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Homeland Security

United States
Coast Guard



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MEMORANDUM

Reply to CDR B. G. Winans
Attn of: (202) 372-1268

From: /T. P. Glendye, CAPT/
Chief, Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety

To: Distribution

Subj: AUXILIARY UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE POLICY CHANGES

Ref.: (a) Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Working Group Charter of 14 Jul 20
(b) Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Pilot Program SOP 007(A) of 29 Sep 21
(c) Auxiliary Manual, COMDTINST M16790.1 (series)
(d) Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series)
(e) Tattoo, Body Marking, Body Piercing, and Mutilation Standards,
COMDTINST 1000.1 (series)

1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this Policy Letter is to promulgate Auxiliary uniform and appearance policy changes stemming from the pilot program conducted in the Auxiliary's First District - Southern Region (D1-SR) and Eighth District – Coastal Region (D8-CR) from 01 October 2021 to 31 December 2022 pursuant to references (a) and (b).
2. ACTION. All Coast Guard Auxiliarists, District Directors of Auxiliary (DIRAUX), and other Coast Guard units and offices managing Auxiliary activities shall comply with the provisions in this Policy Letter.
3. AUTHORIZED RELEASE. Internet release is authorized.
4. DIRECTIVES AFFECTED. Respective sections of Chapter 10 of reference (c) are superseded by the corresponding provisions of this Policy Letter.
5. BACKGROUND.
 - a. The last major Auxiliary uniform policy change stemmed from discontinuance of the Work Blue and Undress Blue uniforms in 2012. Authorization of an entirely new Auxiliary uniform had not occurred since introduction of the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) as the Coast Guard's principal work uniform in 2004.

- b. In May 2020, the Coast Guard Leadership Council (CGLC) determined that review and assessment of Auxiliary uniform and appearance policies in reference (c) were warranted. This was prompted by the need to preserve the public’s perception of the Coast Guard brand presented by its military personnel given the planned transition from the ODU to the Coast Guard Working Uniform (CGWU) as the service’s primary work uniform. The CGLC also approved the CGWU for Auxiliary wear with appropriate modifications to ensure distinction from the Coast Guard’s military version. To review and assess other changes to Coast Guard Auxiliary uniform and appearance policies, a pilot program was conducted in accordance with reference (b). The Working Group monitored and assessed regional pilot program progress and findings. This Policy Letter reflects final determinations stemming from its recommendations.
- c. The Coast Guard’s transition to the CGWU over the next couple of years will be constrained by a limited range of available sizes for all service members authorized to wear it, including Auxiliarists. This will trigger a Coast Guard-wide phase-out of ODU wear and warrants establishment of a new additional Alternative Work Uniform (AWU) for the Auxiliary as defined in this Policy Letter that is significantly different in appearance from the ODU and CGWU.

6. DISCLAIMER. This Policy Letter is not a substitute for applicable legal requirements, nor is it itself a rule. It is intended to provide guidance for Auxiliary personnel and is not intended to nor does it impose legally binding requirements on any party outside the Coast Guard.

7. MAJOR CHANGES. This Policy Letter reflects final determinations stemming from the recommendations of the Working Group chartered by reference (a). Concurrently, the Auxiliary’s transition to the CGWU and establishment of a new additional AWU presented an appropriate opportunity to formulate and implement new Auxiliary uniform and appearance policies. These policies have been developed in consonance with reference (d) and are meant to ensure attentive care by every Auxiliarist in projecting uncompromising pride whenever authorized uniforms are worn. The following provisions highlight changes to respective sections of reference (c) and further details are contained in Enclosure (1).

- a. **Section 10.A.1. (Auxiliary Surface Operators, PWC Operators, Paddlecraft Operators, Mobile Radio Facility Operators, and Shore-side Harbor Patrol Operators):** Additional detail is provided about who can specify the uniform for these operators. The AWU is introduced as an authorized alternative to the ODU and the CGWU. It is the prescribed alternative work uniform if an Auxiliarist is unable to procure either the ODU or CGWU due to size availability.
- b. **Section 10.A.8. (Formal and Ceremonial Occasions):** This section describes types of uniforms that may be worn for events such as military and Auxiliary ceremonies and social functions. Limitations on the wear of the Service Dress White uniform are addressed.

- c. **Section 10.A.10. (Other Auxiliary Activities):** The AWU is specifically addressed as not authorized for ceremonial events. Unresolved questions, disputes, or misunderstandings are to be referred to the District Director of Auxiliary (DIRAUX) for resolution.
- d. **Section 10.C.1. (Setting an Example and Uniform Inspection Requirements):**
 - (1) Greater detail is provided to define what “no longer serviceable” means.
 - (2) An annual requirement is established for Auxiliarists to undergo a uniform inspection by either their Flotilla Commander (FC), Vice Flotilla Commander (VFC), Immediate Past Flotilla Commander (IPFC), or other elected officer in their Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM) (e.g., uniform inspections may be conducted for attendees at a district conference or division training forum). Multiple opportunities shall be provided Auxiliarists to undergo this inspection. Elected officers in another Auxiliary COLM may also perform and attest to an Auxiliarist’s uniform inspection (e.g., an Auxiliarist may undergo their uniform inspection in another Auxiliary region while away from their home for an extended time). This requirement shall be effective starting with CY 2024.
 - (a) An Auxiliarist may wear any uniform they are qualified to wear (e.g., a certified vessel examiner may opt to be inspected in the ODU, CGWU, or AWU with authorized VE polo shirt; an Auxiliarist who only wears the Blue Blazer Outfit for their Auxiliary activities must wear that for inspection purposes). If an Auxiliarist does not own an Auxiliary uniform nor wears the Blue Blazer Outfit then they must notify their FC and are exempt from meeting this inspection requirement.
 - (b) Dinner Dress uniforms, Hot Weather Uniform versions, the Auxiliary jump suit, flight suit, or any organizational clothing are not authorized for the purpose of this annual inspection.
 - (c) If distance or physical ability do not allow ready inspection, then a photo(s) may be provided to their FC, VFC, or IPFC via email to perform the inspection (email acceptable). The photo(s) must allow for a full-frontal view that includes headgear to footwear and makes all ribbons, nametags, and insignia readily identifiable. Similarly, the inspection may be performed virtually. Auxiliary ID card checks shall be part of the annual uniform inspection.
 - (d) Annual inspection counts as an annual currency maintenance task for all Auxiliary competencies. Auxiliarists who do not undergo the annual inspection during the calendar year shall lose their currency and eligibility to be assigned to duty in all their competencies for the following calendar year (i.e., placed in REYR status), they shall not be eligible to hold or run for elected office, and they shall be issued a Letter of Caution by the FC. If it happens a second consecutive year, then REYR status and ineligibility for elected office shall continue to apply and a Letter of Reprimand shall be issued by the District Commodore (DCO). If it happens a third consecutive year, then the Auxiliarist may be disenrolled by the DIRAUX.

- (e) Guidelines to help perform a uniform and appearance inspection are provided in Section 4 of Enclosure (1).
- (3) A requirement is established for an Auxiliarist who wants to pursue assignment to duty at a Coast Guard, other military, or other governmental unit to undergo inspection and approval by their FC or DCDR before accepting such assignment. Such assignment to duty shall not occur until discrepancies are corrected. If the annual inspection has already occurred, then this inspection requirement is waived.
- e. **Section 10.C.3.d. (Trousers, Slacks, Socks, and Shoes):** Only shoes authorized for wear with a specific uniform shall be worn. Shoes like sneakers and foam clog shoes are specifically prohibited. Exception is made for medically prescribed foot and leg casts, boots, and prosthetics.
- f. **Section 10.C.3.g. (Personal Display Items):** The allowance for only two rings per hand is specified. Thumb rings are prohibited, and an engagement and/or wedding ring counts as one ring.
- g. **Section 10.C.3.h. (Earrings, Tattoos, Body Markings, and Mutilations):** Earring provisions are aligned with those in reference (d). Auxiliary standards for tattoos, brands, body piercings, and body mutilation and modifications are aligned with those in reference (e) along with implications for enrollment and disenrollment if an Auxiliarist does not comply with them.
- h. **Section 10.C.3.i. (Additional Jewelry):** More detail is provided regarding avoidance of eccentricities in jewelry.
- i. **Section 10.C.3.n. (Hair, Facial Hair):**
 - (1) This closely aligns men's and women's policies with those for active duty personnel defined in the Uniform Regulations (COMDTINST M1020.6 (series, [CIM link](#))). Men are prohibited from wearing ponytails or buns.
 - (2) This specifies that an Order Issuing Authority (OIA) may prohibit the wearing of beards or mustaches.
 - (3) This requires men to be clean shaven (mustaches allowed) to participate in ceremonial events (e.g., Auxiliary color guard; Coast Guard parade formation). Special allowance is addressed for Auxiliary chaplains who have beards and are authorized to provide their religious ministry services by their Coast Guard OIA.
- j. **Section 10.E.2. (Blue Blazer Outfit):** More detail and allowance are provided regarding how to wear the blazer patch. Blue Blazer Outfit wear is required when an Auxiliarist does not have any prescribed uniform to wear in a non-operational activity (exceptions are

provided for specific activities (e.g., a female Auxiliarist may wear a formal civilian gown to a district conference banquet)).

