



# MARYLAND STATE POLICE PERSONNEL DIRECTIVE



## Uniforms in General

<b>Distribution:</b> All Employees	<b>Index:</b> <b>PER 08.03</b>
<b>DLI Reference:</b> 104: Personnel & Veh. Insp.	<b>Rescinds:</b> CHAPTER 22, SEC. VI (A, C, E-G)
<b>Issued:</b> 01/01/2013	<b>Revised:</b> 09/26/2014

### .01 Purpose

To establish uniform standards for troopers and civilian employees.

### .02 Policy

Troopers and civilian employees are expected to maintain their uniforms in a manner that is appropriate for their assignment.

### .03 CALEA Standards

**LE:** 22.2.5    26.1.1    41.3.4    **TA:** 4.6.1    **CM:** 3.6.2

### .04 References

[MD. CODE ANN., PUB. SAFETY § 2-205.](#)

### .05 Procedures

#### A. Applicability

This written directive applies to troopers and uniformed civilian employees.<sup>1</sup>

#### B. Uniform Regulations

1. All uniform clothing and equipment will be approved by the Superintendent.
2. The wearing of the MSP uniform will be governed by the regulations concerning how, what, where and when specific uniform items will be worn.<sup>2</sup>
3. The MSP will provide uniforms and equipment necessary for the performance of the duties of all employees to the extent permitted by the budget.<sup>3</sup>
4. Personal items of clothing may be authorized by the employee's commander to be worn in addition to regulation uniform items during severe weather conditions.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> LE: 26.1.1    TA: 4.6.1    CM: 3.6.2  
<sup>2</sup> LE: 26.1.1    TA: 4.6.1    CM: 3.6.2  
<sup>3</sup> LE: 22.2.5    TA: N/A    CM: N/A  
<sup>4</sup> LE: 41.3.4    TA: N/A    CM: N/A

C. Prohibitions

1. Uniforms may not be modified in any way without permission of the Superintendent.
2. Troopers and civilian employees will not allow another MSP employee or any other person to use their badge or any other means of personal identification.
3. A civilian employee may not wear any portion of the uniform that he is not authorized to wear.
4. Substituting unapproved personal equipment for equipment that was issued or approved for use may result in disciplinary action.
5. No decoration or insignia may be worn on the MSP uniform unless authorized by the Superintendent, who will designate where, when and in what manner the insignia or decoration will be worn.
6. MSP-issued leather equipment will not be treated with special appearance enhancement products, (e.g., Leather Luster). The original finish will be maintained by following the manufacturer's recommendations.
7. MSP employees will not wear the uniform while attending any court as a defendant in any trial, as a party in a civil trial or while serving as a juror.

D. Classes of Uniform – Non-Commissioned Officers

1. CLASS A: blouse, long-sleeve shirt, tie, felt Stetson; gun belt with shoulder strap.
  - a. Dress uniform.
  - b. Worn by all troopers when attending or assigned to any official function (unless this requirement is waived) and when ordered by the appropriate commander.
  - c. Worn by commissioned officers at public appearances.
2. CLASS B: long-sleeve shirt, tie, felt Stetson; gun belt; troopers may wear the patrol jacket and / or uniform sweater with the Class B uniform.
  - a. Work uniform.
  - b. Worn for routine duties or assignments.
  - c. May be worn to official functions with authorization from the appropriate commander.
3. CLASS C: short sleeve shirt, straw Stetson, and gun belt.
  - a. Work uniform.
  - b. Worn for routine duties or assignments.

E. Classes of Uniform – Commissioned Officers

The classes of uniform remain the same as non-commissioned officers, except commissioned officers:

1. must wear only a holster, without a gun belt, with the Class A uniform.
2. may wear only a holster, without a gun belt, or may wear a gun belt with Class B or C uniforms.
3. must always have a Class A uniform available.

