


PROVIDENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

 HEADQUARTERS
 COLONEL OSCAR L. PEREZ
 CHIEF OF POLICE

TYPE OF ORDER	NUMBER/SERIES	ISSUE DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
General Order	220.01	9/3/2024	9/5/2024
SUBJECT TITLE		PREVIOUSLY ISSUED DATES	
Uniform Standards		7/4/2021; 7/15/2020; 7/16/2014; 3/2/2010; Supersedes: G.O. #12 Series 2006; G.O. #4 Series 2004; G.O. #5 Series 2002	
REFERENCE		RE-EVALUATION DATE	
CALEA: 22.2.5, 26.1.1, 41.3.4		As Needed	
SUBJECT AREA		DISTRIBUTION	
Human Resources		All Sworn Personnel	

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to promote a professional appearance by ensuring uniformity in dress; therefore, inspiring confidence, and professionalism in the Providence Police Department.

POLICY

It is the policy of the Providence Police Department that the official uniform will conform in such styles, color, and materials as prescribed by the Chief of Police or his/her designee. Insignias, badges, service stripes, and other uniform attachments and decorations will be worn in a standardized fashion and only authorized items can be displayed.

DISCUSSION

N/A.

PROCEDURE

I. WEARING OF THE UNIFORM

- A. The prescribed uniform will be worn by officers while on-duty and extra duty details, except in cases where civilian clothing is authorized.
- B. The uniform will be kept clean, neatly pressed, and in good repair at all times. Faded or worn uniforms will be replaced.

- C. Accessories that are authorized but not department issued will be of the same style and color.
- D. Jackets and shirts will be buttoned or zippered in an appropriate manner.
 - 1. Jackets and long sleeve shirts buttoned full length, except when worn with the turtleneck the top button is left unbuttoned. The top button of short sleeve shirts is not buttoned.
 - 2. Only plain white tee-shirts to be worn beneath the uniform shirt.
- E. The uniform hat will be worn in the following manner.
 - 1. Set squarely on the head in military fashion, not tilted to the side nor worn on the back of the head.
 - 2. The appropriate uniform hat must be in the officer's possession at all times, wearing this hat is mandatory except under the following conditions:
 - a. The Officer-in-Charge determines that the wearing of the hat is inappropriate for the circumstance.
 - b. Construction details, where the baseball hat can be substituted, at the officer's option.
- F. Neither the uniform, nor parts thereof, will be worn by officers of the department in the following circumstances:
 - 1. Outside employment to which they have not been officially detailed.
 - 2. Social functions, unless the wearer is representing the police department and has permission from the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
 - 3. While consuming alcoholic beverages or frequenting establishments that serve intoxicating liquor while not on official duty.
- G. Specialized units of the department will be authorized to wear special clothing and equipment due to the nature of their duties, i.e., K-9, Special Response Unit, Motorcycle Division, Mounted Command, Bicycle Unit.
- H. Meter Checkers, Crossing Guards, or any other uniformed officer of the department will conform to the Uniform Standards Policy where applicable.

II. GENERAL UNIFORM REGULATIONS

- A. Colors and styles will be determined by the Chief of Police or his/her designee and conform to specifications.
- B. The dress uniform will be worn for promotions and other times when deemed necessary by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
- C. Uniformed officers will wear a Sam Browne belt. Lieutenants and above and/or personnel assigned to administrative duties, will have the option of wearing a Sam Browne belt or a Garrison belt.
 - 1. Officers will wear nickel or silver colored belt buckles and accessories.
 - 2. Sergeants and above will wear brass or gold colored belt buckles and accessories.
 - 3. Combining leather and nylon gear is prohibited.
 - 4. Officers shall only utilize equipment authorized by the department, to include but not be limited to holsters, OC holsters, magazine holders etc.
- D. The police badge will be worn on the left breast and on the outermost garment, plainly exposed to view at all times.
 - 1. Supervisors, Inspectors, and Detectives will have a gold finish with an indication of rank.
 - 2. Officers will have a silver finish.
- E. Awards and Insignias will be worn in the following manner:
 - 1. Commendation pins for will be worn above the badge in a citation holder.
 - 2. Field Training officers will wear the department authorized rocker patch centered on shirt sleeves.
 - 3. Sergeants will wear chevron patches centered on shirt sleeves and chevron pins on the shirt collar.
 - 4. Rank insignias: Lieutenants and above will wear gold rank insignia on the epaulet, centered 3/4" from the shoulder/sleeve seam, parallel to the seam.
 - 5. Miscellaneous insignias authorized by the Chief of Police or his/her designee will be worn in a proper manner as to be determined by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

6. Tie tacks will be professional and non-offensive in nature.
- F. Footwear will be black, polished, and absent of any unusual buckles, decorations, or insignias.
 1. Dress uniform shoes should be low cut and in a high polish shine; no combat type boots.
 2. When wearing low cut shoes or boots, socks must be black or navy blue in color.
 - G. Black full finger gloves may be worn during inclement weather.
 - H. The reflective department-issued vest will be worn at all locations where an officer is directing traffic or in the roadway.
 - I. A black clip-on tie will be worn while wearing long sleeve shirts, except when worn over the department turtleneck.

