

AP 3905 Display of the United States Flag

Time and Occasions for Display

1. It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaves in the open. However, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
2. The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
3. The flag should be displayed on all days except as noted below
 - a. The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.

Manner of Display

1. The flag, when carried in a procession with another flag or flags, should be either on the marching right; that is, the flag's own right, or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.
2. No other flag or pennant should be placed above or, if on the same level, to the right of the flag of the United States of America.
3. No person shall display the flag of the United Nations or any other national or international flag equal, above, or in a position of superior prominence or honor to or in place of the flag of the United States.
4. The flag of the United States of America, when it is displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the right, the flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.
5. The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.
6. When flags of states, cities, or localities, pennants of societies, or celebratory flags are flown on the same halyard with the flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No such flag or pennant may be placed above the flag of the United States or to the United States flag's right.
7. When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.
8. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.
9. When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.
10. When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker. When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the right of the audience.
11. The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statute or monument, but it should never be used as the covering for the statute or monument.

Half Staff

1. The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position.
2. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day.
3. On Memorial Day, the flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff.
4. By order of the President of the United States, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States government and the governor of a state, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory.
5. In the event of the death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized local customs or practices not inconsistent with law.
6. In the event of the death of a present or former official of state government, or the death of a member of the Armed Forces, the governor may proclaim that the national flag shall be flown at half-staff.
7. When the governor issues a proclamation under the preceding sentence that the national flag be flown at half-staff because of the death of a member of the Armed Forces, the national flag flown at any federal installation or facility in the area covered by that proclamation shall be flown at half-staff consistent with that proclamation.
8. The flag shall be flown at half-staff 30 days from the death of the President of the United States or a former President; ten days from the day of death of the Vice-President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives; from the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a Secretary of an executive or military department, a former Vice-President, or the governor of a state, territory, or possession; and on the day of death and the following day for a member of Congress.
9. The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day (third Saturday of May).
10. The CEO of the District may order the flag flown at half-staff upon the death of prominent members of the local or college community; or upon directions of the United States President. In such cases the CEO will determine the length of time the flag is to be flown at half-staff and will inform the campus community why the flag is at half-staff.

Board Approval Date: June 14, 2017

Next Review Date: Spring, 2023