

DPS proposed amendments to S. 208 with underline and strikethrough

(c) Identification requirements.

(1) A law enforcement officer shall be clearly identified while interacting directly with the public in the performance of the officer's duties by:

(A) the officer's name or the officer's unique radio or badge number visibly displayed on the officer's person; and

(B) the officer's agency, or the initials of the officer's agency, visibly displayed on the officer's person.

(2) This subsection does not apply to any of the following:

(A) An officer engaged in active undercover operations or who engages in official duties that require anonymity to interview, criminally investigate, conduct surveillance, infiltrate organized crime, or obtain illegal goods as part of a criminal investigation;

(B) An officer engaged in plainclothes operations who is employed within the Vermont Department of Liquor and Lottery, Vermont Secretary of State Office of Professional Regulation, Vermont Department of Motor Vehicles, Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife, or the Office of the Vermont Attorney General;

(C) An officer wearing personal protective equipment for crime scene processing and/or for exposure to hazardous materials that prevents display;

(D) Exigent circumstances, involving an imminent danger to persons or property, or the escape of a perpetrator, or the destruction of evidence, including if the officer is responding to those circumstances while off-duty;

(E) An officer assigned to a tactical team unit and actively performing their tactical team responsibilities;

(F) An officer engaged in executive protective operations where the display of identification would compromise the safety, anonymity, or tactical effectiveness of the protection detail;

(G) Law enforcement officers who are participating in meetings and interviews with victims and witnesses.

(d) Mask requirements

~~(2)~~(1) A law enforcement officer shall not wear any mask or personal disguise while interacting ~~in person~~ directly with the public in the performance of the officer's duties.

~~(3)~~ (2) Notwithstanding subdivision ~~(2)~~ (1) of this subsection, a law enforcement officer may wear:

(A) ~~an N95~~ respirator or medical grade mask worn with the intent to prevent the transmission of airborne diseases;

(B) a mask designed to protect against exposure to smoke, fire, or projectiles ~~during a fire-involved situation~~;

(C) a mask necessary to perform duties during a water rescue operation;

(D) a mask related to protection against exposure to biological or chemical agents during an incident where these agents may be present; or

(E) a mask designed to protect against exposure to cold ~~between December 1 and April 1 when the National Weather Service is forecasting a duration of cold weather at or below -10 degrees Fahrenheit, which includes wind chill.~~

(F) a mask or face covering if it constitutes a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

~~(4)~~ (3) Notwithstanding subdivision ~~(2)~~ (1) of this subsection, the following ~~i~~ s permitted:

(A) Tactical Services Unit (TSU) team or other tactical unit officers may use gear necessary to protect their faces from physical harm while performing ~~TSU~~ tactical responsibilities.

(B) Law enforcement officers working with or in conjunction with the Vermont Drug Task Force, or who are otherwise assigned to an undercover drug interdiction assignment, who participate in active ~~undercover drug-related~~ operations or assignments may use a personal disguise when necessary to perform such operations or assignments.

(C) Law enforcement officers who participate in active undercover investigations relating to child sexual exploitation or human trafficking may use a personal disguise when necessary to perform such investigations.
