



**MESCAL J-6
FIRE DISTRICT**

**STANDARD OPERATING
POLICY # 030**

Uniform and Grooming Standards

I. PURPOSE

To establish a standard for professional appearance.

II. SCOPE

This policy applies to all members of the MJFD, while on duty or while representing the District at any related activities.

III. POLICY

In order to portray a positive public image and demonstrate pride and professionalism, it is the policy of MJFD to maintain high standards regarding member appearance, dress, and grooming.

IV. GUIDELINES

- A. All members shall adhere to good personal hygiene practices, including neat and clean appearance, well-groomed hair, proper attention to oral hygiene, absence of offensive body odors, and attire that is appropriate to their line of work.
- B. Uniforms
 - 1. "Class A" uniforms shall be worn during formal District functions, or any other occasion deemed appropriate by the Fire Chief.
 - 2. "Class B" uniforms shall be worn during District related court appearances, public education events, or any other occasion deemed appropriate by the Fire Chief.
 - 3. "Class C" uniforms are the designated duty uniform and shall be worn by all personnel staffing for a period of one or more hours.
 - 4. Personnel responding from home are encouraged to wear the "Class C" uniform. In lieu of the "Class C" uniform, personnel responding from home shall wear, at a minimum, an approved MJFD t-shirt, sweatshirt, or similar article of clothing identifying them as an MJFD volunteer.
- C. Protective clothing and equipment is provided to all firefighting personnel for use as required when working in a hazardous environment, during firefighting activities, or during any other similar conditions during training activities. Appropriate protective gear shall be worn by all personnel at emergency incidents.
- D. The protective turnout gear shall be kept in the station and donned when a member is preparing to respond to a call. In the interest of safety, personnel operating MJFD apparatus may choose to don turnouts upon incident arrival. Under no circumstances shall a member take home the turnout gear, unless prior permission has been granted by the Fire Chief.



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- E. No other insignia, emblem, advertising button, ribbon, jewelry or device shall be attached to the uniform or personal protective equipment/ clothing without authorization of the Fire Chief.
- F. The following additional guidelines apply to suppression members:
 - 1. Hair – If the hair falls below the top of the collar line, the hair shall be pulled back and secured in such a way that allows for full coverage by the protective safety hood.
 - 2. Facial Hair –Facial hair shall be of a conservative style, kept short, well-groomed and shall not interfere with the proper seal of the SCBA face piece. Full Beards, or other facial hair presenting the member as being unshaven shall not be worn.
 - 3. Tattoos -- Visible tattoos shall be kept to a minimum and shall display nothing that is offensive. At the sole discretion of the Fire Chief, any member who has a visible tattoo that is considered either too large or in any way offensive shall be required to cover the tattoo or have it removed at his own expense.
 - 4. Earrings or other visible body piercing items – Only a single stud earring may be worn by suppression members while on duty; other visible body piercing items shall not be worn by suppression members while on duty.
 - 5. Jewelry -- It is strongly recommended that for safety purposes, rings not be worn while on duty. However, if a member chooses to wear a wedding ring, it is highly suggested that it be modified so that it will break away when snagged. Any ring that interferes with required safety protective equipment shall not be worn. A single necklace or chain normally worn around the neck is permitted as long as it is worn inside the clothing. Jewelry shall not have any sexual, racial, or other potentially offensive insignia or emblems.
 - 6. Cosmetics – Members wearing cosmetics, including cologne, shall ensure that the appearance and/or aroma is conservative and in good taste.
- G. Members are responsible for laundering, replacements, and maintenance of uniform t-shirts. Worn, torn, or faded uniforms shall not be permitted to be worn.
- H. The wearing of District uniform t-shirts and hats while not working is prohibited without prior approval of the Fire Chief, with the exception of when a member is traveling to and from the station or a call. Members wearing such uniform elements while off-duty shall recognize that the wearing of such identifies them with the MJFD, thus, their behavior while wearing such items shall reflect positively on the District.
- I. Only current District members shall wear any District-issued uniform items. Thus, members may not allow their District-issued uniform items to be worn by other individuals.



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V. Uniforms

1. "Class C" uniforms shall consist of the following:
 - Dark Blue department approved t-shirt with MJFD logo on front left chest, and the lettering "Mescal-J6 Fire District" on the back, OR dark blue polo shirt with District logo on left front chest. Long or short sleeves are acceptable at any time.
 - Matching dark blue trousers or EMS style pants. Matching dark blue shorts are acceptable for wear from April, 1st through September, 31st.
 - Black belt
 - Black shoes or boots
 - Dark blue baseball style hat w/ District logo, optional.
 - Dark blue sweatshirt, same logo and lettering as t-shirt, hooded or not; optional.
 - Department approved jacket; optional
2. "Class B" uniforms shall consist of the following:
 - Long sleeved collared shirt with epaulets and military creases; dark blue for firefighters, white for officers. Short sleeves may be worn April, 1st through September, 31st.
 - District logo patch on left sleeve, EMS certification patch on right sleeve, or District logo patch on both sleeves for personnel without medical certification.
 - Badge on left chest
 - Nameplate above right pocket.
 - Ribbons will be worn below the nameplate.
 - Collar insignia; Lieutenant: 1) brass bugle, Captain: 2) straight brass bugles, Assistant Chief: 4) brass crossed bugles, Chief: 5) crossed brass bugles.
 - Dark blue trousers or EMS pants.
 - Black belt
 - Black shoes or boots
 - Hat are not allowed
 - Department approved jacket, optional.
3. "Class A" uniforms shall consist of the "Class B" uniform with the addition of:
 - Shirts will be long-sleeved only.
 - Black tie with tie bar.



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VI. Initial Issue Uniforms

Personnel are required to purchase and maintain the appropriate uniforms, footwear and any approved optional clothing not issued by the Mescal-J6 Fire District.

1. New MJFD personnel will be issued the following:
 - Two short-sleeve "Class C" uniform t-shirts, short or long sleeved.
2. Upon successful completion of probation, MJFD personnel will be issued the following:
 - One dark blue, long-sleeved, collared shirt
 - One pair matching dark blue trousers
 - District badge
 - Nameplate
 - Black leather belt
 - Black tie and tie bar
 - District approved jacket
 - Leather boots, suitable for both wildland and structural firefighting.
3. Newly promoted officers will be issued the following:
 - One dark blue, long-sleeved collared shirt
 - One pair brass collar insignia appropriate for rank
 - Rank appropriate badge, nameplate and tie bar
4. All uniforms, badges, collar devices, etc. issued to members remain the property of the Mescal-J6 Fire District and shall be immediately surrendered to the District upon the member's separation.
5. District logos are copyright the Mescal-J6 Fire District and may not be used by any member or individual without prior written permission of the Fire Chief.
6. Uniform specifics, such as brand, materials, style, etc. shall be determined as necessary, by the Fire Chief, via Administrative Directive.

Approved by the Mescal-J6 Fire District Governing Board on April 25, 2018. Replaces September 28th, 2016