

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES

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|  | <h1 style="margin: 0;">SPECIAL ORDER</h1> |  |
| <h2 style="margin: 0;">2010.023</h2>  |   |   |

| Originating From          | Issue Date       | Expiration Date | Attachments |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| <b>Operations Command</b> | <b>4/23/2010</b> |                 |             |

**SUBJECT: Uniform/Attire for Fire Investigation Division Personnel**  
**APPLICABILITY: All Personnel**

1. The job duties and responsibilities of those personnel assigned to the Fire Investigations Division (FID) are varied and unique, presenting challenges and situations that differ significantly from those presented to personnel assigned to other sections and divisions within the Department. For the purposes of functionality and personnel safety, it is recognized that there is a need for these personnel to be attired in a uniform that differs from other field and staff personnel.
  
2. FID Duty Uniform
  - 2.1. The uniform is worn for routine daily work assignments, such as:
    - 2.1.1. Routine/daily office wear
    - 2.1.2. HCFR in-service training
    - 2.1.3. Other non-formal details/assignments where GO 530.01 allows/identifies the Class B uniform to be worn
  
  - 2.2. Shirts
    - 2.2.1. Long Sleeve - Black rugby style shirt with gold or subdued FID logo on left breast
  
    - 2.2.2. Short Sleeve
      - 2.2.2.1. Black golf style shirt with gold or subdued FID logo on left breast
      - 2.2.2.2. Tan golf style shirt with subdued FID logo on left breast
  
    - 2.2.3. Wear requirements are based on General Order 530.01, Section 10.3.
  
  - 2.3. Pants
    - 2.3.1. Khaki 5.11® “Original” or comparable/similar
    - 2.3.2. Black 5.11® “Original” or comparable/similar

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### 3. Alternate Duty Uniform

3.1. Variations on the color of the FID shirts and pants are permitted as identified by the individual or lead investigator for a specific assignment/task.

#### 3.1.1. Alternate Shirts

- 3.1.1.1. Black button-down dress shirt with gold FID logo on left breast
- 3.1.1.2. Navy golf or rugby style shirt with subdued FID logo on left breast (to be discontinued as duty uniform wear effective July 2010)

#### 3.1.2. Alternate Pants

- 3.1.2.1. Olive 5.11® “Original” or comparable/similar
- 3.1.2.2. Coyote 5.11® “Original” or comparable/similar (to be discontinued as duty uniform wear effective July 2010)
- 3.1.2.3. Navy 5.11® “Original” or comparable/similar (to be discontinued as duty uniform wear effective July 2010)

### 4. FID Covert / Plain Clothes Attire

4.1. When deemed necessary and/or appropriate, FID personnel may wear civilian clothing in order to accomplish the mission at hand or provide for their personal safety.

4.1.1. The investigator must be able to justify the need for wearing civilian/covert attire, to the satisfaction of the FID Battalion Chief or Captain.

4.2. The FID Battalion Chief or Captain may require that investigator(s) wear covert or civilian clothing in order to complete an assignment.

4.3. When wearing civilian attire the investigator may or may not have departmental identification and badge displayed, as is deemed appropriate and safe.

4.3.1. When in a Howard County Government building or property, the investigator shall display departmental identification and badge unless the individual is actively involved in a covert activity.

### 5. FID Outerwear

#### 5.1. Coat

- 5.1.1. Black 5.11® “3-in-1” parka or comparable/similar

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- 5.1.2. Pull-out back panel will be marked “Fire Marshal” or “FID” by the designated vendor
- 5.1.3. Left pull-out breast pocket panel will be embroidered with the gold FID logo or display a Department issued badge.

### 5.2. Wind Shirt

- 5.2.1. Black with gold FID logo embroidered on left breast.

### 5.3. Sweatshirt

- 5.3.1. Black crew neck pull-over style sweatshirt with gold or subdued FID logo embroidered on left breast.
- 5.3.2. Sweatshirts may have “Fire Marshal” displayed in contrasting lettering on the back.
- 5.3.3. Alternate colors for sweatshirts are the same as previously identified for shirts.

### 5.4. Fleece Garments (optional)

- 5.4.1. Black zipper-front or pull-over style with gold or subdued FID logo embroidered on left breast.

## 6. Hats

- 6.1. Black baseball style hat with gold or subdued FID logo embroidered on front (absent of the lower “Fire Marshal” text portion).

- 6.1.1. Rear embroidered text at option of individual investigator (i.e. EID number, name, etc.)

- 6.2. Black “watch cap” style knit hats may be worn for additional warmth. These hats may or may not have the embroidered FID logo.

## 7. Footwear

- 7.1. The following footwear are permitted

- 7.1.1. Department issued or authorized black safety toe shoes/boots
- 7.1.2. Alternate footwear

- 7.2. The style of shoe/boot worn is at the discretion of the individual investigator, and is to be based on specific assignment/task and safety considerations.

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7.3. Footwear shall be maintained so as to not detract from the professional appearance of the investigator or reflect negatively on the department or division.

### 8. HCFR Department Uniform

8.1. FID personnel may choose to wear a departmental uniform as specified in GO 530.01, as long as it does not detract from their ability to complete their assigned mission.

8.2. At no time, shall the FID duty uniform and the departmental uniform be utilized together.

8.3. Each uniform shall be utilized in its entirety and is not to be mixed with non-matching components of the other approved uniform type.

### 9. Acquisition and Issue of FID Uniforms/Clothing

9.1. Upon an individual's assignment to FID, routine issue of standard HCFR uniform items identified in GO 530.01 will be discontinued

9.1.1. This provision does not apply to the issue of a new or special uniform item that is being provided as a "one time issue" to all HCFR personnel (i.e. new style winter jacket, etc.)

9.1.2. Personnel assigned to FID are still entitled to one-for-one replacement of their standard HCFR uniform items due to wear or damage, utilizing the procedure identified in GO 530.01.

9.2. Personnel assigned to FID will be entitled to comparable FID uniform components in the same quantities as established in GO 530.01.

9.2.1. Where a greater quantity is established for staff personnel, that quantity will be utilized for FID personnel.

9.3. FID uniforms will be obtained from various vendors based on cost, availability, and embroidery capabilities.

9.3.1. All embroidery of uniform items will be performed by the vendor designated by the FID Battalion Chief.

9.4. Funding for FID uniform/clothing items will be as follows:

9.4.1. Quantities of comparable FID uniform components as established in GO 530.01 will be funded through the Logistics Section (Quartermaster).

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9.4.2. This includes one-for-one replacement of comparable FID uniform items due to wear or damage.

9.4.2.1. These purchases may be made utilizing PDQ cards issued to the FID Battalion Chief and Captain.

9.4.3. Quantities of comparable FID uniform components beyond those established in GO 530.01 will be purchased with the individual employee's clothing allowance.

9.4.4. FID uniform components with no comparable component identified in GO 530.01 will be purchased with the individual employee's clothing allowance (i.e. civilian attire, alternate footwear, etc.).

10. This Special Order will be included in the next revision of General Order 530.01.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles M. Sharpe".

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Charles M. Sharpe  
Deputy Chief, Operations Command