- k. **Section 10.E.6. (Alternative Work Uniform, AWU):** This is a new section to describe AWU expectations. The AWU is the prescribed alternative work uniform if an Auxiliarist is unable to procure either the ODU or CGWU due to size availability. The AWU is authorized to be worn as an alternative work uniform whenever the ODU or CGWU is authorized to be worn. This includes authorization to be worn for the purpose of instructing virtual and in-person public education classes, performing boating safety partner visits, and for public outreach events (e.g., boating safety booths at boat shows; public outreach information tables at National Safe Boating Week events). The AWU is specifically not authorized to be worn for ceremonial events (e.g., as part of a color guard; in parade formation). A Hot Weather Uniform (HWU) version is authorized.
- l. **Section 10.F.3. (Name Tags):** This addresses name tag allowances for Auxiliary Chaplains.
- m. **Section 10.H.4. (Operational Dress Uniform and Coast Guard Working Uniform):** This specifies that the leader of an Auxiliary member training or conference event (e.g., FC; DCDR; DCO) may prescribe the ODU, CGWU, or AWU for wear at such events, and that the tucked ODU is no longer authorized for wear. The section also addresses comparable allowances for wearing the CGWU. Upon CGWU availability, all Auxiliarists will be authorized and encouraged to wear the CGWU, and the untucked ODU will remain authorized for wear until no longer serviceable.
- n. Other than discontinuance of the tucked ODU as an authorized Auxiliary uniform, no Auxiliary uniforms are eliminated from authorized wear.
- o. Single-page overviews of Auxiliary CGWU and AWU components are provided in sections 2 and 3, respectively, of Enclosure (1).

8. SCOPE AND AUTHORITIES. It is recommended the reader become familiar with the directives and publications noted throughout this Policy Letter.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECT AND IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS. This Policy Letter will not result in any substantial change to existing environmental conditions or violation of any applicable federal, state, or local laws relating to the protection of the environment.

10. DISTRIBUTION. No paper distribution will be made of this Policy Letter. An electronic version will be posted on the Chief Director of Auxiliary section of the Auxiliary Leadership web site: <https://www.cgaux.org> . All websites in this Policy Letter are the most current available. If the cited web link does not work, then access should be attempted by copying and pasting or typing the web site address into the user's internet browser.

11. RECORDS MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS. Records created as a result of this Policy Letter, regardless of format or media, must be managed in accordance with records retention guidance in reference (a).

12. FORMS. The forms referenced in this guide are available on the Coast Guard Auxiliary web site: <https://forms.cgaux.org> .

13. REQUESTS FOR CHANGES. Auxiliary units and individuals may formally recommend changes in writing through the COLM including the appropriate Auxiliary national program manager(s) (email acceptable). Comments and suggestions from users of this Policy Letter are welcomed. All such correspondence may be emailed to Commandant (CG-BSX) at: CGAUX@uscg.mil.

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Encl: (1) Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Policy Changes

Dist: CG-PSC-PSD-MU, DIRAUX (dpa), NEXCOM, ANACO-FC, ANACO-CC

Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Policy Changes

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Section 1. Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Policy Changes

AuxMan Section 10.A.1 - Auxiliary Surface Operators, PWC Operators, Paddlecraft Operators, Mobile Radio Facility Operators, and Shore-Side Harbor Patrol Operators

When engaged in patrol activity, Auxiliary surface operators, PWC operators, paddle craft operators, mobile radio facility operators, and shore-side harbor patrol operators are authorized to wear the Operational Dress Uniform (ODU), Coast Guard Working Uniform (CGWU), Alternative Work Uniform (AWU), Hot Weather Uniform (HWU, if regionally authorized), or Jump suit as appropriate to the climate. Appropriate foul weather gear shall be worn as circumstances warrant, and survival suits shall be worn when required.

The preferred uniform for patrol activities is either the ODU or the CGWU. If a participant(s) is unable to wear the ODU or the CGWU (or HWU if regionally authorized) due to size availability, then such participant(s) shall wear the AWU. The AWU may also be worn by all participants engaged in the same patrol if authorized by the Order Issuing Authority (OIA). In such case, all participants shall wear the same AWU shirt (i.e., all short sleeves or all long sleeve).

Unless otherwise specified by the OIA, the lead for a patrol (e.g., coxswain; lead PWC operator; lead paddle craft operator) shall specify the uniform for their patrol pursuant to uniform options authorized by the OIA.

AuxMan Section 10.A.2. - Vessel Examiners

When engaged in vessel examination activity, Vessel Examiners (VE) are authorized to wear the ODU, CGWU, AWU, HWU (if regionally authorized), or Jump suit as appropriate to the climate. A VE unable to procure the ODU or CGWU due to size availability shall wear the AWU. When conducting Commercial Fishing Vessel Examinations (CFVE), VEs may wear Coast Guard-issued coveralls.

The Auxiliary VE polo shirt is an optional ODU, CGWU, AWU, and HWU (if regionally authorized) component. The shirt is not authorized for any other Auxiliary activity.

AuxMan Section 10.A.7. - Assignment to Duty

An OIA shall normally prescribe an Auxiliary uniform(s) for assignment to duty. When more than one uniform is authorized by an OIA for assignment to duty but no uniform is prescribed for a mission, the lead Auxiliarist shall prescribe the uniform to be worn by all participating Auxiliarists from among those authorized by the OIA.

Auxiliarists shall conform to Coast Guard unit policies regarding such uniform wear whenever executing the assignment to duty or interacting with, acting on behalf of, or representing the

unit. If the ODU, CGWU, or their HWU (if regionally authorized) versions are authorized and a participant(s) is unable to procure the ODU, CGWU, or their HWU (if regionally authorized) versions due to size availability, then they shall wear the AWU (or its HWU version if authorized). The AWU is specifically not authorized to be worn for ceremonial events (e.g., as part of a color guard; in parade formation). Any unresolved questions, disputes, or misunderstandings regarding such uniform wear shall be referred to the Director.

When assigned to duty on Coast Guard vessels, Auxiliarists shall wear uniforms consistent with those of the vessel's crew. They shall also only wear the member device with such uniforms. Auxiliarists may wear the office insignia of their highest office on such uniforms for ceremonial events held by that vessel.

Individual uniform clothing items may be tailored to fit (e.g., trousers for the Dinner Dress White Jacket uniform). They may not be physically joined or combined with any other individual uniform clothing items or fabrics.

AuxMan Section 10.A.8. - Formal and Ceremonial Occasions

Wearing an appropriate Auxiliary uniform by active or retired Auxiliarists for formal and ceremonial occasions is authorized as follows:

a. At civilian, military, and Auxiliary ceremonies and events that are clearly military service-centric in nature (e.g., military changes of command; Auxiliary changes of watch; military and Auxiliary retirements; Coast Guard Foundation dinners; local community banquets in honor of military services; patriotic parades on national holidays; funerals of military veterans and Auxiliarists) and which require a uniform. Auxiliarists who do not own Dinner Dress Blue Jacket or Dinner Dress White Jacket may wear Service Dress Blue "Bravo" (or Service Dress Blue "Alpha" as may be prescribed) to such ceremonies and events for which such formal wear is prescribed.

b. Service Dress Blue "Bravo," Service Dress Blue "Alpha," or Service Dress White may be worn when prescribed for military personnel. However, Service Dress White is only authorized for wear by District Commodores, members of the National Executive Committee (NEXCOM), and Auxiliarists who are currently certified in the Auxiliary Chaplain Support (ACS) program when it is the prescribed uniform for the ceremony or event in which they have been invited to participate.

c. Social or other functions when the invitation has been clearly influenced by military service (e.g., an Auxiliarist who has been invited to be part of a bridal party for a military bride and/or groom may wear Service Dress White only if it is the prescribed uniform and the Auxiliarist is authorized to wear that uniform as authorized above).

d. If an Auxiliarist does not possess any of the aforementioned uniforms, then they may wear the Blue Blazer outfit or civilian wear comparable for such events (e.g., personal gown; personal tuxedo).

e. The Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series, [CIM link](#)), authorize retired Coast Guard personnel to wear the dress uniform that was prescribed at the time of their retirement, or any dress uniform that is currently authorized for military personnel, to certain formal and ceremonial events. The same holds true for Auxiliarists in retired status. Such events include:

- (1) Military ceremonies (e.g., retirements; changes of command; funerals).
- (2) Patriotic parades on national holidays or occasions in which military personnel are taking part.
- (3) Social or other functions when the invitation has been influenced by the Auxiliarist's prior military service.

f. Due to the nature of certain formal Auxiliary events like changes of watch, conferences, and banquets, such events are recognized as falling within the general scope of military ceremony. They are nonetheless Auxiliary events, and Auxiliarists who are invited to them are so invited because of their Auxiliary membership status, not due to a retired military status as may be held by military retired or veteran personnel. Accordingly, Auxiliarists who are also military retired or veteran personnel are strongly encouraged and recommended to wear their Auxiliary dress uniform under such circumstances in lieu of any authorized military dress uniform.