F. Uniform of the Day

1. All troopers, regardless of assignment, will have at least one uniform of each class available.
2. Troopers will wear the uniform of the day, unless authorized by their commander to wear other appropriate apparel.
3. Commanders will maintain consistency within their commands regarding the class of uniform to be worn.
4. Under no circumstances will different classes of uniform be worn at an official function such as the Governor's inauguration, funerals, scheduled meetings when acting as the representative of the MSP, and any other event designated by the appropriate commander.
5. The Superintendent may authorize the wearing of the Class B uniform to an official function if adverse weather conditions prohibit troopers from wearing the Class A uniform.
6. The dates of change from winter to summer uniforms will be the prerogative of the region or division commander.
7. Generally, the Class C uniform will not be worn before May 1 or after October 15.
8. The decision to change to a different class uniform must take into account unseasonable weather, night or late shifts and other circumstances which would dictate the use of certain articles of clothing.
9. Every effort shall be made to maintain the consistency of uniforms within a unit.
10. Transportation inspectors, cadets, communications personnel and other uniformed civilian employees will wear the uniform of the day designated by their respective commanders.<sup>5</sup>

G. Special Uniforms

1. Commanders may authorize special uniforms for their employees that are appropriate for the type of work performed (e.g., the Commander of Aviation Command may authorize employees to wear flight suits) upon approval of the appropriate bureau chief.
2. Black BDU Work Uniform
  - a. Personnel assigned to the following units are eligible to receive black BDU work uniforms:
    - (1) Automotive Safety Enforcement Division.
    - (2) Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division.
    - (3) Electronic Services Section.
    - (4) Forensic Sciences Division (Crime Scene Unit).
    - (5) Motor Vehicle Division.
    - (6) Special Operations Division (Canine Unit, Motor Unit & Underwater Recovery Team).
  - b. Employees from other units may be eligible to order BDU work uniforms if such uniforms are requested by their commander, approved by the commander's bureau chief and approved by the Director of Quartermaster Division (QMD).

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<sup>5</sup> LE: 26.1.1    TA: 4.6.1    CM: 3.6.2

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- c. The number of BDU work uniforms issued will be determined by QMD and any specific requirements for wearing the uniforms will be determined by local special order or local SOP.
  - d. When worn by a trooper, the BDU work uniform will have black rank insignia on each collar.
3. The firearm for any special uniform is the MSP-issued primary firearm.
4. The special uniform replaces all other special work clothing in the affected units; however, it does not replace the uniform of the day for court appearances or classroom training.

H. Boots

- 1. Except for the conditions listed below, uniformed troopers at the rank of first sergeant and below assigned to patrol functions are permitted to wear approved non-issued boots for duty-wear, year round.
- 2. Exceptions: MSP sworn personnel may not wear non-issued boots when:
  - a. wearing Class A uniform;
  - b. participating in formal or ceremonial events;
  - c. attending circuit court;
  - d. making public appearances, including television; and
  - e. appearing in scheduled official photographs.
- 3. Exception: all uniformed sworn personnel may wear approved non-issued boots during adverse/inclement weather conditions.
- 4. The only types of non-issue boots acceptable for wear are mid quarter to low quarter, plain toe, chukka, or standard tactical/military combat style boots with eyelets and lacing.
- 5. Approved non-issued boots will:
  - a. be constructed completely of black, polished smooth leather (or simulated leather) or a combination of black leather and black nylon/canvass;
  - b. have a plain leather toe and heel that is no greater than 1½ inch;
  - c. be capable of being polished to a high shine;
  - d. have a majority of leather visible below the trouser leg, to include the heel and toe;
  - e. have the trouser leg fall naturally outside the boots while transitioning from a bending or seated position, to a standing position, and not have the uniform trousers ride up on the boot opening.
- 6. The cost for the purchase, maintenance and replacement of non-issued boots will be borne by the employee.
- 7. Uniformed troopers will have their uniform shoes readily available in the event they are unexpectedly required to attend an official function.

Approved:

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Colonel Marcus L. Brown  
Superintendent 09/26/2014