



CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU INSTRUCTION

NGB-J5
DISTRIBUTION: A

CNGBI 5500.01A
07 March 2024

NATIONAL GUARD INTERACTION WITH STATE DEFENSE FORCES

References: See Enclosures.

1. Purpose. This instruction establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for the interaction between State Defense Forces (SDFs) and the National Guard (NG) in accordance with (IAW) reference a and reference b.
2. Cancellation. This instruction cancels and replaces its previous version, Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB) Instruction 5500.01, "National Guard Interaction with State Defense Forces," 15 June 2017.
3. Applicability. This instruction applies to the NG. Unless the context indicates otherwise, the term "National Guard" in this issuance means the National Guard Bureau (NGB), Army National Guard and the Air National Guard of the States, Territories, and the District of Columbia, hereinafter referred to as "the States".
4. Policy. It is NG policy to interact with SDFs to train and conduct exercises and maneuvers in support of civil support operations, as appropriate. The NG will consider the SDF as any other State entity with respect to preparation for and participation in civil support operations, and the related use of Federal equipment, except for the specific restrictions in section 109 of reference a.
 - a. The NG will not spend Federal funds, to include pay and allowances, subsistence, transportation, medical care and treatment, or use of Federal equipment for activities with the primary purpose of training or otherwise for the support of SDFs.
 - b. The NG may not extend to SDFs authorization to use facilities provided for members of the United States (U.S.) Armed Forces and their dependents (for example, military clothing stores, commissary facilities, and non-appropriated fund facilities).
 - c. SDFs play a critical role in State response operations where they work side by side with their National Guard partners, and due to this it is imperative that SDF uniforms be unique and incorporate distinctive elements clearly identifying them as separate from U.S. Armed Forces.

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d. Only active military Service members may wear a uniform of the U.S. Armed Forces, IAW section 771 of reference b. The prohibition includes any distinctive part of the uniform or anything similar to a distinctive part of the uniform. States wishing to adopt a modified version of the current Army service and utility uniforms for SDF use must follow the specific guidelines outlined below, change all insignia IAW paragraphs 2-7 and 23-8 of reference c, and register with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB) through The Adjutants General (TAGs) of the States or the Commanding General of the District of Columbia (CG). The documentation provided below serves as a guide with the objective of achieving a degree of commonality across the States.

(1) States that choose to use a modified version of the Army service uniform may not wear the following items:

- (a) U.S. flag. SDF members may wear full-color (not subdued) State flag.
- (b) Qualification badges earned from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- (c) No organizational patches from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces to include combat patches are authorized for wear.
- (d) Unit insignia of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces (including Service stripes or overseas bars).
- (e) Buttons bearing the Great Seal of the U.S. or of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- (f) Service covers may not bear the Great Seal of the U.S. or any Service-specific insignia of the U.S. Armed Forces.

(2) In addition, the following modifications must be made:

- (a) On the coat or jacket lapel, the U.S. insignia officer or U.S. insignia enlisted. The U.S. will be replaced by the appropriate State's abbreviation, for example, "VA" for the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- (b) Branch insignia. Will be replaced by the crossed saber and rifle.
- (c) Officer shoulder boards will have a red background only, except for general officers.
- (d) Red nametags may be worn on the right breast pocket flap with the Service member's name and State defense force in white lettering, for example, SMITH and VIRGINIA DEFENSE FORCE.
- (e) Any other modification to the general appearance or wear of the Army service uniform must be pre-approved.

(3) Earned Federal awards are authorized for wear.

(4) States who choose to wear a modified version of the Army utility uniform are to implement the following guidance (See Figure 1). Per reference c, name tapes will be red. For covers and rank insignia, red is shown in the guidance below, however, the State may use any distinguishable solid color:

