

Sacramento Fire Department Community Emergency Response Team

Uniform Standard

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ORIGINAL SIGNED & ADOPTED MAY 9, 2011



Original signed by: _____

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Public Presentation of Uniforms

Uniforms are a symbol of unity and conformity. They show the public that the wearer is part of a group of people working towards the same goal. From the Boy Scouts of America to the US Military, uniforms show solidarity and pride.

Groups that have a need to wear a uniform do so for a variety of reasons. Agencies that are directly involved with the public such as law enforcement, EMS agencies and the like need to present a professional appearance to help instill confidence in the communities that they serve. If you can imagine an agency where every member wore different shirts, pants or shoes, you can also imagine how much less respect and confidence the public would have in that agency.

The Sacramento CERT 'duty' uniform of black BDU's let the public know who we are and with a little education, what our goal is. Compared with the Sacramento population of 1.3 million people, our numbers are small, but our abilities are many. It is vital that we show the public at every opportunity that we are organized and professional. Every time a citizen or member of another agency sees a member of CERT, they are evaluating us. The public gauges their confidence in our team by not only what we do but how we look doing it. The fact that our members take the time and expense to wear a common uniform lets the community know we are serious about our work with CERT and that we do not take our 'jobs' in CERT lightly.

Our 'duty' uniforms portray our purpose in day-to-day operations and training. On some occasions we may be asked to provide help with ceremonies or other high-profile events. Higher profile events can be "happy" events such as a fire station dedication, or somber events like funerals.

The higher profile the event, the more important it is to appear professional. When 50 people see us at a fire station opening, 50 people walk away with the memory of CERT members. When those same 50 people see us along with a few cameras from local news outlets, that number jumps exponentially.

Because of the importance and meaning of some events, Sacramento CERT has implemented a 'dress' uniform. Having a dress uniform shows the public and other agencies that see us that we support them, and in somber times shows the families of the fallen that we care enough to help them through their most difficult times by honoring their loved ones.

Members that choose to wear a dress uniform should be assembled together when possible, and depending on the event may have the need to be presented separately from members who do not wear dress uniforms. For example, a podium event where the background has uniformed members, the 'dress' uniformed CERT members should be grouped together and the 'duty' uniformed members should also be grouped with other 'duty' uniformed members rather than mixing them together at random.

Members may be required to take the California service oath (at the discretion of the Sacramento Fire Department) prior to being authorized to wear the dress uniform or display the CERT badge. Only Advanced members are authorized to wear the dress uniform or bear the CERT badge.

Updates will be highlighted with a bar along the right border of the page. |

Background

Moving to a 'patch-based' (modular) uniform will save costs for volunteer members. By converting as much of the uniform to patches as possible, one set of patches can be purchased and used on many 'blank' shirts (shirts with pre-positioned Velcro pile sections). Embroidery is more durable than silk screening and while it may cost more for an initial purchase of a patch, it will last much longer than an equivalent silk screened shirt. This will also allow members to purchase additional uniform shirts at any time without having to wait for group orders.

Members with existing silkscreened uniforms will not be required to update their uniforms all at once, but new uniform purchases must adhere to the approved uniform standard. Members can purchase optional uniform items over time – there is no current requirement to become compliant by a specific date.

Items not included in this standard may be brought to the uniform committee at any time for consideration.

Uniform of the Day

A "Uniform of the Day" will be communicated to all members via e-mail when events are scheduled (i.e. Operation River Safe, advanced training events, training deployments, etc.).

Uniform Details

There are two approved uniforms – "Duty" and "Dress". Duty uniforms have a minimum standard for wear as outlined below.

Duty uniforms

For training and active deployment. The minimum standard for Advanced Level members is a red CERT T-Shirt **tucked in** to black uniform pants/shorts and black foot gear with black socks. Requirements for each garment are listed below, in addition to additional optional garments.

Black 6 pocket BDU style pants

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- No specific requirements are needed

Boots

Black, for purchase by members from any retailer:

- Boots should cover the ankle and should have a steel toe or ANSI-rated composite toe ("kick-toe" boots are not acceptable).

