

POLICE GENERAL ORDERS

CHAPTER 15

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

18/04

15-01 Uniform

04/05

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An officer shall:-

- (a) not vary any item of uniform or dress issued by the Force unless authorized by the Commissioner (ACP SUP);
- (b) not purchase any item of uniform from any unofficial source;
- (c) not, when in uniform, wear any visible jewellery other than a wrist watch and two finger rings;
- (d) ensure he/she is correctly dressed when in uniform at all times and that uniforms are kept clean and neatly pressed;
- (e) only wear Force insignia appropriate for his rank. If appointed to act in another rank senior to his own, that officer shall only wear the Force insignia for that rank for the period specified;
- (f) not appear in public dressed partly in uniform and partly in plain-clothes; and
- (g) not expose any under garment to public view when in uniform.

2. Officers with religious needs requiring accommodation in dress and appearance whilst on duty shall comply with relevant guidelines issued by ACP SUP.

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DRESS AND APPEARANCE

15-02 Dress and Appearance

12/05 UB officers issued with Force working uniform, except those performing special plainclothes duties such as SDS, shall wear working uniform when attending court to give evidence on behalf of the Government, or to assist in any way with a criminal prosecution. UB Officers not issued with Force working uniform shall attend court either in plainclothes or in non-standard uniform. Officers who appear in court as a defendant or as a party to any civil litigation shall not wear uniform.

24/15 2. Uniform is only to be worn by UB officers if they are on duty. In any other circumstances, officers shall wear uniform only when they are authorised by the Commissioner (ACP SUP) to do so.

3. All officers on plainclothes duty attending court shall be neatly and properly dressed; male officers shall wear long trousers, shirt with tie, a jacket and shoes with socks. Female officers shall wear either a skirt or long trousers, blouse or shirt with a jacket. No officer shall wear jeans or any form of sports wear when attending court in plainclothes.

4. All officers, whether or not required to wear uniform, shall keep their hair tidy and neatly trimmed. The colour of the hair shall be their original or natural colour. Sideburns shall not be worn by male officers below the centre of the ear; the ends shall be square-cut and not tapered.

5. All male officers in uniform or otherwise shall be closely shaven. Moustaches are permitted subject to the general principle that flamboyant moustaches should not be worn.

6. The following rules apply to woman police officers when wearing uniform:-

- 14/25
- (a) hair is to be kept neat and tidy and above the collar of the shirt; and
 - (b) cosmetics with the exception of coloured nail varnish may be used in moderation.

DRESS AND APPEARANCE

7. A police officer on duty in uniform shall not wear sunglasses or corrective spectacles with tinted lenses unless he/she is employed on:- 10/10
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- (a) traffic duty;
- (b) launch duty;
- (c) driving police motor vehicles or riding police bicycle;
- (d) unless in possession of a certificate signed by a registered medical practitioner stating that for health reasons sunglasses or spectacles with tinted lenses should be worn; or
- (e) other duties when prolonged exposure to a high level of Ultra Violet (UV) light is unavoidable and no other effective form of protection is available, based on the result of a General Safety Risk Assessment by the Designated Safety Risk Manager and there is no other risk control measure which can avert or reduce the risks. Use of sunglasses for these duties shall be authorized by the DC or equivalent.

8. Officers on beat patrol or mobile patrol duty (except for drivers) shall not wear sunglasses under any circumstances. 10/10

9. Officers allowed to wear sunglasses or corrective spectacles with tinted lenses, will wear Force issue sunglasses or sunglasses similar in shape and appearance. 10/10

15-04 Wearing of Plain-clothes on Duty

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UB officers shall wear uniform when on duty unless specifically exempted (FPM 15-04) or ordered otherwise by a Formation Commander. Members of the HKAPF will perform duty in uniform except when directed otherwise by a Major Formation Commander, or unless otherwise authorised by the Commissioner of Police (SSP AUX SUP) in accordance with HKAPF Standing Orders Chapter 15-01 paragraph 1.

15-31 Responsibility of Supervisory Officers on Dress and Appearance

It is the responsibility of all supervisory officers to ensure that the dress and appearance of officers under their command reflect credit on the Force.