AuxMan Section 10.A.9. - Prohibited Occasions

The following sub-paragraph is added as 10.A.9.f. and subsequent sub-paragraphs are re-labeled accordingly:

f. Except as authorized in section 10.A.8., Auxiliary uniforms shall not be worn for any personal ceremony or event (e.g., an Auxiliarist shall not wear an Auxiliary uniform for their own wedding, college graduation, vacation, etc.).

AuxMan Section 10.A.10. - Other Auxiliary Activities

The Director, or elected leaders at any level, may require a specific uniform to be worn to participate in Auxiliary activities other than those listed above. This may include, but is not limited to, appearances at public affairs activities such as boat shows, civic lectures, boating safety booths, and participation in any recruiting mission.

If the ODU, CGWU, or their HWU (if regionally authorized) versions are specified and a participant(s) is unable to obtain the ODU, CGWU, or their HWU version due to size availability, then they shall wear the AWU (or its HWU version if regionally authorized and prescribed). However, the AWU is specifically not authorized to be worn for ceremonial events (e.g., as part of a color guard; in parade formation). Any unresolved questions, disputes,

or misunderstandings regarding such uniform wear shall be referred to the Director for resolution.

AuxMan Section 10.B.2. - Coast Guard Exchange System

The Commandant has authorized Auxiliarists to buy uniform and insignia items in all Coast Guard exchanges and uniform stores and through the Coast Guard Exchange System's (CGES) online services. Special order service (not mail order) may be used in Coast Guard exchanges for items not in stock.

The Auxiliary identification card is the only document needed for Auxiliary entry and purchasing ability at a Coast Guard exchange. If ever denied access to a Coast Guard exchange for the purpose of uniform outlet purchases, an Auxiliarist should immediately report such denial to the Director. The Director shall attempt to reconcile any misunderstandings about Auxiliary access and/or identification cards with the Coast Guard exchange or its host command.

AuxMan Section 10.B.4. - Commercial Sources

Auxiliarists may use commercial sources for buying uniforms and insignia, except for Auxiliary ball caps, specialty shirts (e.g., VE polo shirt), and ODU, CGWU, and their HWU versions' uniform clothing items. These caps and clothing items may only be obtained from the following sources: the Auxiliary Center (AUXCEN) or the Coast Guard Exchange System (CGES). The Coast Guard Auxiliary Association, Inc. (AuxA) website (<https://www.cgauxa.org>) should be referred to for sourcing AWU components.

Auxiliarists should purchase with caution because not all open market uniforms and insignia meet Coast Guard specifications. One can buy, in good faith, apparent regulation items and find such items are not the same because there may be unacceptable differences in the material, design, cut, shade, durability, color fastness, etc.

When buying uniform insignia, Auxiliarists should look for the Coast Guard certification numbers in a semi-concealed location. Certain commercial sources have received Coast Guard certification for the items they manufacture. The safest course is to purchase insignia supplied to the district by the AUXCEN or to ask the Materials (MA) officer.

AuxMan Section 10.C.1. - Setting an Example and Uniform Inspection Requirements

Elected and appointed officers are expected to wear the uniform properly to set an example. They must motivate and inspire other Auxiliarists to maintain the highest standards of personal appearance, hygiene, and grooming when wearing the uniform. They must also hold membership accountable for maintaining the same high standards. Accordingly, the following provisions in this section are effective beginning in CY 2024.

Auxiliarists in a membership status other than Approval Pending (AP) or retired shall undergo a uniform inspection each calendar year performed and validated for AUXDATA II entry purposes by their FC, VFC, IPFC, or other elected officer (i.e., this includes other immediate past elected officers) in their Chain of Leadership and Management (COLM) (e.g., uniform inspections may be conducted for attendees at a district conference or division training forum). The Chief Director of Auxiliary (CHDIRAUX), Deputy CHDIRAUX, District Directors of Auxiliary (DIRAUX), and Operations Training Officers (OTO) may also conduct these inspections. An Auxiliarist may not inspect themselves. The AUXDATA II entry may be made by an elected or Information Services (IS) staff officer in the Auxiliarist's COLM at flotilla, division, or district level.

Undergoing inspection by an elected or immediate past elected officer in another Auxiliary COLM is also authorized. For example, an Auxiliarist may undergo their uniform inspection in another Auxiliary region while away from their home (e.g., at the annual Auxiliary National Conference). In such case, the Auxiliarist must provide the inspector's attestation of inspection to their FC for AUXDATA II record entry purposes (email acceptable).

Those authorized to perform uniform inspections may not specify the uniform to be worn. Dinner Dress Jacket uniforms, Hot Weather Uniform (HWU) versions, the Auxiliary jump suit, flight suit, or any organizational clothing (defined as Coast Guard unit-owned clothing that is issued to individuals) are not authorized for the purpose of this annual inspection. An Auxiliarist may otherwise choose any of their personal uniforms they are authorized and outfitted to wear (e.g., a certified vessel examiner (VE) who is also a coxswain and instructor may choose to be inspected in the ODU, CGWU, or AWU with authorized VE polo shirt; an Auxiliarist who only wears the Blue Blazer Outfit for their Auxiliary activities must wear that for inspection purposes).

Flexibility shall also be afforded Auxiliarists to undergo inspection. Multiple opportunities for inspection shall be provided (e.g., flotillas and divisions should hold inspection opportunities at meetings). The inspected Auxiliarist shall be immediately advised of any discrepancies stemming from their inspection so as to correct them as soon as possible.

If an Auxiliarist does not own an Auxiliary uniform nor wears the Blue Blazer Outfit, or when they determine they will no longer wear Auxiliary uniforms, then they must notify their FC and be recorded in AUXDATA II as exempt from this requirement. Such Auxiliarists remain authorized to wear Dinner Dress Jacket uniforms at appropriate events. Auxiliarists in retired membership status are exempt from uniform inspections. Auxiliarists who only engage in Auxiliary Lifejacket Wear Observation (AUXLWO) program activities, for which civilian clothing is authorized to be worn, shall also be exempt from uniform inspections.

If distance or physical ability do not allow in-person inspection, then an Auxiliarist may provide a photo(s) to their FC, VFC, or IPFC to perform the inspection (email acceptable). The photo(s) must allow for a full-frontal view that includes headgear to footwear and makes all ribbons, nametags, and insignia readily identifiable (any authorized ribbon configuration is allowed). If the provided photo(s) is insufficient to properly perform the inspection, then the inspector shall request submission of additional photos needed to complete it. The inspection

may also be performed virtually (e.g., via video teleconference application) if amenable to both the Auxiliarist and the inspector.

Inspections shall include presentation and review of an Auxiliarist's ID card. If the Auxiliarist's ID card is expired or the photo no longer resembles their appearance, it is the Auxiliarist's responsibility to obtain a new ID card as soon after inspection as possible. If the inspection is performed by photo(s) or virtually, the Auxiliarist may sanitize the ID card blocks for Date of Birth and Blood Type before mailing or displaying it.

Annual inspection shall count as an annual currency maintenance task applicable to all Auxiliary competencies. Auxiliarists are encouraged to pursue its completion as early in the calendar year as possible and to be inspected in a different uniform they are authorized to wear each year to confirm they are wearing all their authorized uniforms properly.

Except as exempted above from inspection, Auxiliarists who do not undergo this uniform inspection requirement during the calendar year shall lose their currency and eligibility to be assigned to duty in all their competencies for the following calendar year (i.e., they shall be placed in REYR status), they shall not be eligible to hold or run for elected office, and they shall be issued a Letter of Caution by the FC that conveys the importance of their adherence to uniform policies and expectations (copy to DCDR and the Director; Chapter 3 investigative requirements are waived for this purpose). If this happens for a second consecutive year, then REYR status and ineligibility for elected office shall continue to apply and a Letter of Reprimand shall be issued by the District Commodore (DCO) (copy to FC, DCDR, DCAPT, and the Director; Chapter 3 investigative requirements are waived for this purpose). If this happens for a third consecutive year, then the Auxiliarist may be disenrolled by the Director (Chapter 3 investigative requirements are waived for this purpose).

Completion of the annual uniform requirement is sufficient for an Auxiliarist to be removed from REYR status when REYR status has been imposed because of not having undergone that requirement. An Auxiliarist may also be removed from REYR status in such circumstance if they determine they will no longer wear Auxiliary uniforms and notify their FC to be recorded in AUXDATA II as exempt from this requirement. Removal from REYR status shall be performed at DIRAUX level based on validation by the FC.

For Auxiliarists in AP membership status and who intend to engage in Auxiliary activities that require uniform wear, undergoing uniform inspection is required for their AP membership status to be changed to any other status (i.e., Initially Qualified (IQ); Basically Qualified (BQ); Operational Auxiliarist (AX)). Waiver to serve in an elected office shall not be granted until they have undergone the uniform inspection. Such Auxiliarists may perform authorized Auxiliary activities in a prescribed uniform while in a trainee status prior to undergoing the uniform inspection.

