right breast
5. Rank insignia, if applicable, will be worn in the same manner as the Department Uniform
6. The equipment belt and gear will be black nylon webbing

The SOS commander, or designee, has the option to authorize other uniforms based on the assignment or detail.

4.9.2 EXPLOSIVE ORDINANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)

Sworn employees assigned to EOD will wear the following:

1. A sage-green tactical uniform
2. A black and green Atlanta police patch with Bomb squad rocker on each shoulder



3. Embroidered cloth badge on the left breast
4. Hazardous devices school pin or patch
5. Nameplate, badge, and rank insignia will be worn in the same manner as on the department uniform.
6. The equipment belt and gear will be black nylon webbing
7. EOD K-9 handlers have the option to wear the Explosive K-9 Detection pin or rocker

The CSD Commander, or designee, has the option to authorize other uniforms for employees under their command based on the assignment or detail.

4.9.3 MOUNTED PATROL

Employees assigned to Mounted Patrol Unit must wear the APD-approved riding britches with the uniform shirt, helmet, and riding boots when on horseback.

4.9.4 APEX

Employees assigned to APEX will wear the Departmental Uniform as specified in Section 4.3.6 with APEX Rockers.

4.9.5 BIKE PATROL & BICYCLE RESPONSE TEAM

Employees assigned to Bike Patrol must wear:

1. Load-Bearing Uniform Vest Carrier
2. APD-approved polo-style shirt with and Atlanta Police patch on each shoulder
3. An embroidered cloth badge on the left breast side of the shirt & vest
4. An embroidered nametag on the right breast side of the shirt & vest
5. APD-approved bicycle pants or shorts
6. APD- approved bicycle jacket with “Atlanta Police” lettering on the back
7. Black fingerless bicycling gloves
8. The equipment belt and gear will be black nylon webbing

The Bike Patrol uniform is unique and mixing it with any part of the Class A, B, or Departmental uniform is not allowed.

4.9.6 AVIATION UNIT

Employees assigned to the Aviation Unit must wear:

1. Flame-resistant flight suit made by Nomex brand or similar material, with APD patches & Aviation rockers affixed on both shoulders.
2. A embroidered nameplate on the right breast and a cloth badge on the left.
3. “Wings” are permitted to be worn on the uniform given the following:
 - a. Unadorned wings are worn by Tactical Flight Officers



- b. Wings with a star directly above the shield are worn by Pilot-in-Charge (PIC)
 - c. Wings with a star and wreath are worn by Unit Certified Flight Instructors (CFI)
 - d. The aviator's wings are worn centered on the centerline of the pocket flap above the award ribbons.
4. Flame-resistant flight jacket & Gloves (if applicable)
 5. A US military or similar international authority approved flight helmet specific for use by helicopter crews
 6. All-leather laced boots or non-leather boots which are flame resistant or have been approved for use by the military or appropriate governing agency for helicopter aircrews
 7. Undergarments made of 100% cotton or of flame-resistant material
 8. Hearing protection when in or around aircraft

4.9.7 SOS MOTORS

Employees assigned to SOS Motors must wear:

1. The APD-approved motorcycle helmet with a metal badge affixed to the front for operating a motorcycle.
2. The Class B shirt.
3. APD-approved SOS Motors riding britches (when riding a motorcycle)
4. APD-approved SOS Motors riding boots
5. APD-approved black thermal - During cold weather
6. Open-faced pullover hood under their helmet (Optional)
7. Black thermal pants over their riding britches. - During cold weather (Optional)

Employees assigned to the Motors Unit have the option to wear the large, winged wheel pin on the shirt above the right breast pocket and have the option to continue to do so after the employee has been reassigned due to transfer and/or promotion or a member of the Atlanta Retired Police Reserve (ARPR).

4.9.8 AUTO CRIMES ENFORCEMENT (ACE)

Employees assigned to Auto Crimes Enforcement (ACE) will wear the Departmental Uniform along with the Auto Crimes Rockers affixed under the department patches.

4.9.9 ZONES DISCRETIONARY UNITS

Field Investigation Team (FIT) wear the Departmental Uniform (See Section 4.3.6 Departmental Uniform). Employees assigned to zone discretionary units have the option to wear plain clothes while working undercover.

