

DTG/ 11 AUGUST 2025

FM/ USAFA/CC

TO/ HQ/CW/DF/AD/10 ABW/306 FTG/DEL 13 DET 1

MSGID/ EXORD 25-003

SUBJECT/ USAFA DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS

REFERENCES

A) DAFI 36-2903, DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE PERSONNEL, 11 JULY 2025

B) SPFGM 2024-36-01, SPACE FORCE GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM ESTABLISHING UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE (USSF) DRESS AND APPEARANCE STANDARDS, 04 DECEMBER 2024

C) AFCWI 36-3501, PERSONNEL CADET STANDARDS AND DUTIES

D) AFI 1-1, AIR FORCE STANDARDS, 18 AUGUST 2023, INCORPORATING CHANGE 1, 24 AUGUST 2025

ORD TYPE/EXORD//MDT/1200Z//

NARR/ (U) THIS IS AN EXECUTION ORDER (EXORD). THIS EXORD DIRECTS THE DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS EXPECTED OF ALL CADETS AT THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY (USAFA). PERMANENT PARTY PERSONNEL AT USAFA ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO BE A SUPPORTIVE ROLE MODEL BY ADHERING TO THESE STANDARDS WHILE ASSIGNED.

#### 1. (U) SITUATION.

**1.A. (U) GENERAL.** USAFA SETS THE STANDARD AS THE PREMIER MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY CHARGED WITH FORGING FUTURE OFFICERS FOR OUR AIR FORCE AND SPACE FORCE. MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMIES MUST UPHOLD HIGHER STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONALISM, DISCIPLINE, AND CONDUCT TO ENSURE THE OVERALL FORCE OPERATES ABOVE THE BASELINE EXPECTATIONS. THIS EXORD INCLUDES DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS, WHICH REFLECT THE DISCIPLINE, ATTENTION TO DETAIL, AND LEADERSHIP EXPECTED OF FUTURE OFFICERS. BY INSTILLING THESE PRINCIPLES, USAFA ENSURES ITS CADETS, PERMANENT PARTY, AND LEADERS EMBODY THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF PROFESSIONALISM, PREPARING THEM TO LEAD BY EXAMPLE AND UPHOLD THE LEGACY OF MILITARY EXCELLENCE BEGINNING ON DAY ONE.

**1.B. (U) OVERVIEW.** AS THE MILITARY SERVICE ACADEMY ENTRUSTED WITH OFFICER DEVELOPMENT FOR BOTH THE AIR FORCE AND SPACE FORCE, USAFA WILL SET A HIGH STANDARD FOR DRESS AND APPEARANCE STANDARDS. IT IS

IMPORTANT FOR ALL MILITARY PERSONNEL STATIONED AT USAFA TO BE COGNIZANT OF THE FACT THAT THEIR ADHERENCE TO DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS SETS THE STANDARD FOR OUR FUTURE LEADERS TO FOLLOW. EACH AIRMAN, GUARDIAN AND CADET REPRESENTS THE ENTIRE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE. OUR APPEARANCE, ACTIONS, AND WORDS WILL SET THE EXAMPLE TO SHAPE THE REPUTATION OF THE AIR FORCE AND SPACE FORCE.

1.C. (U) ENEMY. INABILITY TO SUSTAIN THE GREAT STRIDES MADE OVER THE LAST YEAR.

1.D. (U) FRIENDLY FORCES.

1.D.1. (U) USAFA HEADQUARTERS STAFF, DIRECTORATES AND ORGANIZATIONS (HQ).

1.D.2. (U) USAFA CADET WING (CW).

1.D.3. (U) USAFA DEAN OF FACULTY (DF).

1.D.4. (U) USAFA DIRECTORATE OF ATHLETICS (AD).

1.D.5. (U) 10TH AIR BASE WING (10 ABW).

1.D.6. (U) 306TH FLYING TRAINING GROUP (306 FTG).

1.D.7. (U) SPACE DELTA 13 DETACHMENT 1 (DEL 13 DET 1).

1.E. (U) LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS. NONE.