All Auxiliarists, particularly those in leadership positions, are expected and have the responsibility to render judgments and take appropriate action regarding adherence to the Coast Guard's high standards of appearance. This is of particular importance in the context of serviceability of uniform items worn by themselves and their fellow Auxiliarists.

Uniforms shall be properly pressed, clean, fit, and maintained in good repair. The nature of Auxiliary uniform policies occasionally justifies the authorized wear of specific items until they are no longer in serviceable condition. For uniform items, no longer serviceable condition is defined as being in a condition that detracts from the purpose of projecting the Coast Guard's high standards of pride and professionalism. A uniform item shall be considered no longer serviceable when any aspect of it is irreparably damaged; creased or bunched in an inappropriate and irreversible fashion; torn; soiled; stained; frayed; worn; discolored; faded; inappropriately altered; repaired in a manner that results in an inappropriate or unprofessional appearance; or officially declared obsolete.

Although Auxiliarists are not required to closely adhere to some Coast Guard appearance standards, circumstances may arise in which close adherence to standards is required. For example, assignment to duty at a Coast Guard training facility for recruits, enlisted leaders, or new officers carries the inherent need for Auxiliarists to closely adhere to Coast Guard standards of appearance to sustain and support the examples that are strived and set for these groups. Substantial deviation from Coast Guard standards would be inappropriate in such circumstances and give cause to Auxiliary leaders to consider the propriety of allowing an Auxiliarist who does not closely adhere to them to so serve. Particular attention shall therefore be paid by Auxiliary leaders to ensure that Auxiliary representatives in such circumstances closely adhere to Coast Guard overall appearance standards.

Any Auxiliarist who desires to pursue a recurring assignment to duty at or aboard a Coast Guard, other military, or other governmental unit shall not perform such assignment until they have been visually inspected in the uniform prescribed by the unit by their FC or DCDR. If distance or physical ability do not allow ready in-person inspection, then the provisions for the FC's or DCDR's inspection by photo or virtually shall apply. The Auxiliarist shall ensure any discrepancies (e.g., ribbon/name tag misplacement; frayed/faded uniform items) are corrected prior to reporting to the unit. If the annual inspection has already been completed in the uniform prescribed by the unit, then this inspection requirement is waived. If not, then this inspection may also be credited to the annual uniform inspection requirement. For example, if an Auxiliarist desires to fill a recurring assignment to duty at a Coast Guard sector office that prescribes the ODU and has already completed their annual inspection in the ODU, then they do not have to undergo another inspection by the FC or DCDR. If the annual inspection was completed in the Tropical Blue uniform, then they would have to undergo inspection in the ODU by the FC or DCDR.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3. - Uniformity in Grooming and Appearance

The word uniform implies consistency and conformity with selected standards. Except as otherwise authorized in these uniform provisions, ethnic, religious, other apparel, or personal display items are not considered standard Auxiliary uniform items and therefore shall not be displayed when wearing an Auxiliary uniform.

It is impossible to provide examples of every appropriate or unacceptable hairstyle or "conservative" or "eccentric" grooming. Therefore, the good judgment of leaders at all levels

is key to upholding the Auxiliary grooming policy. Adhering to the active duty grooming and appearance standards should always be the goal for all Auxiliaries wearing the uniform.

The following standards may conflict with civilian practices, as they are service-particular and require adherence by the Auxiliary.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.b. - Shirts, Coats, and Jackets

Auxiliaries shall wear uniform shirts, coats, jackets, overcoats, and raincoats buttoned. When not wearing a tie, only the collar button may be unbuttoned. Sleeves shall not be rolled up except as authorized for the ODU and CGWU.

Military creases are optional on light blue shirts and dark blue dress shirts only. If worn, form creases by pressing two parallel vertical folds in the front of the shirt from the shoulder seam through the center of each pocket to the bottom of the shirt. For men, form three parallel vertical folds on the back, centered between the shirt side seams to the bottom of the yoke. For women, form three parallel vertical folds starting at the center of the shoulder seams and from the middle of the collar seam to the bottom of the shirt. Sewn-in military creases are not authorized.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.d. - Trousers, Slacks, Socks, and Shoes

The bottoms of trousers or slacks without cuffs should extend downward far enough to touch the shoe tops.

Socks must not be exposed when the wearer is standing.

An Auxiliary uniform shall only be worn with the shoes and socks that are authorized pursuant to this chapter. For example, neither sneakers, boat shoes, boots, nor foam clog shoes shall be worn with the Tropical Blue uniform. Exemption is authorized for footwear that serves a medically prescribed purpose and if it does not require uniform alteration. For example, a foot cast may be worn with the Service Dress Blue "Bravo" uniform if it does not require splitting the trouser leg.

Except for medically prescribed foot casts, boots, and prosthetics, other-than-Auxiliary uniform footwear are not authorized. For example, if an Auxiliary has a medical prescription to wear foam clog shoes, then the Auxiliary may not wear a Dinner Dress Jacket or Service Dress uniform to a ceremonial event and must wear comparable civilian attire instead.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.g. - Personal Display Items

Members in uniform may wear single personal display items such as a single bracelet, single necklace, single wristwatch, single ID bracelet, and rings (necklaces and neck chains must not be visible). Eccentricities in color and manner of wear (for example, large bracelets and large

chains) shall not be worn. If visible, these items shall be conservative, non-controversial, and in good taste. There shall be no more than two rings on each hand (thumb rings are not authorized; ring pairings like a wedding ring immediately adjacent to a college class ring on the same finger of a man's hand or an engagement ring/wedding ring combination on a woman's hand count as one ring).

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.h. - Earrings, Tattoos, Body Markings, and Mutilations

Men in uniform are prohibited from wearing earrings. Women in uniform may wear one earring per ear centered on the earlobe. Earrings will be 4-6mm ball studs (approximately 1/8 – 1/4 inch), natural white pearl (colored pearls are not authorized), white diamond, plain gold or silver with a shiny or brushed matte finish settings. Decorative or combination settings are not authorized. Dangling and hoop earrings are prohibited.

Auxiliary standards for tattoos, brands, body piercings, and body mutilation and modifications shall align with those in Tattoo, Body Marking, Body Piercing, and Mutilation Standards, COMDTINST 1000.1 (series, [CI link](#)). In general, tattoos, brands, markings, or mutilations anywhere on the body that are contrary to good order and discipline, contain sexually explicit material, or could promote racism, discrimination, indecency, extremism or supremacist philosophies, lawlessness, or violence are prohibited, and constitute a basis for denied enrollment or disenrollment. Initially unqualified applicants who choose to either alter or remove a disqualifying tattoo, brand, marking, or mutilation may be subsequently reconsidered for Auxiliary enrollment, provided they remain qualified for such in all other respects. However, no commitment will be made suggesting that removal or alteration of a tattoo, brand, marking, or mutilation will ensure Auxiliary acceptance.

Auxiliarists whose tattoos, brands, markings, or mutilations are determined to violate these standards will be given the opportunity to seek competent medical advice regarding removal or alteration of the disqualifying tattoo, brand, marking, or mutilation. Auxiliarists who are unable or unwilling to take the steps to satisfy the requirements will be disenrolled for cause (Chapter 3 investigative requirements are waived for this purpose).

The DIRAUX shall provide final determination in any questionable case. Reporting requirements in Tattoo, Body Marking, Body Piercing, and Mutilation Standards, COMDTINST 1000.1 (series, [CI link](#)) regarding enrollment denials and disenrollments are waived for Auxiliary program purposes.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.i. - Cosmetics, Fingernails

If worn, will be a natural look and in good taste and not contain bright colors such as blue, green, yellow, or orange.

Men and women shall keep their fingernails clean and have rounded or straight shaped nail tips. Men's fingernails will not extend past the fingertips or be colored. Women's fingernails will not extend more than 1/4-inch beyond the fingertip.

Women's fingernail color choice shall present a professional appearance in a business environment. Only one color may be worn, and all fingernails shall match. The wearing of florescent, or multi-colored polishes or nails is not authorized. Ornate decoration (such as gems) or ornamentation of the fingernail polish (such as painted pictures or designs) is not authorized. French nails are authorized with a white tip only. The white tip will be no wider than ¼ inch and must present a clean natural look.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.k. - Suspenders

Suspenders (men only) may be worn under coats and jackets to prevent them from being exposed. They shall be plain white without design or ornamentation. Red suspenders are authorized for wear with Formal Dress Blue and Dinner Dress Jacket uniforms.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.l. - Additional Jewelry

The only additional jewelry authorized are cuff links, shirt studs, tie clasps, and tie tacs. These items include the tie tacs earned at SAR school which may be worn on four-in-hand ties. Eccentricities in color, design, and manner of wear (for example, large cuff links or obtrusive tie clasps) shall not be worn. These items shall be conservative, non-controversial, and in good taste.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.m. - Miscellaneous Articles

Non-uniform articles shall not be worn or carried exposed on the uniform. Such articles include papers, pencils, pens, watch chains or fobs, pins, handkerchiefs, combs, cigarettes, cigars, pipes and similar items.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.n. - Hair, Facial Hair

The appropriateness of a hairstyle must be judged by its appearance when headgear is worn. Hairstyles such as lopsided, asymmetrical unblended, untapered, and/or undercutting are not authorized and should be corrected to an authorized hairstyle. All headgear shall fit snugly, properly, and comfortably on the head without distortion or excessive gaps.