Red short/long sleeve shirt

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- Green State of California map graphic with white border, "SACRAMENTO" in block lettering above, "FIRE" in block lettering below, "CERT" in yellow block lettering with white drop shadow on the top 1/3rd graphic, a star representing the position of Sacramento with a white call-out and the Seal of the Sacramento Fire Department, "COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM" in white block letters on the bottom 1/3rd graphic, centered on the left breast area of the shirt.
- White/Black block lettering ("Impact" font) across the back, "SACRAMENTO" in an arc approx. 11" wide by 4" tall, "CERT" in larger block letters approx. 10" wide by 5" tall in white across the back.

Helmets

Issued by SFD CERT¹:

- Advanced Level members shall wear a reflective Sacramento Fire Department shield on the front of their helmets and white reflective "Sacramento CERT" lettering on both sides.
- All members may have the member's last name affixed to the rear in adhesive reflective letters, black on white, 1 ½" tall². FCC radio call signs may be affixed above the last name if an active amateur radio license is held by the member.

¹ If SFD CERT approves other helmet designs (PMI, etc.) the brand/model number will be communicated to members.

² 1 ½" tall letters, black font on white reflective background.

Optional Duty Uniform Items

Badge

Medical First Responder qualified or higher:

Specifications

- Work uniform on belt, left of belt buckle, centered
- Dress uniform on left breast, centered above left pocket
- Badge to be commensurate with license.
- To be purchased through Volunteer Manager or designate (see Appendix A)

Images



All other advanced level uniformed members:

Specifications

- Work uniform on belt, left of belt buckle, centered
- Dress uniform on left breast, centered above left pocket
- "SACRAMENTO C.E.R.T. MEMBER FD"
- To be purchased by through Volunteer Manager or designate (see Appendix A)

Image



Shorts

Black 6 pocket (5.11 "BDU" style, for purchase by members from any retailer):

- No specific requirements are needed as long as a general neat appearance is presented and the garment is in serviceable condition.

Polo's

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- Red or White Polo style shirt. Men will wear standard short sleeve polo, women can order sleeveless polo.
- White Polo Shirts can be worn by trainers when training.
- Red Polo Shirts are for public awareness events only and can be worn by all advanced CERT members.
- Matching red long sleeve shirts may be worn under Polo's during cold weather.

BDU Top

Black 4 pocket BDU outer shirt (for purchase by members from any retailer):

- Button fasteners preferred for field expedient repair.
- 4" x 5" pile affixed to the right shoulder - 4" x 4" pile affixed to the left shoulder, corners touching the shoulder seam, 5.5" wide x 6" tall pile affixed to both breast areas above the pocket¹.
- A 14.75" wide x 8.75" tall pile will be affixed to the back of the BDU shirt, 3" below the base of the collar.
- Sleeve ends should be continuous (not slit) if possible. This allows for a long-sleeve shirt to have the sleeves 'rolled up' using an Army Zip Roll² and still maintain a neat appearance as well as allow for quickly changing from short sleeve back to long sleeve.
- All members **will** display the Sacramento Fire Department patch and rocker on their left shoulder affixed with hook, centered on the 4"x5" pile aligned with the top of the pile.
- All members **will** display the standard Sacramento Fire CERT patch on their right shoulder affixed with hook, centered on the 4"x4" pile.
- All members **will** display the standard "SACRAMENTO CERT" above their left pocket (embroidered or via patch affixed with hook and pile³).
- All members **will** display their last name or first initial and last name above their right pocket via standard name tape, embroidered or via patch affixed with hook and pile.
- If the member maintains a current First Responder or EMT rating, a Caduceus of white on a blue emergency medical services star on a white background with a blue border with the words "Medical First Responder" or "Emergency Medical Technician" (appropriate with the rating of the member) can be affixed to the right breast with hook fabric, centered on the top of the pile. See Appendix A for patch product numbers.
- A patch (See Appendix A) can be worn on the member's right upper pocket (Work uniform only). If the member has a current Wilderness First Responder rating, a Caduceus similar to the First Responder/EMT patch listed above with the words "Wilderness First Responder" will be affixed to their right upper pocket with hook and pile, centered on the pocket just below the pocket flap. If the member has been awarded the "Sacramento US&R TF7" patch by the Sacramento Fire Department, it will be affixed to their right BDU shirt pocket with hook and pile, centered on the pocket.
- A silver tone "C.E.R.T." pin (see Appendix A) can be displayed on their left collar lapel, 1" from the lapel corner and centered.*
- A pin (See Appendix A) can be worn on the member's right collar lapel, 1" from the lapel corner and centered.*
- The back of the BDU shirt **will** bear "SACRAMENTO CERT" and may be an embroidered patch affixed with hook and pile.

