



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

and

STATE OF TEXAS



*“Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee,
Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible.”*

FLAG ETIQUETTE and CEREMONIES

College of General Studies

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Compiled by:

Texas Society

Sons of the American Revolution



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Displaying the Flag



1. When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.



2. The flag of the United States of America, when it is displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the right, the flag's own right [*that means the viewer's left --Webmaster*], and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.



3. The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. By "half-staff" is meant lowering the flag to one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff. Crepe streamers may be affixed to spear heads or flagstaves in a parade only by order of the President of the United States.



4. When flags of States, cities, or localities, or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No such flag or pennant may be placed above the flag of the United States or to the right of the flag of the United States (the viewer's left). When the flag is half-masted, both flags are half-masted, with the US flag at the midpoint and the other flag below.



5. When the flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.



6. When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff.



7. When the flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.



8. When the flag is displayed in a manner other than by being flown from a staff, it should be displayed flat, whether indoors or out. When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window it should be displayed in the same way, that is with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street. When festoons, rosettes, or drapings are desired, bunting of blue, white and red should be used, but never the flag.



9. That the flag, when carried in a procession with another flag, or flags, should be either on the marching right; that is, the flag's own right, or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.



10. The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.



11. When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.



12. When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium on or off a podium, the flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker (to the right of the audience).



13. When the flag is displayed on a car, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.



14. When hung in a window where it is viewed from the street, place the union at the head and over the left shoulder.

Conduct of Retirement Ceremony

(a) A retirement ceremony for a flag of the United States should be conducted with the honor and respect inherent in the traditions of the United States.

(b) During a retirement ceremony:

(1) Each citizen who is present and not in uniform should:

(A) Stand at attention with the person's right hand over the heart; and

(B) If wearing a head covering that is easy to remove, remove the head covering with the person's right hand and hold it at the person's left shoulder, with the right hand over the heart;

(2) Each person who is present and in uniform should make the military salute at the appropriate time as designated by the ceremony; and

(3) Each person who is present but not a citizen of the United States should stand at attention.

United States Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day

Leader

The Origins of Flag Day

The early history of the U.S. flag and Flag Day is a matter of debate. In 1916 President Wilson issued a proclamation asking for June 14 to be observed as the National Flag Day. But it wasn't until August 3, 1949, that Congress approved the national observance, and President Harry Truman signed it into law.

"That the flag of the United States shall be of thirteen stripes of alternate red and white, with a union of thirteen stars of white in a blue field, representing the new constellation."

This was the resolution adopted by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. The resolution was made following the report of a special committee which had been assigned to suggest the flag's design.

(display flags to audience)

Will you please join us in saying the Pledge of Allegiance to this Flag one last time before it is retired.

"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

We have removed the grommets from the flag, these are the only part of the Flag that cannot be retired.

(Cut off stripes of the U.S. Flags one at a time, saying one statement with each stripe) . After the statements are complete, lay the stripe on the fire and allow it to burn.)

FIRST STRIPE	The 13 stripes stand for the original 13 colonies which are: Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Virginia.
SECOND STRIPE	The white stands for purity and innocence.
THIRD STRIPE	The red stands for hardiness and valor.
FOURTH STRIPE	"Give me liberty or give me death."
FIFTH STRIPE	"One if by land, two if by sea."

SIXTH STRIPE	We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.
SEVENTH STRIPE	We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.
EIGHTH STRIPE	Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.
NINTH STRIPE	Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.
TENTH STRIPE “	Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation...”
ELEVENTH STRIPE	The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.
TWELFTH STRIPE	“Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.”
THIRTEENTH STRIPE	“One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”
Leader	Each state is represented by a star on a field of blue. The blue symbolizes the true blue loyalty of our country’s defenders. The white symbolizes liberty - our land of the free. The field of white stars on the blue background represents a new constellation. As we place the field of stars in the fire, let it burn brightly and remind us how truly our flag represents our country.

Folding the United States Flag



CORRECT METHOD OF FOLDING THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

Flag Folding Ceremony

The flag folding ceremony represents the same religious principles on which our country was originally founded. The portion of the flag denoting honor is the canton of blue containing the stars representing the states our veterans served in uniform. The canton field of blue dresses from left to right and is inverted when draped as a pall on a casket of a veteran who has served our country in uniform. In the Armed Forces of the United States, at the ceremony of retreat the flag is lowered, folded in a triangle fold and kept under watch throughout the night as a tribute to our nation's honored dead. The next morning it is brought out and, at the ceremony of reveille, run aloft as a symbol of our belief in the resurrection of the body.