(1) Men.

- (a) Hair must be clean, well groomed, neat, and must not present a ragged or unkempt appearance. Hair above the ears and around the neck will be tapered from the lower natural hairline upwards at least 0.75 inches and outward not greater than 0.75 inches to blend with hairstyle on top of the head. A totally clean, shaven scalp is authorized. Hair will not be blocked across the back of the neck. Hair on the back of the neck must

not touch the collar. The bulk of hair must not be more than 1.5 inches from scalp. Braids, micro-braids, or other methods of combining strands of hair are not authorized. Hair will be no longer than 4 inches and may not touch the ears, collar, extend below eyebrows when headgear is removed, show under the front edge of headgear, or interfere with properly worn military headgear or safety gear. Shaved decorative patterns or sections on the scalp are prohibited. Ponytails and buns are prohibited.

- (b) Beards, sideburns, van dykes, goatees, and mustaches are authorized. If worn, they shall be well-groomed, non-eccentric, and neatly trimmed at all times so as not to present a ragged appearance. Patches and spotty clumps of facial hair are not considered beards and are not authorized. The bulk of a beard, van dyke, or goatee (i.e., the distance that the mass of facial hair protrudes from the skin on the face) shall not exceed 1 inch unless in conformance with a religious practice. No portion of a mustache will extend below the lip line of the upper lip. Handlebar mustaches or other eccentric styles are not authorized while in uniform.
- (c) The wearing of beards and mustaches shall not interfere with the operation of oxygen masks, gas masks, or other safety/survival gear. Accordingly, an Order Issuing Authority (OIA) may prohibit the wearing of beards and mustaches for Auxiliarists that participate in their operational missions and activities.
- (d) To participate in a ceremonial event pursuant to an assignment to duty (e.g., Auxiliary color guard; parade formation), men shall be clean shaven (mustaches allowed). Auxiliary chaplains with beards may provide their religious ministry services at ceremonial events pursuant to authorization by their Coast Guard OIA.
- (e) Wigs and hairpieces, if worn, must be of a good quality and fit properly. They must be of a conservative style, conform to the hair standards above, and shall not be worn if it would present a safety hazard.

(2) Women.

- (a) Hair must be clean, well groomed, neat, and must not present a ragged or unkempt appearance. Hair coloring, if used, must look natural. Shaved decorative patterns or sections on the scalp are prohibited. Ornamentation other than prescribed in this section for women's hair styles are prohibited.
- (b) The hair may touch, but not fall below a horizontal level with the bottom edge of the shirt or jacket collar, except the foul weather parka. Hair (to include bangs) will not extend below the eyebrows.
- (c) No portion of the bulk of the hair as measured from the scalp will exceed 3.5 inches (except a bun that may extend to a maximum of 4 inches as measured out from the scalp, and the circumference of which shall be no greater than the width of the head). The bun may touch the collar but may not fall below the bottom edge of the shirt or jacket collar, except for the foul weather parka.

- (d) Hair accessories shall not add more than 3.5 inches (4 inches max. for bun) of bulk or interfere with the proper wearing of all style caps (to include the use of a hair sock). Ponytails are authorized (unpinned), but hair that would normally fall below the lower edge of the collar, shall be neatly and inconspicuously fastened, pinned, or secured to the head, so as not to fall below the collar. Ponytails may also protrude through the rear opening of the ball cap.
- (e) When a hairstyle of multiple braids, micro braids, hair extensions, locks, twists, cornrows, or weave is worn, it must stay within uniform standards and will be of small diameter (approximately 0.5 inches or less. Space between rows will not exceed 0.25 inches, and all rows must be of the same uniform dimension. Braid ends will be secured only with inconspicuous material that matches the color of the hair. Micro braids, extensions, and weaves may extend out from the scalp.
- (f) Women may wear hair in one to two braids or a single ponytail. The bulk must not exceed the width of the head and a single ponytail or braid must be centered on the back of the head. When styled, two braids must be evenly spaced and look symmetrical on the back of the head when viewed from behind. The length must not extend below a horizontal line centered between the shoulder blades. Hair must be confined in environments where entanglement or other occupational safety hazards exist. Situations requiring temporary hair adjustment include, but are not limited to, operating or being near hazardous machinery or equipment, rotary equipment, moving parts, hazardous chemicals, or flames. Additionally, hair must be secured adequately to prevent obstructing the wearer's field of vision.
- (g) The following hairstyles are not authorized: lopsided hairstyles; extremely asymmetrical hairstyles; single braid that goes down one side of the head; widely spaced individual hanging locks or braids; and pigtailed that protrude from the head.
- (h) Hairpins (bobby pins), small barrettes, elastic bands, small plain scrunchies (elastic bands covered with material not to exceed one inch in width) only brown, black, navy blue or individuals hair color are authorized, wingless hair claws (not to exceed 3 inches in length and 1 inch width), along with small combs that are plain black, navy blue, brown, or color similar to the individual's hair are authorized. Hair claws must not interfere with the proper wearing of head gear (and/or safety gear). Commanding officers may restrict the wear of hair accessories or ponytails while engaged in operational environments where there is risk to personal safety or foreign object damage (FOD) hazard.
- (i) The following hair accessories are not authorized: headbands; sweatbands; devices that are conspicuous, excessive, or decorative to include, but not limited to: large/lacy scrunchies; beads; bows; decorative pins; decorative barrettes. Foreign material (e.g., ribbons, beads, decorative items) will not be woven into the hair.
- (j) A single wingless hair claw is authorized. The wingless claw must be black, navy blue, brown or closely match the member's hair. It shall not exceed 3 inches in length and 1 inch in width.

- (k) Wigs and hairpieces, if worn, must be of a good quality and fit properly. They must be of a conservative style, conform to the hair standards above, and shall not be worn if it would present a safety hazard.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.p. – Eyewear and Sunglasses

Frame and lens styles must be conservative and in good taste. Mirrored lenses are prohibited. Eyewear and sunglasses may be worn in accordance with provisions of the Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series, [CIM link](#)). Their wear is authorized with the AWU and subject to such provisions.

AuxMan Section 10.C.3.q. - Religious Apparel

Religious apparel is defined as articles of clothing worn as part of the doctrinal or traditional observance of the religious faith practiced by the member. Auxiliarists may wear religious apparel while in uniform, provided the religious apparel, other than religious headgear, is not visible, does not interfere with the Auxiliarist's performance of duty, and does not interfere with the fit of any uniform article or the Auxiliarist's appearance in uniform. An Auxiliarist may be asked by anyone in their COLM to provide objective and verifiable information describing the relationship between the article of religious apparel and the doctrinal or traditional observance of the religious faith practiced by the Auxiliarist.

Headgear must be black or match the hair color of the wearer. It must be of a style and size that it can be completely covered by, and not interfere with, the wearing or appearance of any prescribed Auxiliary uniform headgear, whether the uniform headgear is being worn or not. It cannot cover any portion of the face or forehead. It cannot interfere with the proper wear or function of protective clothing or equipment. It cannot bear any writing, symbols, or pictures, including writing or images woven into the fabric or the headgear, and it shall not be worn in place of prescribed Auxiliary uniform headgear when such uniform headgear is required in accordance with Auxiliary uniform policies.

The Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series, [CIM link](#)), shall be referred to for further guidance and application to Auxiliary uniforms regarding the wear of religious apparel. When the relationship between any article of religious apparel and the doctrinal or traditional observance of the religious faith of the Auxiliarist cannot be clearly established, the case shall be referred to Commandant (CG-BSX-1), via the COLM, for final resolution.

AuxMan Section 10.E.2. - Blue Blazer Outfit

The Blue Blazer may be single-breasted, two- or three-button, with civilian or Auxiliary buttons, and with pockets (any kind). Material is dark blue flannel, tropical worsted, or similar commercial blend. The official blazer patch shall be worn on the left breast pocket. It shall be

round in appearance and display the Auxiliary logo with stars around it. It may be sewn directly on the pocket or be displayed on a removable fold-over backing which can hang out of the pocket so as to give the appearance of being sewn on the pocket.

The Blue Blazer outfit is highly recommended to be worn when an Auxiliarist in uniform does not present an appearance in keeping with organizational standards of wear, or if authorized sources of uniform items do not stock or have properly fitting sizes of other prescribed uniforms. It may be authorized by unit Commanding Officers for wear in office spaces while on duty at Coast Guard units. In accordance with section 10.A.8., it may also be worn for formal and ceremonial occasions if an Auxiliarist does not possess any other uniforms authorized for such.