Note: "TDU" (Tactical Duty Uniform) tops are not approved at this time. TDU tops are easily identified by the lack of a collar, zipper closure, angled pockets and pockets located on the sleeves/shoulders.

¹ In the event Sacramento CERT members are deployed with TF7 assets, it's possible we might need to wear the same name tapes that TF7 members wear. This would require pile on both sides of the shirt.

² "Army Zip Roll" is done by folding a sleeve 'inside out' until the end of the sleeve is at the 'armpit' of the sleeve. The remaining sleeve is again rolled up 'inside out' but only 1/3rd of the way to the 'armpit' of the sleeve. Repeat the roll-up, half-way to the end of the sleeve. The end of the sleeve is then rolled down 'on top' of the remainder of the sleeve, hiding all of the 'inside' of the sleeve fabric.

³ Members can have the name and/or "Sacramento CERT" embroidered sections made into patches to be worn.

* All pins shall be removed prior to field operations (training or deployment) for safety purposes.

Hat

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- Black baseball style caps with "SACRAMENTO CERT" embroidered on the front.
- Pins and/or other decorations may not be worn on the cap while in uniform.
- Small EMS "Star of Life" patches/embroidery are approved on the sides of the cap, 2" max size (see Appendix A).
- Name may be embroidered on the back above the adjustment gap (see Appendix A).

NOTE: Pins/decorations on the ball cap present a **cut hazard** when worn and should not be worn on any headgear when in uniform.

Black Jackets (reflective)

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- Black lightweight jacket with silver reflective arm striping and "Sacramento CERT" on the back and first initial/last name on the members' right breast. Shoulder patches may be worn affixed with hook and pile per the shoulder patch guidelines above.
- Jackets may be purchased as lime green with silver reflectivity.

NOTE: Additional vendors may be brought to the committee for approval, but must produce an identical product.

Black Jackets (non-reflective)

- Black lightweight jackets without reflectivity may be worn by members. Jackets only, parkas and long 'duster' style jackets are not authorized. Members may attach their shoulder and back patches via Velcro.
- Jackets will be plain black with limited or muted branding, zippers and buttons.

Watch Cap

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Black knit cap for cold weather, "Sacramento CERT" may be embroidered on the cap in the same style as the black baseball caps.
- Pins and/or other decorations may not be worn on the cap while in uniform.
- Small EMS "Star of Life" patches/embroidery are approved on the sides of the cap, 2" max size (see Appendix A).
- Name may be embroidered on the back above the adjustment gap (see Appendix A).

"Boonie" Hat

See Appendix A for vendor and item number.

- Black, "Sacramento CERT" must be embroidered on the cap in the same style as the black baseball caps.

Reflectivity

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Members may wear reflective arm and leg bands when working around traffic or in areas demanding high visibility¹.
- Bands should be a minimum of 2" wide and wrap completely around the appendage and be secured via Velcro or some other non-binding (quick release) method.
- High-Vis lime jackets rated to ANSI 3 specifications may be worn (5.11, Carhart, Viking). Shoulder and back patches may be worn affixed with hook and pile per the shoulder and back patch guidelines above².
- Other high visibility garments not listed should be lime when possible.

¹ If in the future Sacramento CERT approves a specific reflectivity standard, it should be referenced in this uniform standard.

² Only shoulder/back patches and lapel pins shall be affixed to outerwear. Patches should be transferred to the outermost garment to maintain ease of identification.

Whistles

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Whistles worn on uniforms should not have loose lanyards to catch on objects or lanyards that are attached via a button hole¹.
- When worn but not used, whistles should be attached to the top button of the BDU shirt and stored in the right upper pocket.
- Lanyard should be braided using a 'daisy chain' pattern (see Appendix A).

Belts

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Belts **will** be worn as part of the uniform.
- The belt will be black and fit in the belt loops of the pant. Leather or other material is acceptable (for the Duty uniform only).
- "Rigger" belts are acceptable provided all attachment rings are secured to the belt.
- Belt buckles (if any) will not interfere with the wearing of the uniform and not cause a distraction to the overall appearance of the uniform.
- Buckles will be kept neat and professional.