4.9.10 TRAINING SECTION

On-duty academy staff on and off academy grounds will wear:



1. The uniform will consist of a black short or long sleeve polo shirt or a black shirt with yellow-gold writing and INSTRUCTOR displayed on the back.
2. The department seal on the left breast
3. The rank and name on the right breast
4. Black 5.11 work pants
5. Black socks and boots/shoes
6. P/T uniforms will only be worn while working out, actively engaged in defensive tactics training, or during details approved by the academy director.

4.9.11 FIREARMS TRAINING UNIT

On-duty Firearms Training Unit staff will wear:

1. Green T-shirt with the academy seal on the left breast (In Summer)
2. Green sweatshirt with the academy seal on the left breast. (In Winter)
3. With the department seal on the left breast
4. The rank and name on the right breast
5. 5.11 khaki work pants
6. Black socks.
7. Tan APD-approved boots

4.9.12 RECRUITS

The Training Section commander has the option to authorize deviations as appropriate and necessary, however the standard Recruit uniform will be:

1. APD-approved blue uniform pants
2. Blue long-sleeve or short-sleeve uniform shirt
3. Recruit's name on the right breast
4. The blue uniform shirt will not have the APD patch on either sleeve
5. Recruits must wear black APD approved shoes or boots and black socks

4.9.13 PROPERTY CONTROL UNIT

Both sworn employees and Property Management Technicians

1. Black long-sleeve or short-sleeve polo-style collared shirt
2. The Atlanta Police Department (APD) seal on the left breast side
3. Their name (and rank for sworn) embroidered on the right breast side
4. Black or gray tactical style pants with a black leather belt
5. A black or blue APD approved jacket when appropriate

The Property Control Unit commander has the option to authorize other uniforms based on the assignment or detail.



4.9.14 POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE (PAL)

Employees assigned to the Police Athletic League (PAL) wear:

1. Black short or long-sleeve polo-style collared shirt with their name and rank on the right breast side and khaki shorts during the summer months.
2. The PAL Commander has the option to authorize other uniforms based on the assignment or detail.

4.9.15 CHAPLAINS AND HONOR GUARD

1. Chaplains will wear the Class A Uniform.
2. The approved Class A Honor Guard uniform will be worn when performing Honor Guard duties.

4.9.16 NON-UNIFORMED SWORN AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

1. Investigative and Executive Protection Units have the option to wear business attire that would be acceptable in any office, business, or professional environment. Division, commanders will determine appropriate uniform or attire.
 - a. Business suit or pants with a sport jacket
 - b. A collared dress shirt
 - c. Dresses or coordinated pants, skirts, or skirt outfits
 - d. An equipment belt upon approval of the unit commander
 - e. Shoes must coordinate with clothing and not exceed 2 ½ inches in height. Shoes must be clean and well maintained.
2. Division commanders have the discretion to determine which administrative attire, described in this section; best serves the needs of the section.
3. Unless otherwise instructed, non-uniformed sworn employees are to carry their firearm, badge, and identification card on their person with their radio and handcuffs readily available. Employees in undercover assignments have the option to deviate as required with supervisor approval.

4.9.17 CRIME SCENE TECHNICIANS

1. Crime Scene Technicians will wear a black polo style collared shirt, either short or long sleeved, with the Atlanta Police Department seal on the left breast and name and classification on the right breast, dark gray tactical style trousers with a black leather belt and a black coaching style jacket. Plain black leather lace up boots shall be worn. Boots shall be clean and in good repair, heel and sole cannot exceed 1½ inches in height.
2. Crime Scene Unit supervisors will wear the black polo style shirt as described above with khaki tactical style pants. Black plain toed leather or high gloss shoes may be worn with the khaki pants.



3. A black wool military type, V-neck, sweater may be worn with the long sleeve shirt with the Unit shoulder patch will be worn on both shoulders.
4. Raingear will be the yellow rain suit or yellow raincoat with silver reflective markings.
5. Dark blue lab coats are permissible and optional and will be worn with the Unit patches on each shoulder.
6. The uniform hat will be a black baseball cap, or the fur trooper hat.
7. Personnel assigned to the Photo Lab will follow these same guidelines.
8. The Identification Unit commander may authorize other uniforms based on assignment or detail.