The Blue Blazer outfit shall be worn when an Auxiliarist does not have any other authorized Auxiliary uniform to wear in a non-operational activity. It shall not be worn in lieu of the ODU, CGWU, AWU, or HWU (if regionally authorized) for operational activities. It shall not be worn in lieu of a uniform prescribed for a specific activity (e.g., it shall not be worn in lieu of Service Dress Blue "Bravo" prescribed for a color guard; it shall not be worn in lieu of Tropical Blue prescribed for a parade formation).

AuxMan Section 10.E.4. - Auxiliary Operations Polo Shirt

The legacy Auxiliary Operations polo shirt may be worn as an alternative top for the ODU, CGWU, AWU, and HWU versions (if regionally authorized) for patrol activities until no longer serviceable. No logos, patches, insignia, name tapes, nor name tags of any type may be worn on this shirt.

AuxMan Section 10.E.5. – Vessel Examiner (VE) Polo Shirt (new section)

The AUXCEN carries the only authorized VE polo shirts. White, navy blue, and powder blue versions of the shirt are authorized. No insignia, name tags, or devices shall be worn on it. It may be worn as an alternative top for the ODU, CGWU, AWU, and HWU versions (if regionally authorized) for VE activities. When wearing the VE polo shirt, headgear shall not display office insignia; only the member device shall be displayed.

AuxMan Section 10.E.6. - Alternative Work Uniform (new section)

The Alternative Work Uniform (AWU) is the Auxiliary's alternative work uniform to the ODU and CGWU. It shall be worn by Auxiliarists who need a work uniform and are unable to obtain the ODU or CGWU due to lack of size availability.

The AWU's main components are a Navy blue polo shirt top (short sleeve or long sleeve versions) and Navy blue tactical trouser with the black web belt with a silver buckle and tip (the buckle may be plain or display the Auxiliary emblem). The basic riggers belt is an

authorized optional belt for AWU wear. The shirt shall have three black collar buttons with no pockets. It may be 100 percent cotton or be made of a cotton-polyester blend to facilitate moisture wicking. The LAST NAME of the Auxiliarist shall be embroidered on the right front side in white 5/8-inch-tall block letters. The Auxiliary emblem shall be embroidered in white on the left front side. Both lettering and emblem must be parallel to the bottom hem of the shirt. The bottoms of the lettering and emblem shall be placed six inches down from the center of their respective shoulder seams and appear to be straight across from each other on the same plane. The lettering shall be centered between the button line and the arm seam on the wearer's right front side. The emblem shall be centered between the button line and the arm seam on the wearer's left side.

Men must wear the men's AWU shirt tucked in. Women may wear the women's AWU shirt either tucked or untucked. The trouser shall be the 5.11 Tactical pant and shall always be worn unbloused.

Ancillary AWU items include: the Coast Guard dark blue crew neck T-shirt (optional); the Auxiliary ball cap is the only authorized AWU headgear; and socks shall be black and undecorated except for the HWU version (if regionally authorized) in which case socks shall be all white, athletic type, and crew length.

Shoes shall be well-blackened and shined 6-inch, 8-inch, or 10-inch safety boots. Excess laces shall be tucked away so they cannot be seen. Safety boots shall be prescribed and worn whenever the nature of the work requires foot protection.

The boat shoe, (dark blue or brown leather, low cut of moccasin type construction with functional rawhide lacing, brass eyelets, and non-marking sole) is an authorized option for Auxiliarists (regular or HWU version).

The black shoe authorized for wear with the Tropical Blue uniform and a black postal-approved plain-toe Oxford-style shoe is also authorized AWU footwear. These black shoe options shall not be worn for operational activities (e.g., not worn for surface and aviation missions), and boat shoes shall not be worn for more formal public or Coast Guard engagement activities (e.g., not for Coast Guard station watchstanding or for teaching public education classes).

All white or black or all dark/navy blue, low top, athletic shoes with nonskid/non-marking soles are also authorized for Auxiliarists.

An HWU version is authorized for the AWU based on the following modification: the AWU trouser may be hemmed at or one (1) inch above the knee. No other modifications to the AWU are authorized. The AWU shirt must be worn with the HWU version of the AWU.

The foul weather parka or windbreaker jacket may be worn over the AWU when environmental conditions warrant.

AuxMan Section 10.F.3. - Name Tags

A name tag identifies an Auxiliarist by name and as an Auxiliarist. Name tags shall be 33/16 inches wide, and 3/8 inch high. They shall be white with Coast Guard blue lettering. Names shall be horizontally centered on the name tag in 1/4-inch letters. Beneath the name shall be centered horizontally, in 3/16-inch letters, "U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY." Name tags shall be made of Bakelite or similar material to hold the hard finish and will have clutch-type fasteners. No insignia are authorized to be worn on any name tags. Auxiliarists may wear these name tags on civilian attire when serving in an Auxiliary capacity.

The Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series, [CIM link](#)), authorize active duty and Reserve personnel to wear name tags that display first and last names in lieu of the standard name tag (last name only). An individual's first and last name and the "U.S. COAST GUARD" legend letter sizes must be the same as for the standard name tag. This applies only to name tags of Bakelite or similar material, not to cloth name tapes. Commands have the authority to require the standard name tag (i.e., first name not displayed) when a higher level of uniformity is necessary.

Auxiliarists are similarly authorized to wear name tags with first and last names displayed in accordance with these guidelines. A displayed first name must be the Auxiliarist's full common first name or conventional shortened derivative (e.g., Mike instead of Michael). Nicknames or parenthesized names are not authorized (e.g., Doc, Mac, Lefty). Auxiliarists must also have a standard name tag (i.e., first name not displayed) for when a higher level of uniformity is necessary.

Auxiliary interpreters may wear a pin-on Auxiliary interpreter name tag with the Service Dress Blue ("Alpha" and "Bravo"), Winter Dress Blue, and Tropical Blue uniforms during authorized interpreter missions. It shall display the full first and last name in the first row and the word "INTERPRETER" in the second row in place of the traditional words "U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY."

Similarly, Auxiliary chaplain support personnel may wear a pin-on Auxiliary chaplain name tag with the Service Dress White, Service Dress Blue ("Alpha" and "Bravo"), Winter Dress Blue, and Tropical Blue uniforms during authorized Auxiliary chaplain support missions. It shall display the full first and last name in the first row and the words "AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN" in the second row in place of the traditional words "U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY."

AuxMan Section 10.H.3.a. - Shirt

The Coast Guard dark blue crew neck T-shirt is the prescribed shirt with this uniform. The requirement for printed or embroidered "USCG AUXILIARY" lettering on the T-shirt has been removed. Printed or embroidered T-shirts remain authorized until no longer serviceable. Such T-shirts shall display the words "USCG AUXILIARY" across the front left chest in

white ¾-inch tall block-style letters (they must be printed or embroidered identically to promote unit identity and professional appearance).

The T-shirt shall be in good condition with no tears or stains. It may be 100 percent cotton or be made of a cotton-polyester blend to facilitate moisture wicking. Any shirt worn with this uniform must be worn tucked in.

AuxMan Section 10.H.3.b. - Shorts

Modified standard Coast Guard ODU, CGWU, or AWU trousers hemmed at or 1 inch above the knee are worn.

AuxMan Section 10.H.3.c. - Belt

If modified standard ODU, CGWU, or AWU trousers are worn, then the standard black web belt with a silver buckle and tip is worn (the buckle may be plain or display the Auxiliary emblem). The basic riggers belt is an authorized optional belt.

AuxMan Section 10.H.3.e. - Shoes

Shoes shall be well-blackened and shined 8-inch or 10-inch safety boots. Excess laces shall be tucked away so they cannot be seen. Safety boots shall be prescribed and worn whenever the nature of the work requires foot protection.

The boat shoe, (dark blue or brown leather, low cut of moccasin type construction with functional rawhide lacing, brass eyelets, and non-marking sole) is an authorized option for Auxiliarists when wearing the ODU, CGWU, or AWU (regular or HWU version).

All white or black or all dark/navy blue, low top, athletic shoes with nonskid/non-marking soles are also authorized for Auxiliarists.

AuxMan Section 10.H.3.h. - Hat

The Auxiliary ball cap and Coast Guard unit ball cap (if authorized) are the prescribed hats to be worn with this uniform. The Boonie hat and Tilley hat may be worn as an option.

AuxMan Section 10.H.4. - Operational Dress Uniform (ODU) and Coast Guard Working Uniform (CGWU)

The ODU, and CGWU when available, are the principal general-purpose, everyday Coast Guard work uniforms. They may be worn year-round primarily as a field utility and watchstanding uniform. They are intended for wear in any situation that does not require a dress uniform including patrols, vessel safety checks, and Coast Guard unit office wear at Commanding Officer's discretion. They shall not be worn as a substitute for coveralls.

The Auxiliary version of the CGWU will be similar in general appearance as that worn by active duty and Reserve personnel, but it will have distinct differences to facilitate Auxiliary identification. Upon its availability, all Auxiliarists will be authorized and encouraged to wear the CGWU. The untucked ODU will remain authorized for wear until no longer serviceable.