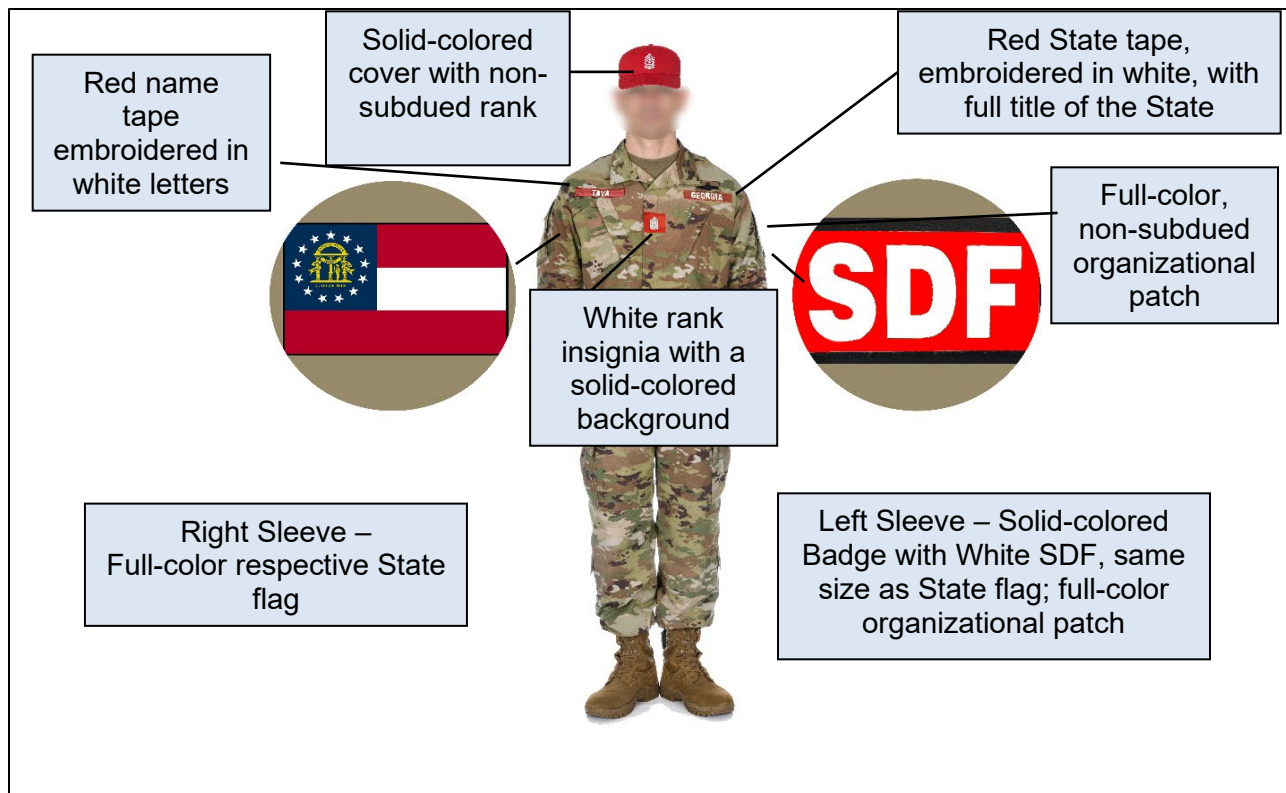


Figure 1. Army Utility Uniform

(a) Red name tapes with white letters over the right breast pocket and a red SDF tape with white letters over the left breast pocket that includes the full title of the SDF, for example the Virginia Defense Force would be “VIRGINIA.”

(b) Rank insignia is to be in white with a solid-colored background.

(c) A full-color (not subdued) State flag on the right shoulder.

(d) A solid-colored hat or cover with non-subdued pin on rank.

(e) A solid-colored patch with the letters SDF in white on the left shoulder.

(f) A full color (non-subdued) organizational patch may be worn on the left shoulder below the SDF patch.

(g) State defense force specific skill badges (such as the Military Emergency Management Specialist badge) will be centered above the red State name tape.

(h) No military qualification badges earned from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces are authorized for wear.

(i) When the fleece jacket is used, name and SDF tapes will be worn IAW paragraph (2)(a) above and non-subdued rank insignia will be worn above the name tape IAW paragraph (2)(b) above.

(j) For wear of a field jacket or cold weather parka, a non-subdued metal pin with State abbreviation, for example, VA, and non-subdued metal pin on rank will be worn either on the shoulder loops or front tab.

(5) States that have procured uniforms that are not the Army utility uniform must ensure that they use the above guidance, IAW paragraph 4 d.(2), regarding the wear of distinguishing insignia as a guide.

(a) SDF members are not authorized to receive Federal awards or decorations except IAW reference d and reference e.

(b) A person may not become a member of an SDF if he or she is a member of a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces, IAW section 109(e) of reference a.

(c) If a uniform other than the modified version of the Army utility uniform is used, such as solid-colored trousers, shirt, or cap, States must provide documentation detailing the State's specific color scheme to NGB Manpower and Personnel.

5. Definitions. See Glossary.

6. Responsibilities. See Enclosure A.

7. Summary of Changes. There are substantive changes to this publication. The references have been updated. Specific requirements have been detailed on wearing the Army service uniform and the Army utility uniform, including a picture for reference (Figure 1). Detailed recommendations for distinctive accouterments are also provided.

8. Releasability. This instruction is approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. It is available at <<https://www.ngbpmc.ng.mil/>>.

9. Effective Date. This instruction is effective upon publication and must be reviewed annually by the Proponent/Office of Primary Responsibility for continued validity, and revised, reissued, cancelled, or certified as current every ten years.