Black Shoes

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Black shoes (tennis/cross training/hiking style) may be worn for training events or medical assistance deployments, especially when walking long distances will be required.

"Tactical" load carrying vests

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Load Carrying Vests (a.k.a. "Molle" or LCE vests) should have Velcro attached to match the BDU shirt policy to allow for back and chest patches to be visible on the vest.
- Velcro should be attached between Molle straps as not to interfere with the functionality of the vest but still allow attachment of patches.
- A general neat appearance shall be maintained. Any/all loose hanging straps, drinking hoses, antennas, etc. shall be secured to the vest via hook/pile tape.
- Special use attachments like first aid kits, throw bags, rappelling/climbing equipment or dump pouches shall not be attached unless the member is assigned to perform the associated task on the mission.

¹ Lanyards should be secured using a 'daisy chain' slip knot or by completely tucking the lanyard into a pocket. If attached to the shirt, the lanyard should be attached around a button so if caught the button will pull free. For uniformity, lanyard should be stored in a 'daisy chain' slip knot with the wither end wrapped around the top button of the BDU shirt and the whistle stored in the member's right pocket.

Dress uniforms

For special events, advanced level members only. Wear will be determined by the Uniform of the Day.

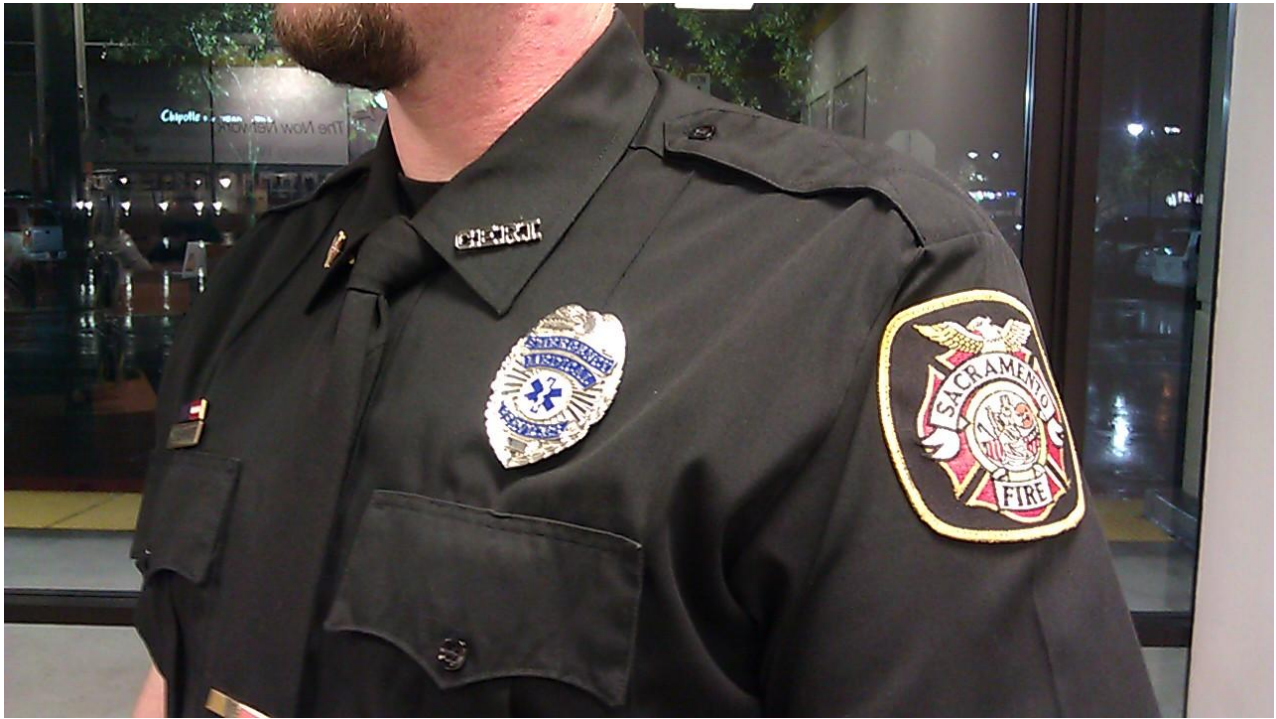
Shirt

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- Short sleeve (summer) long sleeve (winter), two pocket, black uniform shirt (see Appendix A)