Auxiliarists shall carefully consider the propriety of ODU and CGWU wear in settings that are highly representational in nature, where the type of interaction with the public dictates more formality, or settings in an interagency environment. In DoD, joint or inter-service environments, wear of the ODU or CGWU should align with the DoD equivalent uniform of the day. The ODU or CGWU should not be worn for visits to civilian agencies or non-Coast Guard organizations unless the prescribed uniform of the day is the ODU, CGWU, or DoD equivalent at the visit site. However, in some cases the ODU or CGWU may be appropriate due to the operational nature of the visit or the nature of the work to be performed. It may also be worn during the following authorized circumstances:

- a. While traveling in government vehicles, vessels, or aircraft, or while traveling on orders in a foreign country (if approved by the cognizant U.S. Embassy).
- b. While commuting to and from duty assignments, using either private or public forms of transportation (including brief stops in convenience or retail stores associated with the commute).
- c. While in an educational environment at other Coast Guard or DoD agencies (as directed by the appropriate Commanding Officer), or Auxiliary member training and conference events if prescribed by the event sponsor (e.g., FC; DCDR; DCO).

The ODU or CGWU shall only be worn in Coast Guard standard sizes from Coast Guard standard stock from a Coast Guard exchange or the UDC. ODU and CGWU substitution look-alikes are not authorized. Like other Coast Guard uniforms, the ODU and CGWU must fit properly (see Figure 10-30).

Auxiliarists shall pay particular attention to appearance while wearing the ODU or CGWU. They shall be serviceable, well-maintained, clean, and not faded or discolored. In addition to the following general provisions, proper wear and maintenance shall be as prescribed in the

Uniform Regulations, COMDTINST M1020.6 (series, [CIM link](#)), or other relevant Coast Guard policy.

The tucked ODU version is no longer authorized for wear regardless of whether it is in serviceable condition.

Provisions for ODU wear are also applicable for the CGWU for the following uniform items: trousers; belt; shirt; socks; insignia; breast insignia/devices; hat; and accessories.

AuxMan Section 10.H.4.c. – Shirt

The ODU or CGWU top is an integral part of the uniform. If the ODU or CGWU top sleeves are rolled up, they shall be done in prescribed accordion style with only the cuff showing. The ODU or CGWU top may only be removed temporarily when working in demanding, prolonged operations in high temperatures. Such relaxed wear is not authorized for routine wear in the office environment, in public, nor for wear while commuting to and from duty assignments, including in private vehicles.

The Coast Guard blue crew neck T-shirt is the prescribed shirt with this uniform. The requirement for printed or embroidered “USCG AUXILIARY” lettering on the T-shirt has been removed. Printed or embroidered T-shirts remain authorized until no longer serviceable. Such T-shirts shall display the words “USCG AUXILIARY” across the front left chest in white ³/₄-inch tall block-style letters (they must be printed or embroidered identically to promote unit identity and professional appearance).

The T-shirt shall be in good condition with no tears or stains. It may be 100 percent cotton or be made of a cotton-polyester blend to facilitate moisture wicking. Any shirt worn with the uniform must be worn tucked in.

AuxMan Section 10.H.4.e. - Shoes

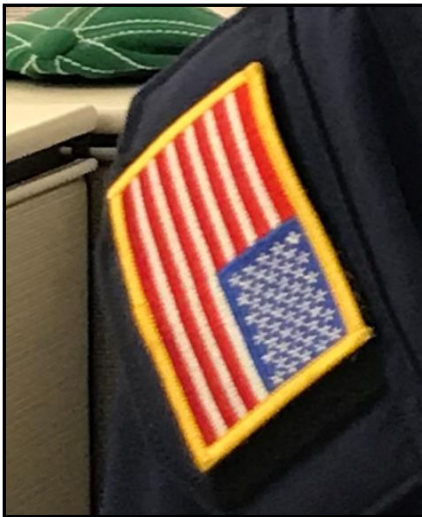
Shoes shall be well-blackened and shined, 6-inch, 8-inch, or 10-inch safety boots. Excess laces shall be tucked away so they cannot be seen. Safety boots shall be prescribed and worn whenever the nature of the work requires foot protection.

The boat shoe, (dark blue or brown leather, low cut of moccasin type construction with functional rawhide lacing, brass eyelets, and non-marking sole) is an authorized option for Auxiliarists when wearing the ODU or CGWU (regular or hot weather version).

All white or black or all dark/navy blue, low top, athletic shoes with nonskid/non-marking soles are also authorized for Auxiliarists.

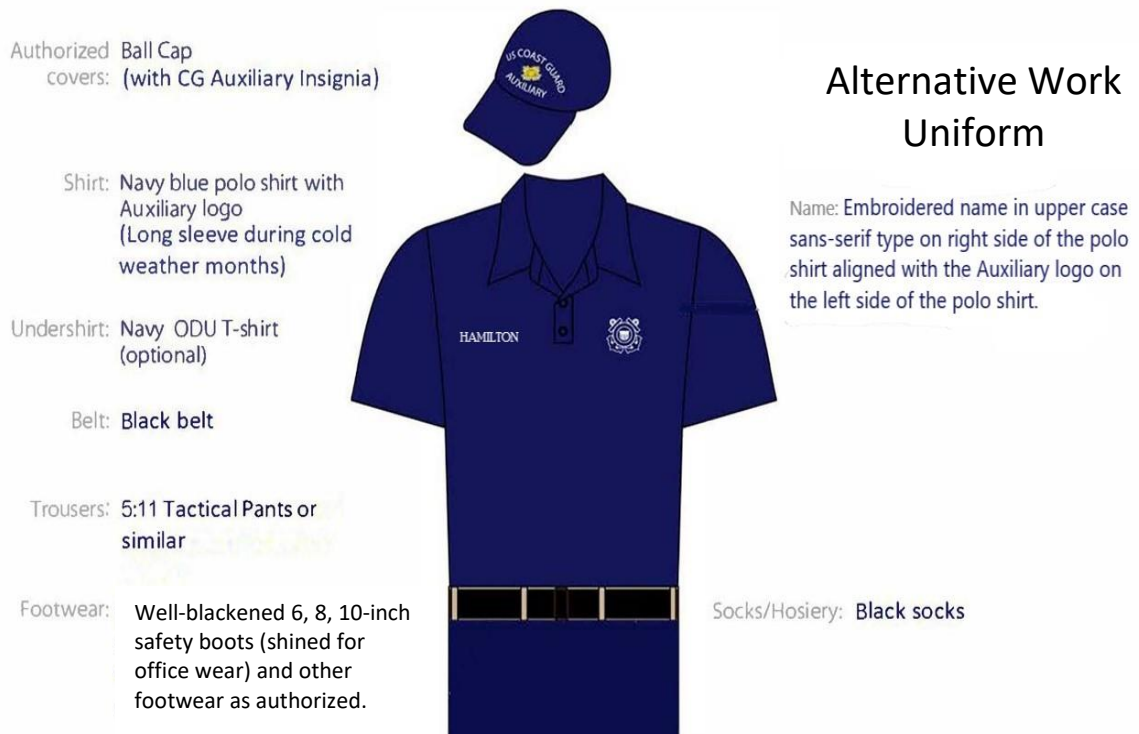
Section 2. Auxiliary Coast Guard Working Uniform (CGWU) Components

1. The Auxiliary version of the CGWU's principal components are:
 - a. Dark blue CGWU blouse with:
 - (1) Grey name tapes with blue lettering.
 - (2) Auxiliary patch on the left shoulder.
 - (3) Full-color U.S. flag patch on the right shoulder (the flag patch must be the reverse of conventional display with the blue star field in the upper right-hand corner).
 - b. Dark blue CGWU trousers.
 - c. Well-blackened 6-inch, 8-inch, or 10-inch safety boots (boat shoes and athletic shoes are also authorized as described in Auxiliary uniform policies).
 - d. Auxiliary ball cap.



Section 3. Alternative Work Uniform (AWU) Components

1. The AWU's principal components are:
 - a. Navy blue polo shirt (short or long sleeve version authorized) with:
 - (1) Embroidered Auxiliary emblem on the left breast.
 - (2) Embroidered Auxiliarist's last name on the right breast.
 - b. Navy blue 5.11 tactical pants.
 - c. Well-blackened 6-inch, 8-inch, or 10-inch safety boots (boat shoes, athletic shoes, the black shoe authorized for wear with the Tropical Blue uniform, and a black postal-approved plain-toe Oxford-style shoe are also authorized as described in Auxiliary uniform policies).
 - d. Auxiliary ball cap.