2. (U) MISSION. WHILE HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE WORKS TO INCORPORATE UPDATES TO DAFI 36-2903, DRESS AND APPEARANCE OF DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE PERSONNEL, USAFA WILL ESTABLISH DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS DETAILED IN THIS EXORD. THIS EXORD WILL SERVE AS GUIDANCE FOR USAFA CADETS AND UNTIL THESE STANDARDS ARE INCORPORATED IN A DAFI 36-2903 USAFA SUPPLEMENT. THIS EXORD (HOW TO WEAR) COMPLIMENTS OPOD 25-013, USAFA UNIFORM OF THE DAY FOR ACADEMY YEAR 2025-2026 (AY 25-26) FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS (WHAT TO WEAR).

3. (U) EXECUTION.

3.A. (U) CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS. THE FOLLOWING ARE TASKS DURING THE EXECUTION OF THIS ORDER.

3.A.1. (U) UPON RELEASE OF THIS EXORD, ALL USAFA CADETS WILL ADHERE TO THESE DRESS AND PERSONAL APPEARANCE STANDARDS. PERMANENT PARTY PERSONNEL AT USAFA ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO BE A SUPPORTIVE ROLE MODEL BY ADHERING TO THESE STANDARDS WHILE ASSIGNED.

**3.B. (U) COMMANDER'S INTENT.**

**3.B.1. (U) USAFA WILL SET A STANDARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MILITARY IMAGE IN TERMS OF PERSONAL GROOMING, DRESS AND APPEARANCE. ALL PERMANENT PARTY PERSONNEL AT USAFA WILL BE FAMILIAR WITH THESE STANDARDS AND CORRECT INFRACTIONS. ALL CADETS AT USAFA WILL ADHERE TO THESE STANDARDS AND CORRECT INFRACTIONS. ALL CORRECTIONS WILL BE MADE IMMEDIATELY, PROFESSIONALLY, AND TO BUILD UP TEAMMATES. USAFA'S STANDARD ADHERENCE WILL BE DEMANDING, NOT DEMEANING.**

**3.C. (U) COMMANDER'S GUIDANCE.**

**3.C.1. (U) UPON RELEASE OF THIS EXORD, ALL CADETS WILL ADHERE TO DRESS AND APPEARANCE STANDARDS LISTED IN PARAGRAPHS 3.E.1.A. THROUGH 3.E.1.R. WHILE A USAFA SUPPLEMENT TO DAFI 36-2903 IS DRAFTED.**

**3.C.2. (U) ANY DISRUPTIONS TO UNIFORM PROCUREMENT WILL BE COMMUNICATED THROUGH THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.**

**3.C.3. (U) ANY DISRUPTIONS TO SCHEDULING MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS OR RECEIVING RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE COMMUNICATED THROUGH THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.**

**3.D. (U) END STATE. ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS THAT SHOWCASE USAFA TO THE REST OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY AND OUR NATION AS THE PREMIER MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTE IN THE WORLD.**

**3.E. (U) TASKS FOR HQ, CW, DF, AD, 10 ABW, 306 FTG, DEL 13 DET 1.**

**3.E.1. (U) HQ, CW, DF, AD, 10 ABW, 306 FTG, DEL 13 DET 1.**

**3.E.1.A. (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 3.1.2, MALE HAIR WILL NOT EXCEED 1.5 INCHES IN BULK. LOW TAPER FADE IS NOT AUTHORIZED.**

**3.E.1.B. (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 3.1.2, MALE HAIR WILL NOT EXTEND OUTWARD, AT ANY ANGLE, WITH EXCESS BULK BEYOND THE LOWER EDGE OF ANY WORN COVER.**

**3.E.1.C. (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 3.1.2.3., BEARDS WILL BE TRIMMED DAILY TO NO MORE THAN 1/4 OF AN INCH FOR MEDICAL WAIVERS. MEDICAL WAIVERS REQUIRE REVIEW AND RENEWAL EVERY 60-DAYS.**

**3.E.1.D. (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 3.12, PONYTAILS/BRAIDS WILL NOT EXTEND PAST 4.5 INCHES BELOW THE TOP OF THE COLLAR (EXCEPTION: PHYSICAL TRAINING AND INTERCOLLEGIATE GEAR). ROOSTER TAILS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED.**

**3.E.1.E. (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 3.12, PONYTAILS/LONG BRAIDS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO BE WORN DOWN WHILE WEARING SERVICE**

DRESS OR PARADE UNIFORMS IN FORMATION. IN SERVICE DRESS OR PARADE UNIFORM, HAIR WILL END ABOVE THE BOTTOM EDGE OF THE COLLAR. LOCS, BRAIDS, TWISTS AND OTHER STYLES ARE PERMITTED IAW DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 3.1.3.3 AS LONG AS THEY OTHERWISE CONFORM WITH THIS PARAGRAPH.

