

Uniform Requirements for Traffic or Police Officers Working at Metro Public Works Permitted Right-of-Way Sites

Proposed Uniform Policy Effective February 1, 2014

Persons obtaining a Right of Way Permit issued by the Metropolitan Department of Public Works who are required to engage the services of a traffic or police officer (as defined in TCA §55-8-109) , as a condition of the permit, shall ensure that every officer is notified of this policy and shall ensure compliance as a condition of the permit.

Uniform Requirements

Every traffic or police officer as defined in TCA §55-8-109) who is engaged in employment related to a Right of Way Permit issued by the Metropolitan Department of Public Works (MPW) shall wear their departmentally approved General Duty Uniform. The wearing of anything other than the General Duty uniform is prohibited unless approved, in writing, by the Director of MPW, or designee.

General Duty Uniform

The General Duty Uniform is the uniform generally worn by officers, in their assigned jurisdiction, while performing law enforcement duties. The following provisions shall apply:

- A. The uniform has two (2) classifications: Class A uniform, a uniform generally characterized by a long sleeve shirt and class B Uniform, a uniform generally characterized by a short sleeve shirt worn with an open collar.
- B. Uniform apparel shall bear approved insignia to clearly identify officers by their classified ranks or position as employees of the department or their "home jurisdiction", their name shall be clearly displayed on a name strip or name tag, and uniform shall be maintained in a neat, clean, and serviceable condition. Such insignia shall include, in addition to name tag, the badge and any rank or position insignia, and departmental patch or logo.

General Provisions

- A. The terms uniform and equipment mean those items of wearing apparel (including uniform insignia items) worn or displayed by employees to identify themselves as members of the department or their "home jurisdiction", and the tools, implements, and other items authorized for use in performing their official duties.
- B. For the uniform to be considered acceptable, the wearing apparel specified herein must be worn and otherwise be in compliance with these provisions:
 1. Trousers: Must be tailored to a length no shorter than the top of the shoes when wearing "low cut" shoes, and no longer than the top of the heels of the same type shoes when standing in an upright erect position. Shorts or blue jeans are prohibited.
 2. Shirts: Must be tailored where the sleeves of long sleeve garments (Class A Uniform) will reach the joint of the wrist. The sleeves shall not be rolled up or under at any time. They shall be in a fully button-down condition. The tail of the garment shall be neatly tucked inside the trousers or skirt at the waist. The collar shall not be turned up or under, or otherwise altered

- from the style or position for which it is designed. On a short sleeve shirt (Class B Uniform) only the top button shall be left unfastened, so that the collar will be open at the neck.
3. Uniform Cap, Insulated Cap, Toboggan/Watch Hat, or Ball Cap: If worn, it must be departmentally issued or authorized for wear with the General Duty Uniform. It must be of a size that fits when properly positioned on the head and bear any departmentally required insignia, badge, or logo.
 4. Shoes/Boots: Must be departmentally issued or authorized for wear with the General Duty Uniform. They must be clean, polished to a luster, and kept in a serviceable condition. Laces, straps, buckles, zippers, and other approved fastening devices shall be fastened at all times. Only appropriate color socks or hosiery shall be worn with low cut shoes. Sneakers, tennis shoes or athletic type shoes are prohibited.
 5. Jackets or Other Outerwear: A jacket or other outerwear, if worn, shall be the department issued or approved garment for wear with the General Duty Uniform and shall bear the department's shoulder patch and badge, the name of the wearer must be displayed on the garment.
 6. Departmentally Issued Identification Card: Every traffic and police officer, while engaged in employment at a MPW permitted Right of Way worksite, shall possess and display, upon demand by any MPW employee, Metropolitan Police Officer, or citizen, the identification card issued to them by the department.

Reflective Traffic Vests

The use of high-visibility clothing while at a right of way worksite or engaged in the manual direction of traffic, enhances officer safety as well as driver recognition and response. Therefore, on all MPW permitted Right of Way work sites, traffic and police officers shall wear an ANSI approved reflective vest. The vest shall be of the style, color, and specification to meet the current recognized safety standards as adopted by the department or otherwise required by law. The vest shall bear the words "POLICE" and/or include "POLICE" and the officer's agency name. To be considered an acceptable reflective vest, it shall have a label which includes statement(s) that it complies with: "ANSI/ISEA 107-2004", "ANSI/ISEA 107-2010", or "ANSI/ISEA 207-2006".

55-8-109. Obedience to any required traffic-control device.

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(c) For purposes of this section, "traffic or police officer" means every officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations or a person licensed under title 62, chapter 35, who is retired in good standing from being a commissioned, POST-certified law enforcement officer and who has notified the chief law enforcement officer in the jurisdiction where the retired officer will be directing or regulating traffic at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance, or as soon as possible in the event of an emergency, prior to performing traffic control functions in such jurisdiction.

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