

**EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE**  
**Policies, Procedures, and Guidelines**

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**SUBJECT: Flag Etiquette**

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**APPROVED BY:**

  
Board Chair

**REVIEWED: 09-05-2017 BY: Board**

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**POLICY:**

It shall be the policy of the East County Fire and Rescue District to fly the United States Flag, and the Washington State Flag, here after referred as "The Colors," each day in accordance with the references contained herein.

The "Colors" shall fly between sunrise and sunset at the headquarters station, and each station staffed. (The duty Chief and/or duty Officer may choose not to raise the "Colors" during extreme inclement weather.)

The "Colors" may be flown after sunset if appropriate lighting is provided.

**HONORS:**

It shall be the policy of the East County Fire and Rescue District to fly "Colors" at half staff when so ordered by executive order of the President, or Governor of the State, or in the event of the death of any member of the District in the line of duty.

The chairman or Fire chief may order all District Flags to fly at half staff on the day of death (or notification) and the day of any service honoring the person's memory, or for a period to be determined not to exceed thirty days.

This honor may also be ordered for any current, or past: Commissioners, Chiefs, Officers, Firefighters, Paramedics, Emergency Medical Techs, Fire Corps, and/or administrative members of the District to honor their memory.

On Memorial Day, the "Colors" shall be flown at half staff until noon, and then raised to full staff until lowered for the day.

In accordance with the references the "Colors", when flown at half staff, it first should be hoisted to the peak for an instant, and then lowered to the half staff position. The "Colors" should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day at sunset.

**Reference: a 36 U.S. Code, Sections 171-178 (Flag Code)**

**Reference b. RCW 1.20.015**