- The patch placement on the shoulders will remain the same, affixed to the shirt (no Velcro). No patches will be placed on the front of the shirt or the back.
- A silver tone name plate with the member's first initial and last name will be affixed 1/8" above the left breast pocket, centered (See Appendix A)
- A flag pin is authorized 1/8 inch above name plate, centered (See Appendix A)
- A silver colored pin with the letters "C.E.R.T." (See Appendix A) will be worn on the left collar 3/4" inch from the collar tip, centered (See Appendix B).
- A pin (See Appendix A) can be worn on the member's right collar lapel, 1" from the lapel corner and centered (See Appendix B).
- If an undershirt is worn it must be black in color.
- Ties will be worn while in dress uniform (long and short sleeve shirts. Ties must be secured with an approved tie pin (see Appendix A).
- The badge will be worn on the left breast (See Appendix A).



Commendation Pins

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- Commendation Pins may be worn commensurate with the commendations awarded
- Worn above the badge, maximum of 8 (4 rows 2 wide, see Appendix A).

Pants

For purchase from authorized vendor (See Vendor List):

- The pants will be a black uniform pant, not of a tactical style.
- The pants must be serviceable and present a neat appearance.

Belt

For purchase by members from any vendor:

- Black leather, basket weave pattern, with a plain silver pin buckle will be worn.

Tie

For purchase by members from any vendor:

- Black necktie (clip on preferred). Men and women will wear the same type of necktie.
- Must be secured with a silver tie clip (see Appendix A)

Footwear

For purchase by members from any retailer:

- Footwear will be black and of a material able to take a shine (clorofram preferred but not required).
- The footwear will have a general neat appearance and, at a minimum, have a shine applied to the toe and heel.

Grooming

Standards will apply at all times when in dress uniform.

- For male members: Sacramento Fire Department standards apply. Facial hair is allowed but must be trimmed and have a general neat appearance.
- For female members: Sacramento Fire Department standards apply.

Note: *Baseball style hats will not be worn while in dress uniform.*

Appendix A

CONTROLLED ITEMS:











SFD Patches, Sacramento CERT patches, commendation bars and Level II badges are to be considered controlled items and can only be ordered through the Volunteer Manager or the designate. Prices are listed on the Uniform Order Form.

Emergency Medical Service and Emergency Medical Technician badges will be purchased from the designated vendor in Appendix C. No substitutions are permitted.

Medical First Responder and EMT patches are available via Life Assist (www.life-assist.com, 800 824-6016), item numbers:

- Medical First Responder: DD-620
- Emergency Medical Technician: DD-615

Commendation Pins will be worn above the badge on dress uniforms in the proper order of precedence. At the time of writing, the following commendations are approved:

Order of Precedence	Description	Pin
1	Purple Heart: Injured during a live activation	
2	ICS Position (Ops, Medical, Logistics, etc.)	
3	Battalion Captain/Co Captain/Assistant Captain	
4	EMS: Medical First Responder or higher rating (active only)	
5	USAR: USAR trained	
6	Communication: Active FCC License Holders	
7	EVOC: EVOC Trained driver	
8	Veteran: Veteran status	
9	Instructor: Basic or Advanced CERT Instructor	
10	Chaplain	

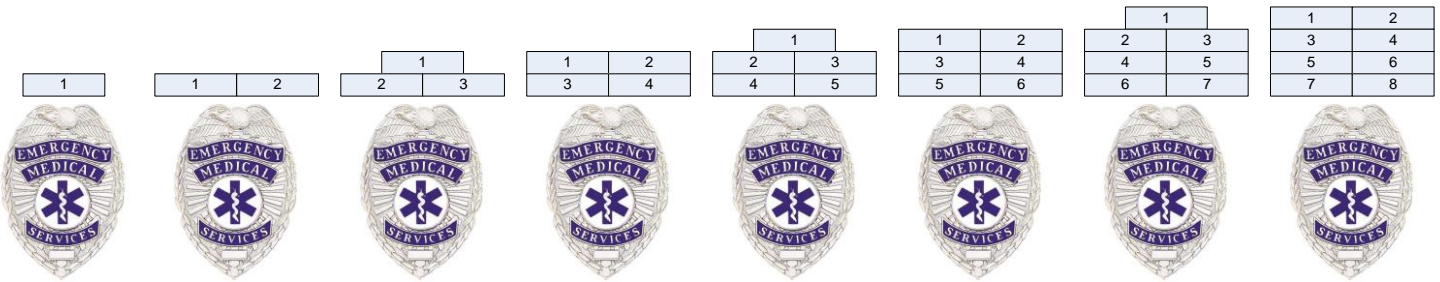
Future commendations will be approved by committee.

