



Kern County Sheriff's Office Policies and Procedures

TITLE: HONOR GUARD UNIFORMS AND GROOMING STANDARDS		NO: K-0435	
APPROVED: Donny Youngblood, Sheriff-Coroner			
EFFECTIVE: July 15, 2009	REVIEWED: 06/16/2026	REVISED: 06/16/2026	UPDATED: 06/16/2026

POLICY

Honor Guard is a specialized assignment requiring a different uniform from the standard duty uniform. All members chosen for the Honor Guard Team must possess both the Standard Honor Guard uniform and the Western Honor Guard uniform. Every team member shall, at all times, be certain the condition of their uniform is such that it can be worn with dignity and pride, and its appearance will produce a favorable impression and command respect. Additionally, members of Honor Guard are expected to maintain above-standard uniform and grooming standards that may go beyond those set forth in KCSOPPM K-0200 while participating in an Honor Guard event.

DIRECTIVE 1: UNIFORMS

The Standard Honor Guard uniform shall consist of the following:

- Honor Guard cover with cap piece
 - The Honor Guard cover shall be the *Cap, Class A Uniform (Campaign)*
- Jacket, traditional Honor Guard Class A Uniform with appropriate Sheriff's Office and red rank insignia and traditional patches (the 9/11 Memorial Patch and/or the Breast Cancer Awareness patches are not approved for wear with the Honor Guard Class A jacket)
 - Name plate, polished gold metal (U.S. Flag version)
 - Badge, metal
 - A single pin can be worn on the uniform, i.e.. American flag, military, SWAT, CNT, BOMBS, or any additional approved collateral assignment pin
 - A scarlet and gold, single-strand citation cord with gold tip (Aiguillettes: US Army Service) will be affixed to the left outer shoulder, under the epaulet
- Scarlet Red Ascot, to be tucked into the jacket
- Elbeco Shirt – traditional Class A Uniform, Generation 1 long sleeve with red rank insignia, or Class C Long Sleeve Polo with red rank insignia
- White cotton gloves
- Elbeco Trousers, traditional Class A Uniform
 - Red and gold piping will be affixed along the outer seams of the trousers
- Black socks
- Patent leather or Corfam shoes
 - Shoes may be low or 3/4 -cut shoes
- Duty belt, Kore brand basketweave with gold ratchet buckle



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- Duty belt is to include the following items only:
 - Glock duty pistol with holster (Rapid Force Level III Duty Holster, black basket weave)
- Under Belt, Kore brand underbelt that is part of the overall Kore dutybelt system

The Honor Guard will have an alternate Western Honor Guard uniform authorized for special events, which will be approved by the Honor Guard Manager or Coordinator prior to the event.

The Western Honor Guard uniform shall consist of the following:

- *Cap, Class A Uniform (Western)*
- Elbeco Shirt – traditional Class A Uniform, Generation 1 long sleeve with red rank insignia and traditional patches (the 9/11 Memorial Patch and/or the Breast Cancer Awareness patches are not approved for wear with the Honor Guard Class A shirt)
Collar shall be open, no further than the third button
 - Name plate, polished gold metal (U.S. Flag version)
 - Badge, metal
 - A single pin can be worn on the uniform, i.e.. American flag, military, SWAT, CNT, BOMBS, or any additional approved collateral assignment pin
 - A scarlet and gold, single-strand citation cord with gold tip (Aiguillettes: US Army Service) will be affixed to the left outer shoulder, under the epaulet
- Scarlet Red Ascot, to be tucked into the shirt collar
- White cotton gloves
- Elbeco Trousers, traditional Class A Uniform
 - Red and gold piping will be affixed along the outer seams of the trousers
- Black socks
- Black cowboy boots. Sole and Heel must be all black in construction, with western stitching allowed only on the toe. Rounded-toe or narrow square-toe boots are authorized. Boot heel may not exceed 1.75 inches in height, no shine
- Duty belt, Kore brand basketweave with gold ratchet buckle
 - Duty belt is to include the following items only:
 - Glock duty pistol with holster (Rapid Force Level III Duty Holster, black basket weave)
- Under Belt, Kore brand underbelt that is part of the overall Kore dutybelt system



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Detailed descriptions of italicized uniform items are found in K-0300.

DIRECTIVE 2: GROOMING STANDARDS

In addition to the grooming standards set forth in KCSOPPM K-0200, Honor Guard members must maintain additional grooming standards while participating in any Honor Guard event, including:

HAIR

- Personnel shall be clean shaven; no beards or mustaches
- Male personnel:
 - Hair shall be neat, closely trimmed, tapered from the lower natural hairline upward
 - Maximum length: 3 inches when fully extended
 - Bulk (distance hair protrudes from the scalp): 3 inches
 - Back and sides clipped short; no body hair on back of neck
 - Hair must not touch ears, collar, or extend below eyebrows
 - No mohawks, asymmetrical cuts, shaved patterns, etched designs, braids, locks, or twists
 - Sideburns: No longer than the top of the ear opening; no tapering or flaring; individual hairs less than or equal to 1/8"
- Female personnel:
 - If long hair: hair in a bun secured so no portion falls loose
 - If medium hair: up to two half-braids, shorter than the collar of the shirt
 - If short hair, twists allowed