

**1308.00 UNIFORM - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	EVP-COO UC Operations
<b>Responsible Office:</b>	Systemwide Community Safety
<b>Issuance Date:</b>	[The date of issuance by the President]
<b>Effective Date:</b>	[The date that the Policy is first enforceable]
<b>Scope:</b>	The policies and procedures contained within constitute a directive for members of the University of California Police Department (UCPD). They were created to provide direction and guidance to the members of the UCPD and provide the framework of coordination for the protection of the population and resources of the University of California.
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**I. POLICY SUMMARY**

The Systemwide UCPD Uniforms: General Requirements Policy establishes standardized requirements for uniforms, equipment, and appearance for members of the UCPD. The policy is intended to ensure professional appearance, consistency, and safety across all UC campuses while also granting Chiefs of Police authority to approve specific local exceptions or variations.

Each Chief of Police must ensure local departmental policies comply with systemwide policies and directives, and may adopt policies that are more restrictive, but not less.

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## II. POLICY TEXT

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### Chapter 1308: UNIFORMS - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

#### POLICY

**1308.** Employees shall wear only uniform items and carry only equipment that conforms to the instructions and specifications in this Manual. Exceptions to this policy must be in writing from the Chief of Police.

**1308.1 Care and Authorized Use of Uniforms/Equipment.** Employees using the police uniform or University equipment or property, including police emergency and University vehicles, shall be responsible for their proper use and care. Employees shall not use, loan, or permit to be used for personal or private purposes any equipment, property, or vehicle without authorization from the Chief of Police.

#### POSSESSION OF UNIFORM

**1308.2.** All uniformed employees shall possess and maintain at all times, a serviceable uniform and the necessary equipment to perform uniform field duty.

**1308.2.1 Wearing of Uniform.** When in uniform, employees shall maintain a professional bearing. Uniforms and equipment shall be maintained in a serviceable condition and shall be ready at all times for immediate use. Uniforms shall be neat, clean, and appear professionally pressed.

**1308.2.2 Specifications.** Items utilized as part of the uniform or equipment carried on the uniform shall meet the specifications contained in this Manual. Wearing of any uniform item or carrying of any equipment not conforming to these specifications is prohibited unless authorized in writing by the Chief of Police.

**1308.2.3 Duty Requirements.** While on duty, employees in uniformed assignments shall wear the full uniform and be equipped with the required items except:

- (a) When prior written authorization has been granted by the Chief of Police; or
- (b) When a supervisor has made an exception based on the nature of a specific assignment.

**1308.2.4 Restrictions on Wearing.** The uniform shall be worn only while on-duty or while commuting to and from duty assignments, unless otherwise authorized by the Chief of Police. While off duty, employees shall not wear any part of the uniform together with non-uniform garments if the uniform item(s) is distinguishable and visible to the public.

**1308.2.5 Official Functions.** Employees shall wear the uniform or other attire

prescribed when representing the department at official functions such as dedications, academy graduations, award presentations, funerals, and formal personnel inspections.

### **WEARING THE UNIFORM - USE OF DISCRETION**

**1308.3.** Uniformed employees shall use discretion when conducting activities while in uniform. Any conduct or activity likely to debase law enforcement, detract from the departmental image, or bring ridicule to the department shall be avoided. Employees in uniform, whether on or off duty, are subject to public scrutiny.

### **UNIFORM MAINTENANCE**

**1308.4.** When the uniform is worn, care shall be taken that it fits well, is neat, clean, properly pressed, and that shoes, and leather and metal equipment shall be in good condition and well-polished.

**1308.4.1 Repaired Uniforms.** Uniforms or portions thereof shall not be noticeably patched, torn or worn. Employees shall use discretion in wearing uniform items which have been repaired. Immediate supervisors shall determine whether repaired items are suitable for wear.

### **REPLACEMENT AND REPAIR OF UNIVERSITY EQUIPMENT**

**1308.5** Whenever University equipment is in need of repair or replacement, the equipment shall be forwarded through proper channels for replacement or repair. University equipment provided to an employee shall be returned upon completion of the assignment.

**1308.5.1 Loss/Damage Report.** Employees shall report the loss or damage of University equipment to their supervisor as soon as possible. A written report may be required.

**1308.5.2 Corrective Action.** If University equipment is lost or damaged due to employee negligence, the employee shall be subject to corrective action and/or dismissal.

### **PERSONAL GROOMING - UNIFORMED AND NON-UNIFORMED EMPLOYEES**

**1308.6.** The professional bearing expected of on-duty employees requires that each maintains high standards of personal grooming and cleanliness and is at all times neat and clean. Officers assigned to plainclothes duty shall dress in a manner which is in keeping with good taste and moderation.

See local UCPD Personal Appearance Standards policy for further grooming standards.

## PROHIBITED USE OF UNIFORM/DEADLY WEAPONS - PICKETING

**1308.7** [California Penal Code Section 12590 \(a\)](#) places legal restrictions on individuals, including peace officers, who are engaged in picketing or informational activities related to a concerted refusal to work. In accordance with this law, employees shall not carry deadly weapons or wear the uniform of a police officer while engaged in picketing.

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### III. COMPLIANCE / RESPONSIBILITIES

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Each Chief of Police has the responsibility to adopt and publish policies and procedures for the assistance and guidance of the members of their individual campus police departments. Policies and Procedures for campus police departments issued by authority of the Chief of Police shall have the same authority as these Policies.

Local regulations, including General and Special Orders, Procedural Memoranda and instructions may be written more restrictively than Policies Applying to University of California Police Department, however they may not be written to supplant or diminish the Policies and Procedures contained within this Systemwide document.

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### IV. RELATED INFORMATION

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Not applicable

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### V. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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Not applicable

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### VI. REVISION HISTORY

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**January 2, 2026:** Updated chapter numbering, previously Chapter 10. This Policy is also reformatted to meet Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0

**January 7, 2011:** Revised