



CHARLOTTESVILLE-ALBEMARLE RESCUE SQUAD

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE

TOPIC: Dress Code & Appearance	S.O.G. # 1.7
Approved by: Lair D. Haugh, Chief	Revised: 7/12/2007 Approved: 7/12/2007

I. PURPOSE

- a. To facilitate the display of a neat and professional appearance by members of CARS by establishing policy and guidelines concerning squad uniforms.
- b. To establish uniformity of dress for all personnel.

II. DUTY UNIFORM

- a. All uniform clothing worn by CARS members shall be neat, clean in appearance and free of rips, tears, and holes and shall not be missing any required parts such as buttons, patches, and accessories and free from obvious wrinkles and stains.
- b. The crew captain will be responsible for ensuring personnel are appropriately dressed.
- c. Members on-duty will wear an officially approved uniform as follows:
 - i. Under normal circumstances:
 1. Navy blue uniform pants with long or short sleeved blue golf shirt (white golf shirts for officers);
 2. Blue CARS Sweatshirt or blue job shirt as desired;
 3. Department provided black boots (if member has not yet received boots, then hard-soled black shoes or boots for protection). No canvas or tennis shoes or sandal type shoes shall be worn;
 4. Baseball caps, if worn, will be navy blue or white with CARS logo or navy blue or white with no logo;
 5. Squad issued coat as desired.
 - ii. If the above uniform becomes contaminated or damaged, blue squad-issued coveralls may be worn.
 - iii. Members operating out of the Berkmar substation shall be permitted to wear their CARS approved jumpsuit while functioning in the capacity of a member.

III. PERSONAL APPEARANCE

- a. All persons shall maintain a clean, neat and professional appearance.
- b. No person shall wear jewelry that presents a safety risk. Earrings may be worn, but are to be limited in number. No large hoops or pendants are permitted. No jewelry associated with body piercing other than earrings is permitted; however, flesh colored plugs may be used if unobtrusive.
- c. No tattoo shall be visible to the public.
- d. Hair shall be normal color only. No neon colors, bizarre rainbow striping, punk spikes, mowhawks, lightening stripe razor cuts, or similar colors or cuts are permitted.
- e. The Duty Officer shall have the discretion to determine whether or not a person's appearance complies with this section.



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IV. STAND-BY/PUBLIC RELATIONS/DEMONSTRATIONS

- a. A standard CARS uniform shall be worn for all stand-by events unless instructed differently by the Chief, or the Captain of the Special Event Team.

V. INCLEMENT WEATHER

- a. In heavy rain, sleet, snow or other inclement weather the Duty Officer or on-duty crew captain may permit personal clothing appropriate for the situation, including clean turnout gear, to be worn. Squad indicia should be displayed if at all possible.

VI. PRE-PROBATIONARY MEMBERS

- a. Only CARS probationary, active, associate and retired life members may display the CARS logo.
- b. Pre-probationary members shall wear navy blue pants and navy blue golf style shirts.
- c. During cold weather, pre-probationary members must wear the CARS observer jacket.

VII. OBSERVERS

- a. All observers shall wear navy blue pants and a blue golf-styled shirt unless otherwise stated herein. No jeans or sweat pants will be permitted.
- b. Members of other fire and rescue organizations are permitted to wear their uniforms so long as the uniform does not include jeans or sweat pants.
- c. Medical student and nurse observers may be permitted to wear "scrubs" if they do not have the dress required in "a" above.