

WEAR OF THE UNIFORM BY RETIRED SOLDIERS

Wearing a uniform after retirement is a privilege granted in recognition of faithful service to country. Retired Soldiers should exercise this privilege whenever possible and in such a manner as to reflect credit upon themselves and the United States Army. Soldiers who are advanced to a higher grade upon retirement may wear the insignia of such higher grade while participating in retirement ceremonies and thereafter.

Retired Soldiers serving on active duty will wear the uniform and insignia prescribed for Soldiers in the active Army of corresponding grade and branch.

Retired Soldiers not on active duty may wear either the uniform reflecting their grade and branch on the date of their retirement or the uniform for Soldiers in the active Army of corresponding grade and branch, when appropriate. The uniforms may not be mixed. The grade worn is that indicated on the retired grade/rank line of your retirement order. Retired

Soldiers not on active duty are not authorized to wear shoulder sleeve insignia except as follows:

- (1) Junior ROTC instructors will wear the Cadet Command shoulder sleeve insignia on their left shoulder.
- (2) The shoulder sleeve insignia of a former wartime unit may be worn on the right shoulder by retired Soldiers who served in the unit.
- (3) The retired shoulder patch is worn on the left shoulder sleeve, centered one-half inch from the top.

Retired Soldiers not on active duty are not authorized to wear the Army uniform when they are instructors or are responsible for military discipline at an educational institution unless the educational institution is conducting courses of instruction approved by the Armed Forces. If there is any doubt about wearing the uniform to a function, the commander of the nearest Army installation should be contacted. Retired Soldiers in a foreign country should contact the American Embassy, the American Consulate, or a U. S. military authority.

Wear of the Army uniform is prohibited for all retired Soldiers:

- (1) In connection with the promotion of any political or commercial interests or when engaged in off-duty civilian employment. Army Reserve technicians who are also Soldiers of the Ready Reserve may wear the Army uniform at their option while on duty in their civil service status.
- (2) When participating in public speeches, interviews, picket lines, marches, rallies, or public demonstrations, except as authorized by competent authority.
- (3) When wearing the uniform would bring discredit upon the Army.
- (4) When specifically prohibited by Army Regulations (AR). (Refer to AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia; http://www.army.mil/usapa/epubs/pdf/r670_1.pdf.)

[Source: RSO Handbook Section 3-8 Feb 08]