(Wait for the Honor Guard or Flag Detail to unravel and fold the flag into a quarter fold - resume reading when Honor Guard is standing ready.)

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain a peace throughout the world.

The fourth fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered in to the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The eleventh fold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, "In God we Trust."

(Wait for the Honor Guard or Flag Detail to inspect the flag--after the inspection, resume reading.)

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors

and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

Flag Unfolding Ceremony

When the Flag is properly folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedoms we enjoy today.

The first unfold of our flag is a symbol of life.

The second unfold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life.

The third unfold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain a peace throughout the world.

The fourth unfold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance.

The fifth unfold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong."

The sixth unfold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The seventh unfold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.

The eighth unfold is a tribute to the one who entered in to the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor mother, for whom it flies on Mother's Day.

The ninth unfold is a tribute to womanhood; for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.

The tenth unfold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since they were first born.

The eleventh unfold, in the eyes of a Hebrew citizen, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon, and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The twelfth unfold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Ghost.

Retiring the Texas Flag

I am your Texas flag!

I was born January 25, 1839.

I am one of only two flags of an American state that has also served as the symbol of an independent nation--The Republic of Texas.

While you may honor me in retirement, the spirit I represent will never retire!

I represent the spirit of Texas--Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow!

I represent the bravery of the Alamo and the Victory at San Jacinto.

My spirit rode with the Texas Rangers over the Forts Trail of the Big Country and herded cattle through the Fort Worth stockyards. I have sailed up Galveston Bay and kept a watchful eye over our El Paso del Norte.

My colors are in the waters of the Red River and in the Bluebonnets of the Texas Hill Country.

You'll find my spirit at the Light House of Palo Duro and in the sands of Padre Island;

I am in the space station at Houston and atop the oil wells of West Texas.

From the expanse of the Big Bend to the Riverwalk of San Antone--all of Texas is my home!

I wave over the cotton and grain fields of the High Plains, and I am deep in the rich soil of the Rio Grande Valley.

I am proudly displayed under the Capitol Dome, and I fly high above the concrete canyons of downtown Dallas.

You'll find my spirit in the East Texas piney woods and along the Grandeur of the Rio Grande.

I represent Texas--every Child, Woman, and Man!

The blue field in me stands for the valor of our ancestors in the battles for our country.

Let us retire the blue--Salute!

My white field stands for the purity in all our Texas hearts! It represents the honor that each of us should pay to our state each day.

Let us retire the white--Salute!

The red is for all of the men and women who have died in service of our state--whether as members of the armed services or as citizen Samaritans.

Let us retire the red--Salute!

My lone, independent star is recognized worldwide because it represents ALL of Texas and stands for our unity as one for God, State, and Country.

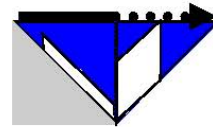
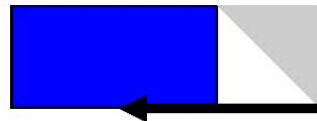
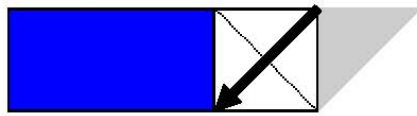
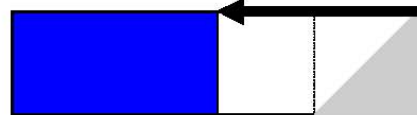
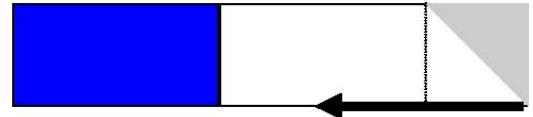
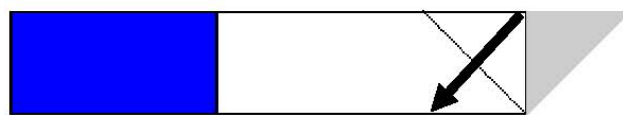
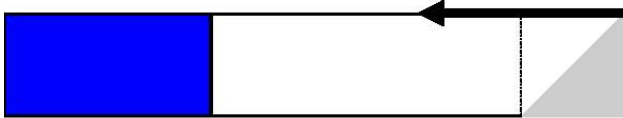
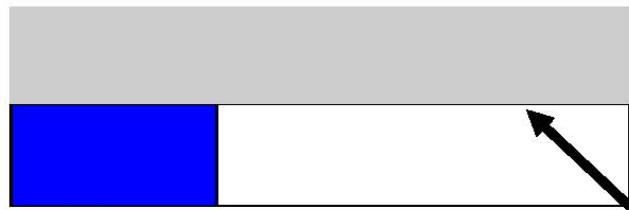
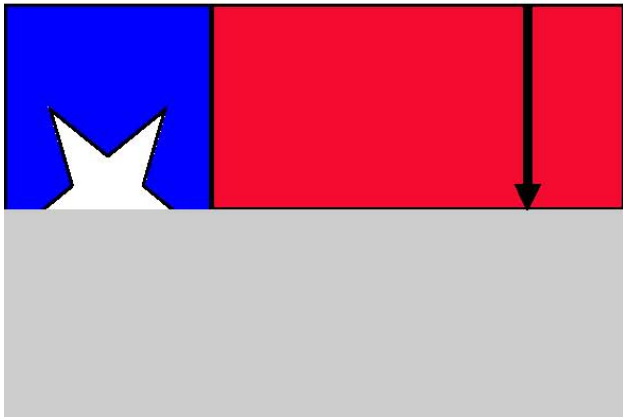
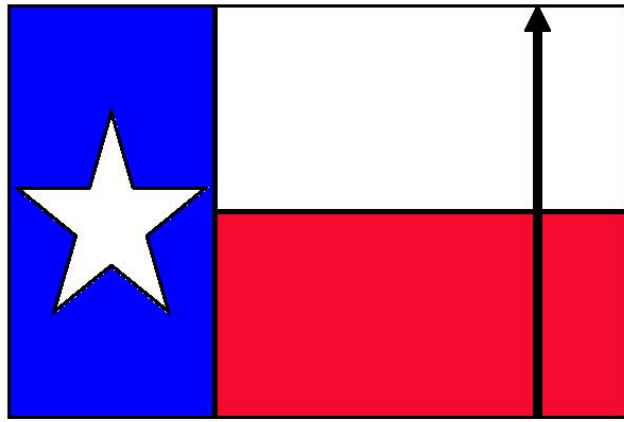
Let us retire the lone star--Salute!