Commendation Pins may be worn commensurate with the commendations awarded maximum of 8 (3 rows 3 wide).

Commendation Pins can be ordered through the Volunteer Manager or designate.

Commendation Pins will be worn in the Order of Precedence as indicated, highest pin on the top left, next highest on the top right, proceeding down. Odd numbers will have the highest pin top center, 2nd highest under and to the left, etc.:

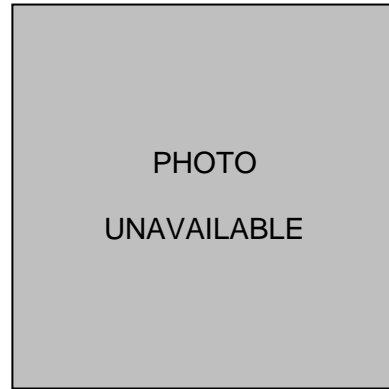
ORDER OF PRECEDENCE



The BDU top allows for a choice of patch on the upper Left pocket. Current choices are:

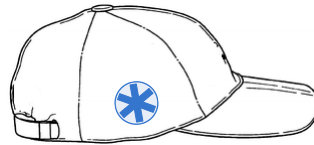


TF-7 US&R



Wilderness First Responder

Small “star of life” patches or embroidery are authorized on the sides of the baseball caps. Should be centered horizontally on the side panel of the hat and be no more than 1/2” above the bottom of the headband.



The member’s first initial and last name are authorized to be embroidered on the back of the cap above the adjustment gap.

A silver tone name plate (1/2” tall x 2 3/8” wide) will have the member’s First initial/Last name. For consistency, name plate should be ordered from QM Uniforms (www.qmuniforms.com), part number S10 16S.

A clutch-back Blackinton enamel flag pin can be worn 1/8” above the name tag on the dress uniform. For consistency brand should be Blackington and the pin should be enamel.

A silver “C.E.R.T.” pin may be worn on the left collar of the dress and duty uniform. Pin should be 3/8” letters for shirts, 1/2” letters for outerwear (jackets, etc.). For consistency, pins are to be ordered from Quartermaster Uniforms (www.qmuniforms.com), item number S01 040 01 unless another vendor is authorized by the uniform committee. Contact any uniform committee member for approval to use other vendors.

Ties should be all black, fabric to match the shirt, clip-on preferred for safety. A plain silver tone tie pin will be worn when wearing a tie with the dress uniform. Pin should not have any logos.

Pins authorized to be worn on the right collar of Duty and Dress uniforms are shown below if the pin has been awarded to the member. One pin is authorized at a time, member's choice.

			
Signal Corps	President's Service Award	First Responder	Department of Homeland Security

One pin is authorized at a time, member's choice.

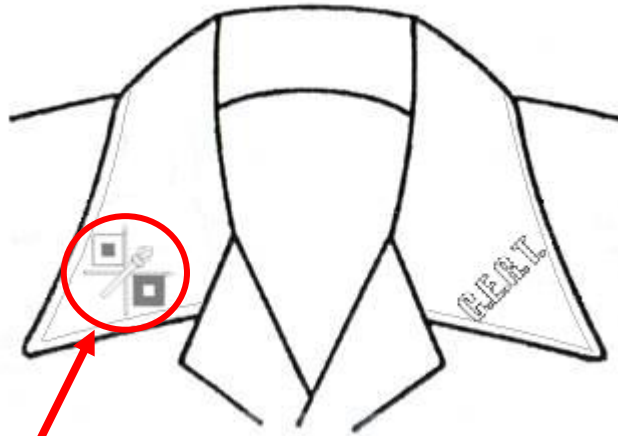
Boonie hats are authorized so long as they are embroidered in the same way that the CERT baseball caps are done. Item should be ordered from www.militaryclothing.com, item number 5535.