**3.E.1.F.** (U) IN ADDITION TO SPFGM 24-36-01, PARAPGRAPH 6.1.3, FINGERNAILS MUST NOT EXCEED 1/4 INCH IN LENGTH BEYOND THE TIP OF THE FINGER AND MUST BE CLEAN AND WELL GROOMED. FINGERNAILS MUST NOT INTERFERE WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF ASSIGNED DUTIES OR HINDER PROPER FIT OF PRESCRIBED SAFETY EQUIPMENT OR UNIFORM ITEMS. IF WORN BY FEMALES, NAIL POLISH WILL BE CLEAR OR FRENCH OR AMERICAN MANICURE. DO NOT APPLY DESIGNS TO NAILS.

**3.E.1.G** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 7.3.2, EYEGGLASS FRAMES WILL ONLY BE BLACK, GOLD WIRE, OR SILVER WIRE (PERSONNEL HAVE 90 DAYS FROM THE PUBLISHING OF THIS EXORD TO COMPLY). SUNGLASS FRAMES WILL ONLY BE BLACK WITH BLACK LENSES OR PHOTSENSITIVE PRESCRIPTION LENSES. CLEAR, SLIGHTLY TINTED, OR MIRRORED SUNGLASS LENSES ARE NOT AUTHORIZED. SUNGLASSES ARE AUTHORIZED IN FORMATION ONLY FOR MEDICAL REASONS SUCH AS PRK/LASIK SURGERY.

**3.E.1.H.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 5.1.12, AND SPFGM 24-36-01, PARAGRAPH 2.1.10, COLD WEATHER ACCESSORIES MAY ONLY BE WORN IF WEARING AN AUTHORIZED OUTER GARMENT (EXAMPLE: WATCH CAPS WILL ONLY BE WORN WITH A FLEECE OR JACKET). COLD WEATHER ACCESSORIES WILL ONLY BE BLACK WHEN WEARING BLUES, CLASS A OR B, OR FLIGHT DUTY UNIFORMS, AND WILL ONLY BE OCP PATTERN OR COYOTE BROWN IN OPERATIONAL CAMOUFLAGE PATTERN UNIFORMS. (EXCEPTION: GLOVES IN OCPS MAY BE BLACK)

**3.E.1.I.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 5.6.1, AND SPFGM 24-36-01, PARAGRAPH 2.1, CADETS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED TO WEAR A COLORED SPACE FORCE TAPE, NAME TAG, SPACE FORCE DELTA BADGE, OR RANK UNTIL THE FIRST DAY OF THEIR SENIOR YEAR. WHEN AUTHORIZED, ONLY THE SPACE FORCE BLUE NAME TAPE, SERVICE TAPE AND RANK ARE AUTHORIZED IN OCPS. ALL PATCHES AND US FLAG WILL BE SUBDUED. THE SPACE FORCE DELTA INSIGNIAS ARE AUTHORIZED ON THE SHORT AND LONG-SLEEVED BLUE SHIRTS AND SERVICE COAT.

**3.E.1.J.** (U) HEADGEAR (PATROL CAPS, BERETS, ETC.) OR ANY OTHER OBJECT (BOTTLES, PHONES, GLOVES, ETC.) WILL NOT PROTRUDE FROM ANY POCKETS. EXCEPTION: PENS OR PENCILS STOWED IN PEN POCKETS ARE AUTHORIZED.

**3.E.1.K.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 7.4.1.2, FOR CADETS, BLACK COMBAT BOOTS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED WHEN WEARING BLUES, CLASS A OR B

(EXCEPTION: PERMANENT PARTY AFSCS AUTHORIZED BY PARAGRAPH 10.7.2.1). WHEN AUTHORIZED AND WORN, LEATHER SHOES (LOW QUARTERS, DRESS BOOTS, PUMPS, AND SLIP ONs) WILL BE POLISHED AND SHINED.

