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VDF-FORHQ

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## SUBJECT: UNIFORMS

### Purpose

This policy establishes guidelines for the transition of the Virginia Defense Force (VDF) uniform from the Woodland camouflage Tactical Response Uniform to the Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP) uniform, effective September 1, 2025, with a wear-out date for Woodland camouflage of December 31, 2026. The transition addresses supply chain challenges, ensure operational readiness, and enhances integration with Virginia National Guard (VANG) counterparts while maintaining distinct identification of VDF personnel. This policy aligns to Chief of the National Guard Bureau Instruction (CNGBI) 5500.01 to allow specific VDF modifications to the OCP uniform.

### Scope

This policy applies to all VDF personnel, including officers, enlisted members, and recruits, across all units and operational environments. It governs the acquisition, wear, and maintenance of the OCP uniform, associated gear, and compliance with physical standards for uniform issuance.

### Policy

The VDF will transition from Woodland camouflage to the Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP) uniform, effective September 1, 2025, with a complete phase-out of Woodland camouflage by December 31, 2026. The transition will adhere to Virginia Defense Force Regulation (VDFR) 600-10, Appendix Q and Army Regulation (AR) 670-1 for uniform wear and appearance, with approved modifications to differentiate VDF personnel from VANG and federal forces. **All VDF members must meet height/weight standards prior to wearing OCP uniforms.** This policy includes an exception to CNGBI 5500.01 to authorize VDF-specific uniform modifications.

### Definitions

- **Operational Camouflage Pattern (OCP):** A multi-environment camouflage pattern used by the U.S. Army and adopted by multiple state defense forces for field and operational uniforms.
- **Woodland Camouflage:** The legacy camouflage pattern previously used by the VDF, characterized by green, brown, and black hues.
- **Height/Weight Standards:** Physical fitness requirements outlined in VDF regulations, ensuring members maintain a professional appearance and operational readiness.
- **Maroon:** New color of name tapes and rank insignia.

### Procedures

#### 1. Transition Timeline

- **Initiation Date:** September 1, 2025
  - VDF units may begin issuing OCP uniforms to personnel meeting height/weight standards, when available.
  - New recruits will be issued OCP uniforms exclusively, when available.

- **Wear-Out Date:** December 31, 2026
  - Woodland camouflage uniforms are authorized for wear until December 31, 2026, after which OCP becomes the sole authorized uniform.
  - Soldiers not in compliance on January 1, 2027 will wear civilian attire.
  - Personnel must replace Woodland uniforms with OCP by the wear-out date or upon issuance, whichever occurs first.
- **Interim Period (September 1, 2025–December 31, 2026):**
  - Units may operate with mixed uniforms (Woodland and OCP) to facilitate a phased transition.

## 2. Uniform Specifications

The OCP uniform will adhere to VDFR 600-10, Appendix Q and AR 670-1 standards, with the following VDF-specific modifications to distinguish from VANG and federal forces:

- **Left Shoulder:**
  - Full-color VDF patch, displaying the VDF insignia. Red is maroon.
  - Full-color patch: “SDF” with white letters on maroon background, above VDF patch.
    - SDF patch covers the area previously reserved for tabs. Accordingly, state tabs (e.g., Cyber, Technician) or federal tabs (e.g., Ranger, Sapper) are no longer authorized.
    - Only PAO and MEDCOM personnel may wear unit ID patch in place of SDF patch.
- **Right Shoulder:**
  - Full-color Virginia state flag patch.
- **Name and Rank Tapes:**
  - Maroon cloth name tapes with white lettering, displaying the member’s last name.
  - Maroon cloth rank insignia, reflecting the member’s current rank.
- **Associated Gear:**
  - Cold-weather gear (e.g., fleece jackets, Gore-Tex parkas) and wet-weather gear (e.g., rain jackets) will align with VDFR 600-10, Appendix Q and AR 670-1 specifications for equipment.
  - All gear must feature maroon VDF identifiers where applicable.
- **Cover:**
  - OD ball cap with non-subdued, centered rank insignia.
- **Combat Patch:**
  - If applicable, subdued combat patch from validated overseas deployment.
- **Skill Badges:**
  - Soldiers will be permitted to wear no more than two skill badges on their OCP uniform.
  - Federal skill badges are not authorized.

## 3. Eligibility and Issuance

- **Height/Weight Standards:**
  - All VDF members must meet VDF height/weight standards, as verified by unit commanders, prior to receiving OCP uniforms.
  - Members who do not meet standards will remain in Woodland uniforms until compliance is obtained.
  - Soldiers not in compliance by wear out date December 31, 2026, will wear civilian attire thereafter until conformity is obtained.
- **Issuance Process:**
  - The G4 Logistics Section will coordinate bulk procurement of OCP uniforms and accessories, leveraging cost-effective vendors and state contracts.
  - Recruits will receive OCP uniforms during initial entry training, funded through VDF budgets.

- E-6 and below may exchange one (1) Woodland uniform for one (1) OCP uniform with G4 when supplies are available.
- E-7 and higher ranks will procure their own uniform.
- **Individual Procurement:**
  - Members may procure their own OCP uniform if they choose.
  - All individually procured uniforms must meet VDF specifications (e.g., maroon patches, Virginia flag).
  - All individually procured uniforms must be serviceable (e.g., clean, no stains, no rips).

#### 4. Compliance

- **Inspections:**
  - Unit commanders will conduct annual uniform inspections to ensure compliance with OCP specifications and height/weight standards.
  - Soldiers who have reached compliance to wear OCPs but later fall out of conformity will be given a 6-month time period to regain compliance. If they do not regain compliance, then they will revert to Woodlands if it is prior to the wear out date.
  - Non-compliant uniforms (e.g., missing patches, incorrect rank tapes) must be corrected within 30 days.

#### 5. Funding and Cost Management

- **Procurement:**
  - The G4 Logistics Section will allocate funds from the VDF budget to cover initial OCP procurement, prioritizing bulk purchases to reduce costs.
  - Partnerships with VANG and state agencies will be explored to share resources and lower acquisition expenses.
- **Cost Savings:**
  - Transitioning to OCP leverages its widespread availability, reducing costs compared to scarce Woodland uniforms.
  - Standardized OCP gear minimizes the need for custom modifications, streamlining logistics.

#### Responsibilities

- **VDF Commanding General:**
  - Oversee implementation and compliance across all VDF units.
- **G4 Logistics Section:**
  - Coordinate procurement, distribution, and inventory management of OCP uniforms and accessories.
  - Maintain records of uniform issuance and reimbursement requests.
  - Report supply status to VDF leadership quarterly.
- **Unit Commanders:**
  - Verify personnel compliance with height/weight standards.
  - Conduct inspections to ensure uniform compliance.
- **VDF Personnel:**
  - Meet height/weight standards to qualify for OCP issuance.
  - Adhere to VDFR 600-10, Appendix Q, AR 670-1, and VDF uniform specifications.
  - Report uniform supply issues to unit commanders promptly.

#### References

- VDFR 600-10, Appendix Q: Uniform and Insignia Wear and Appearance
- Army Regulation (AR) 670-1: Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia.
- Chief of the National Guard Bureau Instruction (CNGBI) 5500.01: National Guard Interaction with State Defense Forces.
- VDF Regulation 600-9: Wellness

OFFICIAL

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. Diddams', with a stylized flourish at the end.

RICHARD DIDDAMS  
BG (VA)  
COMMANDER