

## 801 Equipment and Uniform Regulations

### 801.5 PLAIN CLOTHES ATTIRE

This section applies to sworn and civilian employees that do not wear a uniform as part of their assignment. [All employees are expected to present a clean, professional appearance in the workplace and when representing the Department.](#) Variations from this order are allowed as required by assignment, approved due to a medical condition, or approved by ~~an employee's commander/manager~~ [the Chief of Police.](#)

#### 801.5.1 SWORN GUIDELINES

- (a) Employees shall wear clothing that fits properly, is clean and free of stains and not damaged or excessively worn.
- (b) Male employees who wear civilian clothing to work shall wear:
  - 1. Button-style shirts with a collar, slacks or suits that are moderate in style.
  - 2. Footwear that is appropriate for the assignment and does not present a safety hazard to the employee.
  - 3. A tie is optional unless attending court or formal meetings with the Chief, ~~media interviews~~, or when designated to be worn by a supervisor for a specific purpose.
- (c) Female employees who wear civilian clothes to work shall wear:
  - 1. Dresses, skirts, slacks, blouses, capri or crop pants, or suits that are moderate in style. Dress/skirt lengths shall be professional in appearance.
  - ~~2. Supportive undergarments.~~
- (d) Employees may wear casual attire (e.g., denim jeans, athletic shoes) on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, unless the employee is attending court, has a formal meeting with the Chief, a media interview, or when it is not authorized to be worn by a supervisor for a specific purpose.
- ~~(e) Sworn employees wearing plain clothes while on-duty may also wear a duty firearm in a Level 1 or above retention holster. If the weapon is visible, the badge shall also be worn as outlined in this order.~~

#### 801.5.12 PROHIBITED ATTIRE - SWORN

No item of civilian attire may be worn on-duty that would adversely affect the reputation of the Austin Police Department or the morale of the employees.

- (a) Unless otherwise approved, the following items shall not be worn on-duty:
  - 1. T-shirt or tank tops alone.
  - 2. Slippers or flip-flops.
  - 3. Swimsuit, tube tops or halter tops.
  - 4. ~~Form fitting stretch pants or stirrup-type pants~~ [Clothing designed specifically for sports, such as workout clothing, unless it is necessary during the course of your assigned duties \(i.e. Training, recruiting, PAL, etc.\).](#)
  - 5. Sweatpants, sweatshirts, sweat suits or wind/warm-up suits.
  - 6. See-through clothing, ~~unless proper undergarments are also worn.~~
  - 7. Clothing that shows bare shoulders (e.g., strapless, spaghetti straps) unless a coordinating jacket or blouse is worn as a top garment at all times.
  - ~~8. Attire which reveals midriffs or bosoms.~~
  - ~~9-8.~~ Denim clothing and athletic shoes unless otherwise authorized by this order.
  - ~~10-9.~~ Any attire with offensive or inappropriate language.

#### 801.5.23 REQUIRED SWORN EQUIPMENT

Immediately Available - Close at hand, so as to be instantly ready without delay for use  
Available - Readily obtainable or accessible within a short period of time or delay (e.g. in a vehicle parked nearby)

- (a) On duty sworn employees will have the following items immediately available while not in contact with the public (e.g. in the office) or while in the public but not identifiable as a police officer and not engaged in any law enforcement activity:
  - 1. Authorized handgun
  - 2. Handcuffs with key
  - 3. APD Badge
  - 4. Police Identification
- (b) On duty sworn employees will have the following items on their person while in the public and identifiable as a police officer:
  - 1. An authorized handgun in a Level 1 (or greater) holster affixed to a belt with APD badge displayed adjacent to the handgun or worn on a lanyard which visibly displays the badge at chest level.
    - (a) Access to the handgun may not be restricted by clothing (e.g. untucked shirt) other than a jacket, sports coat, windbreaker, or similar clothing item which limits easy access to the area of the handgun.
  - 2. A spare magazine for the handgun in a magazine holder attached to the belt.
  - 3. Approved control device listed in General Order 206.2.3 (Approved Control Devices) attached to the belt.
  - 4. Handcuffs with a key
  - 5. Police Identification, made plainly visible from the front of the officer
  - 6. A ballistic vest
    - (a) Available, does not need to be worn
  - 7. A windbreaker, vest, or cover with the word "Police" on the front and back
    - (a) Available, does not need to be worn
  - 8. A police radio, powered on
- (c) In addition to the requirements in 801.5 (b), on duty sworn employees engaged in law enforcement action, follow-up activity, or field interview will wear a windbreaker, vest, or cover with the word "Police" on the front and back and will log onto the radio with dispatch.

#### 801.5.4 CIVILIAN GUIDELINES

Clothing should fit properly, be clean and free of holes, tears, or other signs of damage and not be excessively wrinkled. Footwear should be appropriate for clothing being worn and workplace appropriate.

#### 801.5.5 PROHIBITED ATTIRE - CIVILIANS

No item of civilian attire may be worn on-duty that would adversely affect the reputation of the Austin Police Department or offend customers, clients, or colleagues.

(a) The following items shall not be worn on-duty:

- 1. Clothing with offensive or inappropriate designs or stamps.
- 2. Clothing that is excessively revealing.
- 3. Clothing designed specifically for sports, such as workout clothing, unless it is necessary during the course of your assigned duties (i.e. Health and Wellness Coordinator, etc.).