

# LEVELS OF HONOR SERVICE GUIDELINE FOR OREGON FIREFIGHTERS

## 1. **General:** *(As of January 2024, similar documents prior to this date are outdated and will not apply.)*

**This guideline defines 3 different levels of honor with corresponding suggested arrangement options as approved by the Oregon Fire Chief's Association.**

The Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard (OFSHG) will follow the below protocols. If the department insists on providing services which are above the approved protocols, the Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard may assist with planning to ensure proper etiquette but **will not** participate in that portion of the event. This should be avoided at all costs.

The OFSHG is a well versed resource and is willing to be involved in as much or as little as the department and family needs and/or wants regarding funeral planning and coordinating. We work side by side with the family's wishes. We will only do as much or as little as the family desires to the best of our abilities and limitations. **It is ultimately what the family wants NOT the fire department.** The OFSHG has very specific protocols to follow depending on the level of honors that are applicable. The Oregon Fire Chief's Association has approved these protocols and we **will not** deviate from them. This ensures standardization across the state.

### 1.2 **Who qualifies for Honor Guard Services:**

An affiliated active Oregon firefighter or fire prevention specialist (career or volunteer) who is or was Oregon DPSST certified or affiliated.

### 1.3 **How to Activate the Honor Guard:**

**The Oregon Fire Service Honor Guard can ONLY BE REQUESTED by the affected agency's Fire Chief, NOT the family or a religious representative.**

The Fire Chief must either contact the OFSHG directly or go through the OFCA. The Fire Chief must be in full support and be willing to coordinate with both, the OFSHG and the family in the planning and organization of the event. The affected agency may be financially responsible for any related costs. Any financial donation to the OFSHG is graciously accepted.

### 1.4 **Definitions:**

#### **Line of Duty Death, (LODD)**

A firefighter on duty with an Oregon fire agency (career or volunteer) whose death is the direct result of an injury suffered in the line of duty. It may also be the result of an injury or illness that has been proven to be attributable to the job.

#### **Active Duty Death**

An active firefighter with an Oregon fire agency (career or volunteer), who dies off duty and is NOT determined as a Line of duty death.

#### **Retired member Death**

A retired firefighter of an Oregon fire agency.

## **“Levels of Honor” Services**

### **2.0 - Line of Duty Death, LODD**

- 24/7 Honor Watch
- Station Mourning Bunting
- Casket draped with American flag
- PD Escorted FD Vehicle Procession
- Fire Engine Caisson
- Vehicle Bunting
- Crossed Ladders with large US flag at venue
- Pallbearers (FD, Family, Honor Guard)
- Uniformed Personnel Honor Corridor
- Casket/Urn Watch
- Posting of Colors
- Bell Ceremony
- HG Coin presentation
- American Flag Fold and Presentation
- Bugler - TAPS (**for military veterans only**)
- PRE RECORDED by dispatch LODD Last Alarm
- Pipe and Drum Band - Amazing Grace

### **2.1 - Active Duty Death**

- Vehicle Bunting if available (stationary apparatus parked at site only)
- Pallbearers (FD, Family, Honor Guard)
- Honor Corridor (affected FD members only)
- Casket/Urn Watch only during funeral
- Posting of Colors
- Bell Ceremony
- HG Coin presentation
- Pre folded American Flag Presentation (for non veterans)
- American Flag Fold and Presentation (**for military veterans only**)
- Bugler TAPS (**for military veterans only**)
- Bagpiper (only if available)

### **2.2 - Retiree Funeral**

- Bell Ceremony
- HG Coin presentation
- Pre Folded American Flag presentation (for non veterans)
- American Flag Fold and Presentation (**for military veterans only**)
- Bugler TAPS (**for military veterans only**)