



*Fraternal Order of Police*

# National Honor Guard Demonstration

*Washington, DC*



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## 2009 National Police Week, Washington, DC

### **EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS / RESTRICTIONS FOR COMPETITORS:**

Teams will be required to perform three different functions that will be judged during the competition. They are the **Team Inspection**, the Color Guard **Posting of the Colors** and an **Exhibition Phase**. During each phase of the competition, teams and team members will be judged in uniformity and military bearing. The variations of marching styles will not be penalized, rather judged for bearing, precision, straight lines, uniformity, etc. References/suggestions for proper protocol can be found at these web sites: <https://atiam.train.army.mil/soldierPortal/atia/adlsc/view/public/8390-1/fm/3-21.5/toc.htm> and <http://www.1stbattalion3rdmarines.com/Drill-Manual.htm>

All teams are responsible for bringing all of their own equipment, including flags, poles, bases, parade equipment, rifles, swords, etc. Teams bringing rifles or side arms must comply with all federal, state and local requirements, concerning the transportation of such items.

The Honor Guard Demonstration/Competition is a one (1) day team event consisting of three segments including the Team Inspection, the Color Guard Posting of the Colors and the Exhibition Phase. Teams should arrive 30 minutes prior to their assigned starting time. Please note there will be no changing facilities on site. Team leaders will be notified of their start time prior to arriving in DC. Teams arriving late or not prepared may be disqualified.

### **TEAM PARTICIPANTS:**

Competitors shall be full time or retired law enforcement officers from the same agency or organization. Each team shall have a minimum of 4 and not more than 8 members. One of those members shall be designated as a team leader; however, they will actively participate in the phases. **Each member must participate in all of the phases of the competition.**

### **COMPETITION / EVENT COORDINATOR:**

Ken Roske, National Memorial Committee  
2527 West Kennewick Ave. #207  
Kennewick, Washington 99336  
Office: (509) 736-2079  
Email: [policeweekhg@aol.com](mailto:policeweekhg@aol.com)

## REGISTRATION AND DEADLINE

There is no fee for this event and there will be a maximum number of teams allowed to participate. Team registration will be accepted up to the maximum team cut off so early registration is important. Only online registrations will be accepted. If you do not receive an acknowledgement reply to your registration within 48 hours, contact Ken Roske at (509) 736-2079

### JUDGES:

To be announced

### VENUE:

John Marshall Plaza (4<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania Ave)

### DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENTS AND GENERAL RULES:

The Honor Guard competition is composed of three separate events.

- 1) The Team Inspection
- 2) The Posting of the Colors.
- 3) Exhibition Phase

**Preparation:** Prior to the designated time for teams to begin the Team Inspection, teams will have an opportunity to assemble on a "ready line" before moving to the Inspection line. While on the ready line, members of the Honor Guard team may **silently** make one last inspection of their uniforms and equipment, to remove any lint, or dust and to straighten creases and gig lines, etc. At the appointed time, the Honor Guard Unit in competition shall move up to the Inspection Line and follow the instructions for competition.

- 1) **Team Inspection:** The Team Leader shall present the team for judging at the designated inspection location (the Inspection Line) at the proper time. The team shall fall-in on a single line at a full arms length dress right, and at "Attention". The team shall remain at attention until dismissed. When the Team Leader is satisfied that his team is ready, he shall take his position in front of the team and inform the judge that the team is ready for inspection. Note: Judging begins when the team Leader begins to notify the judge that their team is ready for inspection. The Leader will then be inspected for neatness, cleanliness, and military bearing. The remaining team members will then be inspected for conformity to the leader's uniform. All members of the Honor Guard Unit will be judged in the Team Inspection. **Equipment used in the "Posting of the Colors" or the Exhibition phase, does not have to be carried or worn during the inspection. All equipment worn or carried will be inspected.**

When the judge comes to a member carrying a piece of equipment (rifle, sword, etc.) that member shall bring the equipment to a "Present Arms" or salute position. The equipment will also be judged, however, the equipment will not be taken from the honor guard member. The individual members are judged on neatness, cleanliness, and military bearing – plus the team as a unit, is judged for conformity, precision, straight lines, etc. The leader may accompany the judge during the inspection of the team. At the end of judging for the Team Inspection, the judge will instruct the team or leader that the judging is complete and to prepare his team for the Posting of the Colors.

- 2) **Color Guard** – When the inspection portion for each team is completed, the flags will be brought to the flag bearer/s. Not all team members are required to Post Colors but **all team members must participate** as guide on(s) or escorts. When the team has all

equipment and is ready, the Team Leader shall notify the judge that the team is ready to Post the Colors. Judging begins in this event when the judge instructs the leader to begin. Each team will immediately begin the "Posting of the Colors." Each team will post a minimum of **two** colors (national, state, province, district, agency, or unit flag when appropriate).

Starting from the start location, the Team Leader shall lead the Color Guard Team through the following:

- 1) The Team leader shall begin with "Color Guard, Forward March", and then with the use of either audible or silent commands, the team leader shall march the Color Guard to the designated posting area by following the pre-set path which may require turning movements. Colors will be posted facing Pennsylvania Ave.
- 2) The Team Leader shall direct the Posting of the Colors in a manner, which may be done as *elaborately* or as *simply* as the team wishes. The Posting shall accomplish placing the national and (if applicable) the state, province, district, agency, or unit flags in fixed holders according to national tradition and facing in the pre-designated direction. **Bi-standers are not considered audience to determine the direction of the colors, Pennsylvania Ave is the proper direction to post.** The bearer/s will then return to the rank. *(Personnel will be provided to hold the flags in place only after the flags are completely in their bases. Teams will not be responsible for flags that are blown over after the flag bearer has released the flag pole.)*
- 3) After posting the Colors, the team will march to the designated end point in a disciplined and professional manner, where the team leader shall audibly command, "Color Guard Halt".
- 4) Two good references for proper protocol can be found at these web sites; <https://atiam.train.army.mil/soldierPortal/atia/adlsc/view/public/8390-1/fm/3-21.5/toc.htm> and <http://www.1stbattalion3rdmarines.com/Drill-Manual.htm>

The Color Guard may march or fall out and quietly move to the assembly area for the Exhibition Phase.

#### **Exhibition/Demonstration Phase:**

**3) – Exhibition Phase.** This phase will consist of a performance that all team members must participate in. The performance must last no more than Eight (8) minutes and teams that go over the time limit will receive demerits however, teams using less than 8 minutes will not be penalized. The event time will begin once the team's leader has his team assembled and gives an audible command to the judge(s) that the team is ready with in reasonable time, or when the judges give a time warning to begin due to time restraints. Teams will be restricted to the Exhibition Area (approx 75'x 50'). There will be no discharge of any firearm (for example, a rifle volley) however; the use of musical instruments will be acceptable. Teams need to provide any special equipment that will be used in this event. Operational support for sound controlling equipment (other) will be allowed and not considered part of the team; however, any live musical or other instrumental support will be deemed a member of the team and must participate in all phases.

Teams should take into consideration the positive impact their performance would have on the law enforcements image, patriotism, honor and memorializing of this profession. This phase is an opportunity for pomp and circumstance, snap and flare as it is viewed by the public.

Teams will be graded bases solely on the judge's discretion taking into account the following;

- Team Uniformity
- Choreography
- Difficulty
- General Protocol
- Patriotism
- Exceeding Time Limit = Lose of points

**Confirmation:**

Teams will receive confirmation notification email of the receipt of their online application within 48 hours. Teams that do not receive a confirmation should re-submit or contact the competition coordinator. Team start times will be posted on the web site approximately one week before the competition.