III. COURT ATTIRE

- A. Any off-duty officer responding to court shall wear their uniform or business attire as follows:
 1. Male personnel will be authorized to wear a suit or sports jacket, with dress shirt, tie, dress pants and appropriate dress shoes.
 2. Female personnel will be authorized to wear a suit or dress pants, blouse and appropriate dress shoes.

IV. WINTER/SUMMER UNIFORM CHANGES

- A. The Chief of Police or his/her designee will determine the transition period between Winter/Summer uniforms in accordance with the weather conditions.
- B. The notification of the transition will be made through a memorandum.

V. UNIFORM OPTION – SNOWSUIT

- A. The optional snowsuit may be worn under the following conditions:
 1. On-duty: During periods of extreme weather conditions, the snowsuit may be worn over the prescribed uniform of the day when authorized by the Officer-in-Charge.
 2. Special Details: Traffic and road construction only.
- B. The snowsuit must be of the type, color, and description as authorized by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.

- C. The black “artic trooper” style hat may be worn with the hat wreath attached.

VI. PRESCRIBED CIVILIAN CLOTHING – SWORN EMPLOYEES

- A. Male officers authorized to wear civilian clothing on duty will wear a suit or color coordinated slacks, shirts, necktie, and sport coat.
 - 1. Shoes must be of dress of type and coordinate with the outfit.
- B. Female officers will wear the equivalent attire, i.e., a dress, pantsuit, or suit.
 - 1. Shoes must be of dress of type and coordinate with the outfit.
- C. Casual attire is prohibited during normal duty hours unless the nature of the assignment dictates such.
- D. Officers assigned to “undercover” assignments will dress appropriately in order to “blend in” with their environment as determined by the Commanding Officer of the Division they are assigned.
- E. The wearing of business casual attire for both male and female personnel, shall be approved by the Commanding Officer and will be described as:
 - 1. Shirt with collar.
 - 2. Khaki style pants.
 - 3. Shoes with socks.

VII. GROOMING STANDARDS

- A. Sworn Male Officers
 - 1. Hairstyles will be conservative and evenly trimmed. Hair will be tapered proportionally along the sides and back of the head. The hair will not be extended downward at any point over the shirt color at the back of the neck and will not protrude in length more than one-quarter inch (1/4”) over the top of the ears. Hair will be cut and trimmed in a manner that allows proper wearing of the uniform hat.
 - 2. Sideburns will be uniform from top to bottom, neatly trimmed, will not exceed one inch (1”) in width, and not be excessively heavy or bushy. Sideburns will be cut horizontally along the side of the face and at least one-half inch (1/2”) above the bottom of the ear lobe.
 - 3. Facial hair will be conventional style, neatly trimmed, and not present a bushy unkempt appearance. The mustache will not extend over the upper lip or beyond and below the corner of the mouth. Beards and goatees are prohibited.

4. Exceptions will be made by the Chief of Police or his/her designee for specialized assignments.
- b. Sworn Female Officers
1. Will wear their hair neatly in styles that do not extend below the bottom of the collar in normal posture. Longer hair may be worn in an upward sweep or bun above the top of the collar, so long as it presents a neat appearance, does not straggle, and allows proper wearing of the uniform hat. Female officers in a non-uniform assignment may wear their hair in any style deemed appropriate by their Bureau Commander.
 2. Hair fasteners – hair clasps, barrettes, or fasteners worn while in uniform will correspond with uniform appearance.

VIII. JEWELRY

- A. Jewelry, which is discrete, may be worn by officers if it is presentable and is in good taste.
1. Males will not wear earrings while on-duty except in undercover situations.
 2. Females may wear earrings in non-patrol assignments so long as they do not present a safety hazard to the officer or others.
 3. Jewelry worn by police officers is subject to the discretion of the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
- B. Sunglasses
1. Sunglasses are to be conservative in style.
 2. Florescent, distasteful glasses are strictly prohibited.

IX. PERSONAL HYGIENE

- A. Attention to personal hygiene is a requisite for all department personnel while on-duty, in uniform, or in official performance of their duties.

X. HONOR GUARD (Members shall wear the uniforms and equipment specified).

- A. The Chief of Police or his/her designee shall determine the prescribed honor guard uniform.
- B. Consideration shall be given to nature of the event, weather, and level of involvement.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oscar L. Perez', written in a cursive style.

COLONEL OSCAR L. PEREZ
CHIEF OF POLICE