

BODY ART AND JEWELRY

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Purpose: *The fire department is a uniformed service where discipline is judged, in part, by the manner in which a member wears a prescribed uniform, as well as by the individual's personal appearance. Therefore, a neat and well-groomed appearance by all members is fundamental to the fire department and contributes to building the pride and esprit essential to an effective organization. A vital ingredient of the department's effectiveness is the pride and self-discipline that members bring to the department through a conservative image.*

Policy:

1. **Body Piercing:** While in uniform, or during the discharge of their duties, such as during incident response or training, sworn male members of the fire department may not display any body piercing jewelry that is visible. This includes the tongue, inside the mouth, or other inner body part piercing. Sworn female members may display one (1) pair of "pierce ear" earrings that are spherical in shape that are not more than one-quarter inch ($\frac{1}{4}$) in diameter.
2. **Other Jewelry:** While in uniform, or during the discharge of their duties (see above), sworn male and female members may display only the following jewelry: not more than two (2) rings (a wedding set is considered one ring), and a wristwatch. Necklaces may be worn if they remain tucked under the member's T-shirt.
3. **Medical Alert identification:** A member is authorized to wear, at any time, a medical alert identification device to alert others of the members medical condition, and is intended to be of information to those providing medical care, when needed, to the member.
4. **"Body Art" (Tattoos):** While in uniform, or during the discharge of their duties (see above), sworn male and female members shall not expose to view any Body Art. All Body Art shall be covered by either the member's clothing or bandages. If covering Body Art is impractical, or would create an unsafe situation to the member, the Body Art may be left exposed, as long as the Body Art is not offensive.
5. **Offensive Body Art means the following:** That which are associated with racial, gender or ethnic hatred; demeans persons due to racial, gender, ethnic or national origin, basis; those that are grossly offensive to modesty, decency, or propriety; shock the moral sense because of their vulgar, filthy or disgusting nature; and those that are racist in nature.