4.9.18 C.A.R.E UNIT

1. Department Issued Navy Blue and Yellow Long/Short-Sleeve Polo.
2. C.A.R.E Unit logo stitched over the left chest and name embroidered over the right chest.
3. Navy Blue 5.11 Stryke Pants with 2" reflective striping below the knee.
4. Navy Blue Jacket with C.A.R.E Unit logo embroidered on the Left and 3" silver reflective letters "C.A.R.E" on the back.
5. Navy Blue ballcap with logo on front.
6. Nylon Duty belt.
7. Navy Blue outer carrier with ballistic vest.

4.9.19 INVENTORY SYSTEM SPECIALISTS

1. Inventory Systems Specialists must wear black tactical pants and a black polo-style shirt. The shirt will display the APD patch, their work assignment embroidered on the left breast, and their name and job classification embroidered on the right breast. The pants must be worn with a black belt.
2. Inventory Systems Specialists must wear black, plain lace-up boots. The boots must be clean and in good repair. Heel and sole cannot exceed 1 ½ inches in height.
3. A black jacket is optional and can be worn over the polo-style shirt.
4. Blue or black coveralls have the option to be worn to minimize the soiling and destruction of the uniform.

4.9.20 CRIME PREVENTION INSPECTORS

1. Crime Prevention Inspectors (CPI) must wear a black short or long-sleeved polo shirt. Shirts must have the appropriate patch on each shoulder, the cloth embroidered CPI badge on the left breast, and the cloth embroidered nametag on the right breast side.
2. Pants must be khaki cargo pants and worn with a black belt.



3. Shoes must be plain black closed toe, either smooth leather or high gloss. Heel and sole cannot exceed 1½ inch in height. Black socks must be worn.
4. The uniform jacket must be waist-length and dark blue. Shoulder patches and badges must not be worn on the jacket. A patch indicating job classification must be worn on the left breast side and an embroidered name on the right breast side.
5. A black wool military type V-neck sweater has the option to be worn with a long-sleeved shirt. Shoulder patches and badges must not be worn on the sweater. A patch indicating job classification must be worn on the left breast side and an embroidered name on the right breast side.
6. Rain gear must be the yellow rain suit or yellow raincoat with silver reflective markings.

4.9.21 UNACCEPTABLE ATTIRE

The following guidelines provide examples of unacceptable attire, excluding employees in undercover assignments, for any workday:

1. Tight-fitting clothing, including garments made with stretchy, see-through, or sheer material.
2. Leather or simulated leather pants, skirts, or dresses
3. Clothing with offensive language, graphics or lettering.
4. Provocative or revealing clothing, such as spaghetti strap dresses, plunging necklines, strapless and/or backless dresses, halter tops, or midriff tops
5. Dresses, skirts, or shorts that are excessively short or have slits that are mid-thigh.
6. Bib overalls
7. Flip-flops or other beach style sandals, and bedroom-style slippers
8. Novelty buttons
9. Jeans

5. DEFINITIONS

Departmental Uniform: The standard day-to-day work uniform by every rank below the rank of Captain. See Section 4.3.6 Departmental Uniform - Rank of Lieutenant and Below.

Field Positions: Sworn employees whose primary job is to respond to calls to service.

Load-Bearing Uniform Vest Carrier: A style of body armor having the appearance of a uniform shirt where the ballistics panels fit inside the carrier. The Load-Bearing Uniform Vest Carrier must have equipment affixed to the front of the vest reducing the amount of equipment on the equipment belt. This style of body armor is worn on the outside of the standard uniform shirt and must be worn as the outermost garment except when wearing the rain suit.

Mourning Band: A strip of black cloth or tape positioned horizontally across the breast badge. It is worn during the mourning period following the line-of-duty death of an employee of any law enforcement agency.

Reaction Side: The side of the body opposite of the weapon side.



Atlanta Police Department – Standard Operating Procedure

APD.SOP.2130 Dress Code
Effective Date: October 10, 2024



Sworn Administrative Employees: Sworn employees whose primary duties are administrative and non-enforcement in nature.

Weapon Side: The side of the body where sworn employees wear their weapon.

6. CANCELLATIONS

APD.SOP.2130 “Dress Code”; effective August 25, 2022.

7. REFERENCES

August 2024 Order in Calhoun, et al. v. Pennington, et al. 1:09-CV-3286-TCB
Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), 6th Edition Standards
26.1.1, 41.3.4, 41.3.5, 41.3.6, 61.3.2e.