



CHESTERFIELD COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT DRESS CODE AND APPEARANCE POLICY

Head and Facial Hair

All members' hair shall be neat, clean and present a well-groomed appearance, or be appropriate for the member's assignment. Both head and facial hair shall be either left in the employee's natural color or, if dyed, changed to a naturally occurring color for human hair.

1. Sworn Personnel

- a. Hair, Female - Hair shall be clean, trimmed, and present a neat appearance. Hair shall be worn so that it does not extend below the bottom of the collar. Hair may be combed over the ears, but will not extend below the bottom of the ears nor more than two inches in front of the ears. Hair on the forehead will not extend below the hat when properly worn. Hair styles that preclude the wearing of the uniform hat in the accepted manner are not permitted. Pins, combs, or barrettes similar to the color of the hair are permitted, provided they are unobtrusive and are concealed as much as possible.
- b. Hair, Male - Hair shall be clean, trimmed, and present a neat appearance. Hair may be tapered or blocked at the back of the head. It shall not appear bulky at any point, and only the closely cut or shaved hair may touch the collar or ears. Hair on the forehead will not extend below the hat when properly worn.
- c. Facial Hair
 - i. Beards- full beards or goatees are allowed. The length of the permissible beard or goatee hair shall be no more than a ¼ inch and kept neatly trimmed along the neck, throat, and cheekbones at all times. Beards must be worn in conjunction with a connecting mustache. The goatee is the only authorized shaping of a beard that is allowed. All goatees must connect the mustache with the hair grown on the chin.
 - ii. Sideburns - shall not extend further down than a point in line with the middle point of the ear opening and shall be neatly trimmed unless the member is growing or maintaining a beard.
 - iii. Mustaches - shall not extend over the top lip, nor out further than ¼ inch past the corners of the mouth. No adulteration of facial is allowed (handlebar mustaches).

2. Officers on special assignment and special investigations detectives shall appear appropriate for assignment or position as authorized by their division commander. Officers within this category shall not work uniformed assignments, either on or off duty, without specific authorization from their division commander if their head and/or facial hair do not conform to uniform standards.

Makeup & Fingernails

1. Employees may wear makeup in moderation. The use of make-up shall reflect conservative wisdom appropriate to the assignment. Wearing excessive, trendy, or gothic make-up is not authorized, except as necessary in a covert assignment.
2. Fingernails must be professional in appearance and not be so long as to interfere with job performance or create safety issues. Nail color and/or designs must not detract from professional appearance, uniform, or the mission of law enforcement. Nails should not have raised embellishments, sequins, jewels, etc. of any kind. Nail shape should be rounded or squared at the tips.

Jewelry, and Eye Wear

Jewelry and eyewear shall be appropriate for the uniform or plain-clothes assignment and not present a personal safety hazard. Athletic, sport or designer eye wear and trend jewelry shall only be authorized when it is appropriate with the work assignment. Any jewelry that presents a potential hazard to the safety or welfare of the member is prohibited. No visible body piercing is permitted except that females may wear a 1/8 inch ball or smaller pierced earring, one per ear, in the lower lobe.

Dental Ornamentation

The use of gold, platinum or other veneers or caps for the purpose of ornamentation are prohibited. Teeth, whether natural, capped or veneer, shall not be ornamented with designs, jewels, initials, etc.

Personal Hygiene

Members shall practice good hygiene and eliminate offensive body odor.

Tattoos / Brands

1. Tattoos or brands determined to detract from the professional appearance of one's person, their uniform, and the mission of law enforcement are prohibited, regardless of visibility. Prohibited tattoos or brands include, but are not limited to, those that promote racism/discrimination/harassment, indecency, obscenity, extremist or supremacist philosophies, lawlessness, violence, illegal drug use, or contain sexually explicit material. Extremist tattoos or brands are those that depict or promote extremist activities or organizations that advocate hatred, intolerance, or lawlessness (e.g., terrorist groups, neo-Nazis, skinheads, outlaw gangs, extreme political organizations with violent histories).
2. Any tattoo or brand that is visible above the collar of a properly fitted issued uniform shirt when worn with a tie, or visible above the collar of a crew neck t-shirt when worn under any properly fitted issued open neck uniform shirt is prohibited if it can be observed when directly facing another person. Otherwise, it is allowed. Tattoos covered by head hair, eyebrows, facial hair, make-up, bandages, and fabric items do not make them permissible.
3. Permanent make-up or eyeliner shall be considered make-up rather than a tattoo. Refer to the appropriate section of policy for appropriate use of make-up.

Mutilation

Intentional body mutilation, piercing, branding, and/or intentional scarring that is excessive or eccentric is prohibited. Some examples are:

- a. A split or forked tongue
- b. Foreign objects inserted under the skin to create a design or pattern
- c. Enlarged or stretched holes in the ears (other than a normal piercing)
- d. Intentional scarring that appears on the neck, face, or scalp

Deviations from Policy

Any deviation from subsections of this policy must be approved by the Office of the Chief of Police.

Updated April 25, 2022