Section 4. Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Inspection Guidelines

1. Auxiliarists must present a consistently proud and professional appearance that will reflect positively on the Nation, the Coast Guard, and themselves. Uniform appearance is a key element for how the public perceives the Coast Guard and its Auxiliary, and how Coast Guard and Auxiliary men and women honor their country and the service.
2. Auxiliary leaders at every organizational level are responsible to promote and enforce high standards for uniform appearance. Auxiliarists must maintain proper decorum and present themselves with pride. For example, when walking from point to point in uniform, Auxiliarists will not smoke, eat, drink, use hand-held devices (i.e., talking, texting, or reading), or keep hands in their pockets. Although the use of hand-held electronic devices is discouraged, limited use for official business is authorized. If unavoidable, for safety and to ensure military protocol is observed, personnel should stop and step aside to conduct business before proceeding.
3. Auxiliarists are responsible for adhering to uniform and appearance standards applicable to their gender and maintaining their personal appearance and their uniforms to reflect the long and proud history and traditions of the Coast Guard.
4. Dinner Dress Jacket uniforms, Hot Weather Uniform (HWU) versions, the Auxiliary jump suit, flight suit, or any organizational clothing (defined as Coast Guard unit-owned clothing that is issued to individuals) are not authorized for the purpose of the annual uniform inspection. It is the Auxiliarist's choice as to which other uniform is worn for the annual inspection. If the inspection is for a specified assignment to duty (e.g., in advance of providing support at a Coast Guard unit), then the Auxiliarist shall wear the uniform expected to be worn for that assignment. Any headgear authorized with the inspection uniform may be worn.
5. Grooming standards are based on several elements including neatness, cleanliness, safety, and service image. Forms of altering an individual's appearance, such as the use of cosmetics, hair color or styles, colored contact lenses, fingernail color and length, tattoos, body markings, body piercings, etc., that are not in keeping with the customs, traditions, and spirit of uniform appearance are not acceptable for Auxiliarists in uniform.
6. Inspections shall include presentation and review of an Auxiliarist's ID card. If the Auxiliarist's ID card is expired or the photo no longer resembles their appearance, it is the Auxiliarist's responsibility to obtain a new ID card as soon as possible.
7. It is impossible to provide examples of every appropriate or unacceptable hairstyle or "conservative" or "eccentric" grooming, therefore the good judgment of leaders at all levels is key to upholding Auxiliary appearance policies. The propriety of a hairstyle must also be judged by its appearance when headgear is worn. All headgear shall fit snugly, properly, and comfortably on the head without distortion or excessive gaps. Hair shall not be visible below the hat's front brim or extend beyond the forward point of the garrison cap.

Item	Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Inspection Guidelines
Uniforms	Neat / clean / pressed as applicable / proper fit / in good condition (no tears, fraying, or worn-out material) / properly zipped, snapped, buttoned unless otherwise authorized / t-shirts worn as required / nametags, ribbons, devices, insignia clean and worn in proper order and locations.
Headgear	Neat / clean / pressed as applicable / proper fit / in good condition (no tears, fraying or worn-out material).
Footwear	Oxfords, pumps, or flats shined / boots well blackened / edges dressed / all in good condition.
Brass	Polished and in good condition.
Watches	Conservative (only one may be worn) / conservative examples are black, brown, navy blue, silver or gold / prohibited examples include diamond covered, neon, white, and bright colors / personnel shall not wear watches that are so large they detract from the appearance of the uniform / bands shall be 1 inch or less / watches include fitness trackers that meet the above specifications.
Bracelets	Limited to medical alert or those required for military purposes / POW/MIA/KIA bracelets (only one may be worn) are authorized / ankle bracelets are not authorized.
Necklaces	Concealed.
Rings	Maximum of two rings per hand / engagement/wedding ring or class/wedding ring sets are counted as one ring / thumb rings are not authorized
Earrings	Women only (earrings are not authorized for men in uniform at any time) / one earring per ear centered on the earlobe / earrings will be 4-6mm ball studs (approx. 1/8 – 1/4 inch), natural white pearl (colored pearls are not authorized), plain gold or silver with a shiny or brushed matte finish settings / decorative or combination settings not authorized.
Cuff Links	Plain silver or plain silver adorned with the Auxiliary miniature member device / may be worn on long sleeve shirts that have cuff link holes.
Tie Bars or Tie Tacks	Required for wear anytime the four-in-hand tie is worn / plain silver tie bar adorned with the Auxiliary miniature member device, approximately 3/16 inches wide / tie tacks must be no more than 3/4 inches in diameter / Auxiliarists may only wear tie bar or tie tack replicas of military or school insignia that they earned while in the Coast Guard (e.g., the SAR School Graduate tie tack) / tie tacks and tie bars shall be aligned with the middle of the shirt pocket and shall not be visible when wearing the Service Dress Blue “Bravo” coat.
Personal Religious Items	Concealed or worn only during religious services.

<p>Eyewear or Sunglasses</p>	<p>Frame, lens, contact lens styles will not be outlandish as to cause distraction from military bearing / sunglass frames must be conservative (unadorned black or navy blue material; gold or silver wire) and lenses must be black or brown in color (mirrored lenses are prohibited) / sunglasses are not authorized in formation or for inspection unless the need to wear sunglasses has been certified by medical authorities / personnel will not wear lenses or frames that are so large or so small that they detract from the appearance of the uniform / eyewear retainer straps (strap, cord, etc.) are authorized to be worn with ODU, CGWU, Tropical Blue, Winter Dress Blue, and Alternative Work Uniform but only in a work environment / if eyewear retainer are used, they shall be plain black or blue and worn either loose or tightly fitted against the back of the head / eyewear or sunglasses must be worn over the eyes and not on top or the back of the head or cover when not in use.</p>
<p>Hair / Facial Hair</p>	<p><u>Men:</u> Hair must be clean, well groomed, neat, and must not present a ragged or unkempt appearance. Shaved decorative patterns or sections on the scalp are prohibited / ponytails and buns are prohibited. A totally clean, shaven scalp is authorized. Hair will not be blocked across the back of the neck. Hair on the back of the neck must not touch the collar. The bulk of hair must not be more than 1.5 inches from scalp. Braids, micro-braids, or other methods of combining strands of hair are not authorized. Hair will be no longer than 4 inches and may not touch the ears, collar, extend below eyebrows when headgear is removed, show under the front edge of headgear, or interfere with properly worn military headgear or safety gear.</p> <p>Beards, sideburns, van dykes, goatees, and mustaches if worn, shall be well-groomed, non-eccentric, and neatly trimmed at all times so as not to present a ragged appearance / no portion of a mustache will extend below the lip line of the upper lip / handlebar mustaches or other eccentric styles are not authorized while in uniform / patches and spotty clumps of facial hair are not considered beards and are not authorized.</p> <p><u>Women:</u> Hair must be clean, well groomed, neat, and must not present a ragged or unkempt appearance. Hair coloring, if used, must look natural / shaved decorative patterns or sections on the scalp are prohibited / hair may touch, but not fall below a horizontal level with the bottom edge of the shirt or jacket collar, except the foul weather parka / hair (to include bangs) will not extend below the eyebrows.</p> <p>No portion of the bulk of hair as measured from the scalp may exceed 3.5 inches (except a bun may extend up to 4 inches as measured out from the scalp, the circumference of which shall be no greater than the width of the head) / the bun may touch the collar, but may not fall below the bottom edge of the shirt or jacket collar, with the exception of the foul weather parka / appropriate hair claws are authorized but must not interfere with proper wearing of headgear.</p> <p>Braids, corn rows, locks and twists are authorized with diameters up to one-half inch with no more than one-quarter inch between rows / unpinned pony tails are authorized / they shall not extend beyond the bottom of the shirt collar, and if so are required to be pinned/fastened securely to the head in order to maintain this limit / pony tails are authorized to be pulled through a ball cap rear opening.</p>

Section 5. Acronyms

AIM	Academy Introduction Mission
ANACO-FC	Assistant National Commodore - FORCECOM
AP	Approval Pending (membership status)
AUAPP	Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Pilot Program
AUAWG	Auxiliary Uniform and Appearance Work Group
AUXCEN	Auxiliary Center (warehouse)
AUXLWO	Auxiliary Lifejacket Wear Observation Program
AWU	Alternative Work Uniform
AX	Operational Auxiliarist (membership status)
BQ	Basically Qualified (membership status)
CFVE	Commercial Fishing Vessel Examination
CG-BSX-1	CG Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety, Auxiliary Division
CG-PSC-PSD-MU	CG Personnel Services Command, Office of Military Uniforms
CGES	Coast Guard Exchange System
CGWU	Coast Guard Working Uniform
CHDIRAUX	Chief Director of Auxiliary (CG-BSX)
COLM	Chain of Leadership and Management
COMDTINST	Commandant Instruction
DCAPT	District Captain
DCDR	Division Commander
DCO	District Commodore
DIRAUX	District Director of Auxiliary (dpa)
DoD	Department of Defense
DTRAIN	District Training Conference
FC	Flotilla Commander
FOD	Foreign Object Damage
HWU	Hot Weather Uniform
ID	Identification
IQ	Initially Qualified (membership status)
IPFC	Immediate Past Flotilla Commander
IS	Information Services (staff officer)
MA	Materials (staff officer)
NEXCOM	National Executive Committee
ODU	Operational Dress Uniform
OIA	Order Issuing Authority
SAR	Search and Rescue
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
VCDR	Vice Division Commander
VE	Vessel Examiner
VFC	Vice Flotilla Commander

