



**SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
POLICY MANUAL**

No. 12-10

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EFFECTIVE DATE October 26, 2021

**POLICY: FLYING THE UNITED STATES FLAG AT
"HALF- STAFF/HALF-MAST"**

APPROVED

CURT HAGMAN
Chair, Board of Supervisors

POLICY STATEMENT AND PURPOSE

The flying of the United States Flag and accompanying flags at "half-staff/half-mast" is a recognized custom and practice for expressing official mourning by federal, state, and local governmental organizations. The purpose of this policy is to define the circumstances under which San Bernardino County shall fly the United States Flag and accompanying flags at "half-staff/half-mast".

POLICY AMPLIFICATION

- U.S. Flags and all accompanying flags at County-owned facilities shall be flown at "half-staff/half-mast" at the direction of the Chair of the Board of Supervisors.
- At facilities housing County operations but not owned by the County, the County department(s) occupying the space shall request that any flags flown at such facilities be flown at "half- staff/ half-mast" to reflect the direction of the Chair.
- The Chair shall direct that flags be flown at "half-staff/half- mast" under the following circumstances:
 - o In compliance with directives issued by the President of the United States and/or the Governor of the State of California.
 - o Upon the death and until the funeral of a County employee killed in the line of duty.
 - o Upon the death and until the funeral of any sworn peace officer or firefighter, regardless of agency, killed in the line of duty within the County's geographic boundaries.
 - o Upon the death and until the funeral of any sworn peace officer or firefighter who is a member of any agency based in San Bernardino County and is killed in the line of duty.
 - o Upon the death and until the funeral of a sitting elected County official, or a sitting member of the state Legislature or U.S. Congress representing all or a portion of San Bernardino County.
 - o On other occasions and for the length of time deemed appropriate by the Chair to express official mourning by the County.
- The Sheriff may fly the United States Flag and accompanying flags at "half-staff/half-mast" at Sheriff's Department facilities in accordance with recognized customs and practices of other law enforcement agencies.

San Bernardino County finds the provisions of this policy to be in full compliance with the United States Code as it pertains to flying the U.S. Flag.

LEAD DEPARTMENT

County Administrative Office

APPROVAL HISTORY

Adopted June 14, 2005, Item Number 71 ; Amended October 26, 2021

REVIEW DATES

October 2026