

## **Flag Presentation**

The United States Flag Code establishes advisory rules for display and care of the flag of the United States. It is Section 1 of Title 4 of the United States Code (4 U.S.C. § 1 et seq). The following guidelines should be followed during periods when the flag is being paraded, the Pledge of Allegiance is given or the national anthem is played, and when the flag is in mourning:

### **Parading and Saluting the Flag:**

- When carried in a procession, the flag should be to the right of the marchers.
- When other flags are carried, the flag of the United States may be centered in front of the others or carried to their right. When the flag passes in a procession, or when it is hoisted or lowered, all should face the flag and salute.
- To salute, all persons come to attention.
- Those in uniform give the appropriate formal salute.
- Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present but not in uniform may render the military salute.
- Citizens not in uniform salute by placing their right hand over the heart and men with head cover should remove it and hold it to left shoulder, hand over the heart.
- Members of uniformed organizations in formation salute upon command of the person in charge.

**The Pledge of Allegiance.** All present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart;

**National Anthem.** The composition consisting of the words and music known as the Star-Spangled Banner is the national anthem. During a rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed:

- All present except those in uniform should stand at attention.
- Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold the headdress at the left shoulder,
- Members of the Armed Forces and veterans who are present and not in uniform may render the military salute.
- Individuals in uniform should give the military salute at the first note of the anthem and maintain that position until the last note; and

- **When the flag is not displayed, all present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed.**

### **The Flag in Mourning:**

- **To place the flag at half-staff (or half-mast, on ships), hoist it to the peak for an instant and lower it to a position half way between the top and bottom of the staff.**
- **The flag is to be raised again to the peak for a moment before it is lowered.**
- **On Memorial Day, the flag is displayed at half-staff until noon and at full staff from noon to sunset.**
- **The flag is to be flown at half-staff in mourning for the death of designated, principal government leaders.**
- **The flag is to be flown at half-staff for thirty days in mourning for the death of the current or former President of the United States.**
- **The U.S. flag is otherwise flown at half-staff (or half-mast, on ships) only when directed by the President of the United States, a state governor (within that state), or the mayor of Washington D.C. (within the district).**
- **When used to cover a casket or coffin, the flag should be placed with the union at the head and over the left shoulder. It should not be lowered into the grave.**
- **The U.S. Flag is to be flown half-staff on Patriot Day (11 SEP)**

[Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_Flag\\_Code](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Flag_Code) Jul 2010 ++]