**3.E.1.L.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 4.6.1.2, AND SPFGM 2024-36-01, PARAGRAPH 3.1.1., WHEN A TIE IS WORN WITH BLUES, CLASS A OR CLASS B, A TIE TACK OR CLASP WILL BE WORN.

**3.E.1.M.** (U) SERVICE CAPS. PERMANENT PARTY PERSONNEL THAT WORK IN THE CADET AREA ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO WEAR SERVICE CAPS (WHEEL OR BUCKET) WHEN THE CEREMONY OR UOD FOR THE CADET WING CALLS FOR SERVICE CAP WEAR.

**3.E.1.N.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 8.1.3, FOR CADETS, THE ONLY AUTHORIZED UNDERGARMENTS FOR THE CADET PHYSICAL TRAINING GEAR JACKET ARE THE WHITE CADET PT SHIRT AND ISSUED GRAY COLORED HOODED SWEATSHIRT.

**3.E.1.O.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 8.1.5.1, AND SPFGM 24-36-01, PARAGRAPH 4.1., PHYSICAL TRAINING GEAR SHIRTS (SHORT-SLEEVED AND LONG-SLEEVED) WILL BE TUCKED IN AT ALL TIMES AND PHYSICAL TRAINING PANTS WILL BE ZIPPED ALL THE WAY TO THE BOTTOM. PHYSICAL TRAINING GEAR MAY BE UNTUCKED AND UNZIPPED WHEN ACTIVELY PERFORMING PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES.

**3.E.1.P.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 7.3.4.1, WEAR AND USE OF ONE OR MORE EARPIECES, WIRED HEADSETS, OR BLUETOOTH/WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY (INCLUDING ANY TYPE OF WIRED OR WIRELESS HEADPHONES), WHILE IN UNIFORM, IS ONLY AUTHORIZED WHILE STATIONARY (EXAMPLE: STUDYING, TEAMS CALL, VIRTUAL MEETING), WHEN MEDICALLY PRESCRIBED, OR WHILE IN PHYSICAL FITNESS TRAINING GEAR ACTIVELY PERFORMING PHYSICAL TRAINING OR FITNESS ASSESSMENTS (EXCEPTION: WEAR AND USE OF AN EARPIECE OR HEADPHONES IS NOT AUTHORIZED ON AN ACTIVE ROADWAY). APPROPRIATE MILITARY CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES WILL BE RENDERED.

**3.E.1.Q.** (U) IN ADDITION TO DAFI 36-2903, PARAGRAPH 7.3.4.2, USE OF HANDHELD ELECTRONIC DEVICES, INCLUDING CELLULAR PHONES, ARE ONLY AUTHORIZED WHILE STATIONARY OR DURING AN EMERGENCY SITUATION. APPROPRIATE MILITARY CUSTOMS AND COURTESIES WILL BE RENDERED.

**3.E.1.R.** (U) CADETS, WHILE IN UNIFORM, WILL REFRAIN FROM PLACING THEIR HANDS IN THEIR POCKETS UNLESS THEY ARE BRIEFLY PLACING AN ITEM IN OR TAKING AN ITEM OUT.

**3.E.2.** (U) REQUEST FOR SUPPORT.

**3.E.2.A.** (U) SEE COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS.

**3.F.** (U) COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS.

**3.F.1. (U) NOT APPLICABLE AT THIS TIME. IF THE SITUATION CHANGES, IT WILL BE ADDRESSED IN A FRAGORD.**

**4. (U) ADMIN AND LOGISTICS.**

**4.A. (U) NOT APPLICABLE AT THIS TIME. IF SITUATION CHANGES, IT WILL BE ADDRESSED IN A FRAGORD.**

**5. (U) COMMAND, SIGNAL, AND COMMUNICATIONS. PER USAFA HQ SOP.**

**5.A. (U) COMMAND RELATIONSHIP. PER USAFA HQ SOP.**

**5.A.1. (U) USAFA/CV IS THE OFFICE OF PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS EXORD.**

**5.A.2. (U) ALL OTHER USAFA ORGANIZATIONS AND TENANT UNITS ARE THE OFFICES OF COORDINATING RESPONSIBILITY.**

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