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Enclosures:

- A -- Responsibilities
- B -- References
- GL -- Glossary

ENCLOSURE A
RESPONSIBILITIES

1. TAGs and CG. TAGs and the CG will:
 - a. Ensure Federal funds and equipment are used IAW applicable laws and regulations and ensure that NG support provided to SDF complies with this instruction.
 - b. Ensure that any sharing of Federal resources is IAW guidance from the CNGB, and the U.S. Property and Fiscal Officer in the State.
 - c. Review for compliance with law and policy any proposal by their State to adopt a modified version of a Service or utility uniform, or a non-standard uniform IAW applicable Service uniform policies and forward this information to the Director of NGB Manpower and Personnel.
2. Director of NGB Manpower and Personnel. The Director of NGB Manpower and Personnel, in coordination with TAGs and the CG, will maintain on behalf of the CNGB, a registry of SDFs adopting a modified version of a Service or utility uniform IAW applicable Service uniform policies.
3. Director of NGB Operations. The Director of the NGB Operations may request TAGs and the CG provide to the NGB, through the NG Joint Operations Center, their respective SDF availability, capability, and capacity to support State civil authority requirements and provide advice and guidance to U.S. Property and Fiscal Officers concerning NG requests to loan or donate Federal resources to SDFs or exchange Federal resources with SDFs in support of State civil authorities IAW applicable Department of Defense (DoD) and Service-specific policy, including references f, g, h, i, and j.
4. Director of NGB Strategy, Policy, Plans, and International Affairs. The Director of Strategy, Policy, Plans, and International Affairs Directorate will serve as the proponent for this instruction and is authorized to approve exceptions to this instruction, provided that any exception granted is consistent with law and DoD policy.

ENCLOSURE B

REFERENCES

PART I. REQUIRED

- a. Title 32 United States Code (U.S.C.), “National Guard”
- b. Title 10 U.S.C., “Armed Forces”
- c. Army Regulation 670-1, 26 January 2021, “Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia”
- d. Department of the Air Force Manual 36-2806, 27 October 2022, “Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures,” Incorporating Change 1, 23 May 2023, Certified Current 23 May 2023
- e. Army Regulation 600-8-22, 05 March 2019, “Military Awards”
- f. Department of Defense (DoD) Manual 4160.21, Volume 1, 22 October 2015, “Defense Material Disposition: Disposal Guidance and Procedures,” Incorporating Change 4, 31 August 2022
- g. DoD Instruction 5000.64, 27 April 2017, “Accountability and Management of DoD Equipment and Other Accountable Property,” Incorporating Change 3, 10 June 2019
- h. Army Regulation 700-131, 23 August 2004, “Loan, Lease, and Donation of Army Materiel”
- i. Army Regulation 735-5, 09 November 2016, “Property Accountability Policies”
- j. DoD Instruction 5000.64_DAFI 23-111, 06 December 2021, “Accountability and Management of DoD Equipment and Other Accountable Property”

PART II. RELATED

- k. Constitution of the United States, Article I “The Congress,” and Article IV “The States”
- l. Office of Management and Budget M-16-17, 15 July 2016, “OMB Circular No. A-123, Management’s Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control”
- m. DoD 7000.14-R, Department of Defense, * December 2021, “Financial Management Regulation (DoD FMR),” can also be found on the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) website <<http://comptroller.defense.gov/FMR.aspx>>, Volume 11A, * May 2021, “Reimbursable Operations Policy,” accessed 11 January 2024

- n. DoD Instruction 1100.24, 05 May 2020, “Innovative Readiness Training (IRT): Support and Services for Eligible Organizations and Activities Outside DoD”
- o. DoD Directive 3025.18, 29 December 2010, “Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA),” Incorporating Change 2, 19 March 2018
- p. DoD Instruction 3025.22, 26 July 2013, “The Use of the National Guard for Defense Support of Civil Authorities,” Incorporating Change 1, 15 May 2017
- q. DoD Instruction 4000.19, 16 December 2020, “Support Agreements”
- r. DoD Directive 5105.77, 30 October 2015, “National Guard Bureau (NGB),” Incorporating Change 1, 10 October 2017
- s. DoD Directive 5105.83, 05 January 2011, “National Guard Joint Force Headquarters-State (NG JFHQs-State),” Incorporating Change 2, 31 March 2020
- t. DoD Instruction 5010.40, 30 May 2013, “Managers’ Internal Control Program Procedures,” Incorporating Change 1, 30 June 2020
- u. Army Regulation 11-2, 04 January 2010, “Managers’ Internal Control Program,” Rapid Action Revision (RAR) Issue, 26 March 2012
- v. DoD Instruction 1334.01, 13 July 2021, “Wearing of the Uniform”
- w. Department of the Air Force, DAFI36-2903_DAFGM2023-02, 31 March 2023, “Department of the Air Force Guidance Memorandum to DAFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of United States Air Force and United States Space Force Personnel”
- x. Department of the Air Force Instruction 65-201, 24 April 2023, “Risk Management and Internal Control Program Procedures”

GLOSSARY

PART I. ACRONYMS

CG	Commanding General of the District of Columbia
CNGB	Chief of the National Guard Bureau
DoD	Department of Defense
IAW	In accordance with
NG	National Guard
NGB	National Guard Bureau
SDF	State Defense Force
TAGs	The Adjutants General
U.S.	United States
VA	Abbreviation for the Commonwealth of Virginia

PART II. DEFINITIONS

States -- For the purposes of this instruction, unless the context indicates otherwise, "States" means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, and the Territories of Guam, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands.

State Defense Forces -- Military forces established under State law in accordance with reference a. They are recruited, organized, trained, equipped, and employed under State law and with State funds.