Daisy chains are slip knots tied consecutively. Many videos are present on the internet (YouTube) or you can contact a uniform committee member to be shown how to tie a daisy chain.

The only authorized vendor for dress shirts is Sacramento Uniforms (916- 567-7877). Located at 2230 Arden Way Suite H, Sacramento, CA 95825.

Work Uniform Shirt Example

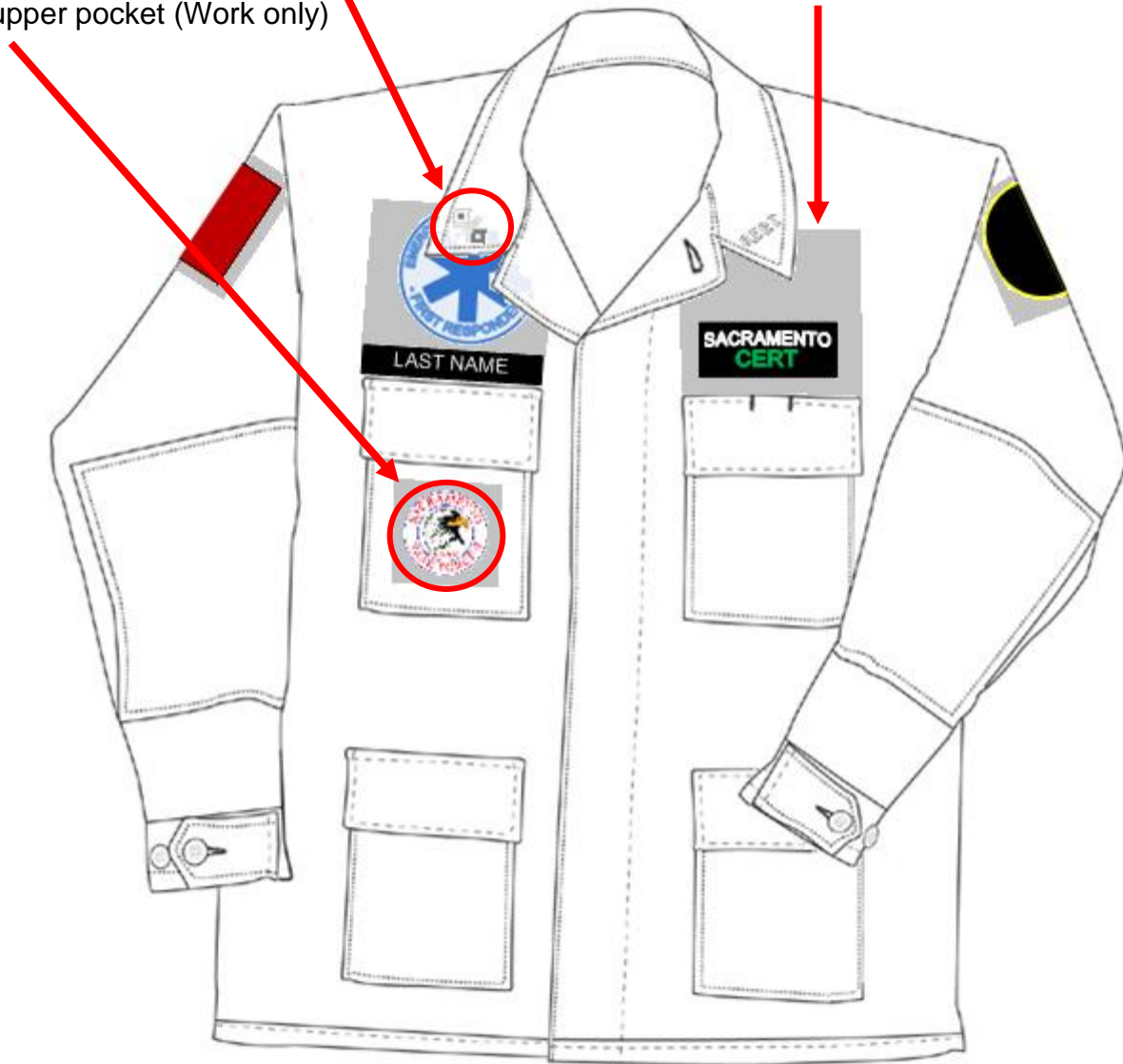
There are two areas of the uniform where the individual can decide what award to display:



