

# **UNIFORM POLICY**

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### I. UNIFORM CLASSES

Western Reserve Joint Fire District uniform shall be divided in four (4) classes. These classes are A, B, C, D. The classes shall consist of the following:

- Class A - Hat, hat badge, dress blue coat and pants, coat badge, white or blue shirt, tie, belt and shoes
- Class B - Hat, badge, jacket, jacket badge, white or blue shirt, tie, pants, shoes
- Class C - Western Reserve Joint Fire District golf shirt (Maltese cross on left breast), navy blue long pants, black belt, blue socks, black shoes (Optional: warm weather wear may include navy blue shorts, black belt, white socks, white tennis shoes or work boots)
- Class D - Western Reserve Joint Fire District T-shirt, navy blue or blue jean shorts or long pants, tennis shoes or work boots

Each coat, badge, hat, or shirt shall appropriately reflect the employee's rank.

#### **Badges**

##### Hat

- Chief - Gold, 5 crossed trumpets
- Asst. Chief - Gold, 4 cross trumpets
- Captain - Silver, 2 upright trumpets
- Lieutenant - Silver, 1 upright trumpet
- Firefighter - Silver, fire emblem center, black letters "WRJFD FIREFIGHTER"

##### Breast

- Chief - Gold, 5 cross trumpets, black letters "WRJFD" and "CHIEF" on the ribbon
- Asst. Chief - Gold, 4 cross trumpets, black letters "WRJFD" and "ASST. CHIEF" on the ribbon
- Captain - Silver, 2 upright trumpets, black letters "WRJFD" and "CAPTAIN" on the ribbon
- Lieutenant - Silver, 1 upright trumpet, black letters "WRJFD" and "LIEUTENANT" on the ribbon
- Firefighter - Silver, fire emblem center, black letters "WRJFD" and "FIREFIGHTERS" on the ribbon

Volunteer - Silver, fire emblem center, black letters "WRJFD"  
and "VOLUNTEER" on the ribbon

### **Collar Insignias**

Are to be the full round design, not the cut out design. They shall be worn on the collar tips of dress shirt.

Chief - 5 gold crossed trumpets

Asst. Chief - 4 gold cross trumpets

Captain - 2 silver uprights trumpets

Lieutenants - 1 silver upright trumpet

### **Maltese Cross**

Length of service Maltese Crosses are to be worn on the left sleeve of Class A and winter coats, 4 inches from the bottom of the sleeve. Each Maltese Cross represents 5 years of service to the Western Reserve Joint Fire District. The Chief and Asst. Chiefs will wear gold Maltese Crosses and Captains, Lieutenants and Firefighters will wear silver Maltese Crosses.

Firefighters should be aware of the characteristics of various types of fabrics. Firefighters shall avoid wearing any clothing under personal protective clothing that can melt or drip under a high heat exposure. Socks and underwear made from 100% natural fibers such as cotton, or blends that are mostly natural fibers shall be selected over the synthetic materials that can contribute to burn injuries.

## **II. UNIFORM ISSUANCE**

Class A dress blue uniform shall be issued to all officers.

Class B uniform shall be issued to all firefighters who have successfully completed their 156-hour Firefighter I or First Responder courses.

Class C golf shirt will be issued to all firefighters upon appointment.

Class D department T-shirt may be issued to a firefighter upon appointment. However, traditionally T-shirts have been purchased by firefighters on his or her own.

## **III. UNIFORM USE**

Class A (or B, if Class A is not available) uniforms shall be worn:

1. To all funerals or calling hours;

2. To all presentations to which a member will be representing the District in an official capacity, as a speaker or presenter;
3. To other functions designated by a Chief Officer.

Class C uniforms shall be worn:

1. To all official functions requiring some physical work (such as, a demonstration of fire apparatus or fire suppression standby at the Canfield fair;
2. To Parades (depending on weather and location)
3. To other functions designated by a Chief or Station Officer.

Class D uniforms may be worn at all other functions of the District, especially those where significant physical activity is required.

Class A or B uniforms may not be worn in public when the member is not on official District business. These limitations include the restriction of the uniform being worn in bars/taverns, unless the member is on an official inspection or conducting other official District business.

#### **IV. UNIFORM OWNERSHIP**

All Class A and B uniforms shall remain property of the Fire District. All members are expected to maintain the uniforms in good condition and shall be responsible for returning the uniforms, in good condition, to the District upon his or her separation or departure from the District.

A firefighter may keep his or her uniform if, in accordance with the District's retirement policy, if he or she has served the District for twenty-five (25) or more years, or if approval is granted by the Board of Trustees upon the request of the Fire Chief.

A firefighter may keep his or her Class C golf shirt if the member's probation period has been successfully completed.

A firefighter may keep his or her District provided Class D T-shirt.

All uniforms are subject to forfeiture to the District, at any time, for any action or activity by the member (active or retired) that adversely reflects upon the District.