Right collar (Dress and Work)

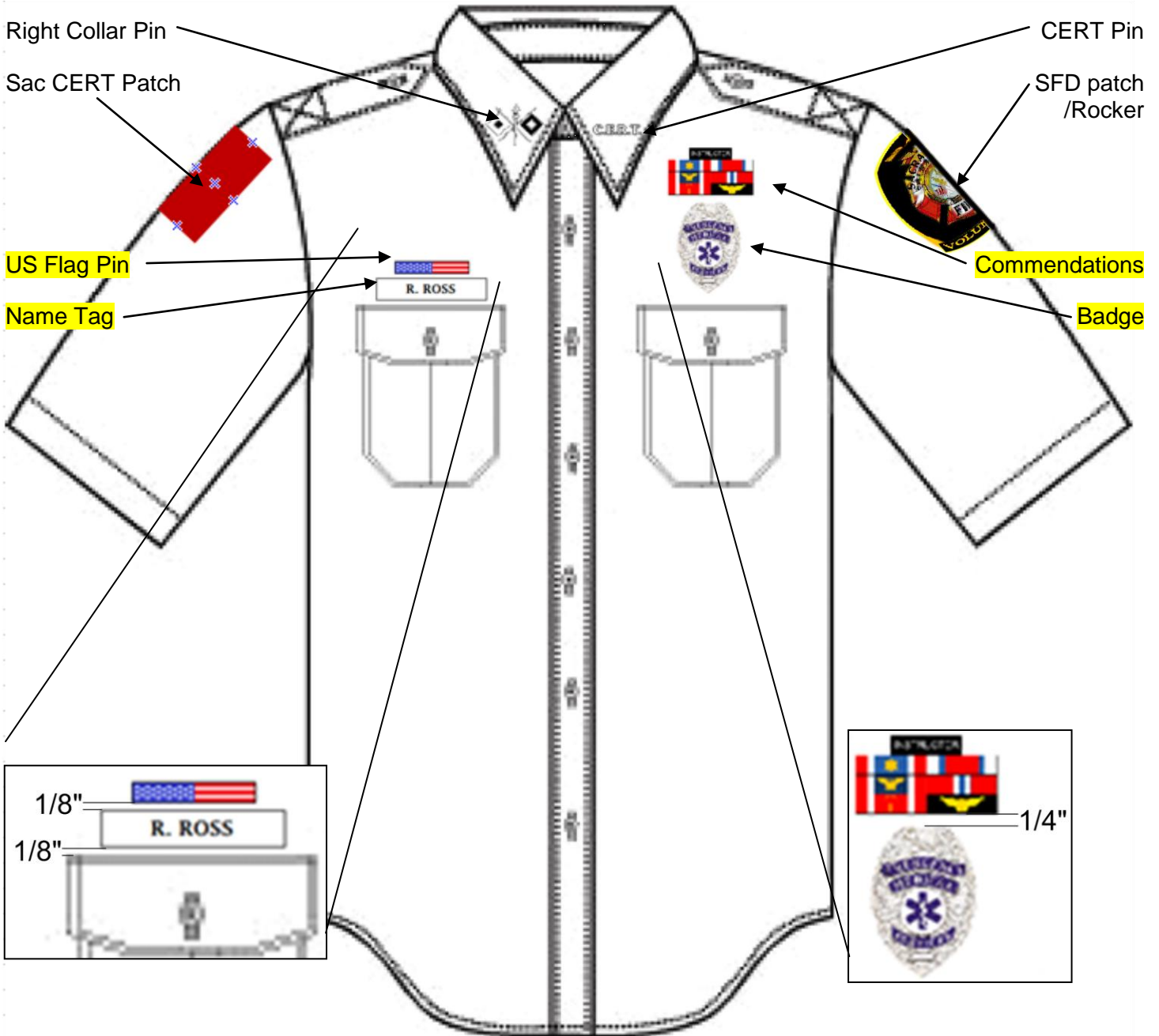
Right upper pocket (Work only)

Grey represents Velcro pile sewn to the shirt (Work only)





Dress Uniform Shirt Example



ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