Join in the pledge to the Texas flag:

: "Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Folding the Texas Flag*



*The Sergeant-at-Arms for the Texas House of Representatives provides folded Texas Flags flown over the Texas State Capitol see <http://www.flags.house.state.tx.us/>

Frequently Asked Questions

What type of Flag do I want to get?

Preferably a nylon Flag for outdoor display as the nylon Flags hold up better in weather and sunlight. Look for sewn stripes and embroidered stars.

Where can I get a Flag?

For a good quality 3x5, 4x6, 5x8 U.S. Flag, usually you can get them from your local congressman. Ask that they not be flown, as you will pay an extra \$4.00 to have it flown over the capitol. For a good quality 3x5, 4x6, or 5x8 Texas Flag, see the Sergeant of Arms of the Texas Capitol - again you will not need it flown. The cotton flags are for indoor use only.

Where can I get any other Flag?

Contact either Austin Flag and Flagpole on South 1st Street or Cook Flag on Aurora in North Central Austin.

Can I fly the Texas Flag with an Eagle on it?

The Texas Flag Code states either a star or spear as the finial for the Texas Flag.

Can I put a spear on the U.S. Flagpole?

The Flag Code is silent as to ornaments (finials) for flagstuffs. We know of no law or regulation which restricts the use of a finial on the staff. The eagle finial is used not only by the President, the Vice-President, and many other federal agencies, but also by many civilian organizations and private citizens.

Flag Requests

To have a **U.S. Flag** flown over the U.S. Capitol on a certain date, please contact your U.S. Senator's or local Congressman's office, allowing a 3-4 week notice before event and an additional 3-4 weeks to receive flag.

To have a **Texas Flag** flown over the Texas State Capitol on a requested date, contact your local State Senator's or Representative's office.

The State Flag may also be requested at the following link:

[http://www.flags.house.state.tx.us/\(s\(o5dsnb3wqmry1nav0gbti5ik\)\)/termsandconditions.aspx](http://www.flags.house.state.tx.us/(s(o5dsnb3wqmry1nav0gbti5ik))/termsandconditions.aspx)

Order must be placed by 3:00 P.M. on day prior to requested date.

To have a flag flown over the **U.S.S. Constitution**, send Flag to U.S.S. Constitution, allow 4-6 weeks for requests. Full information is at following link:

<http://www.usconstitution.navy.mil/flagcoord.htm>

TITLE 4—FLAG AND SEAL, SEAT OF GOVERNMENT, AND THE STATES

- CHAPTER 1—THE FLAG
- CHAPTER 2—THE SEAL
- CHAPTER 3—SEAT OF THE GOVERNMENT
- CHAPTER 4—THE STATES
- CHAPTER 5—OFFICIAL TERRITORIAL PAPERS

CHAPTER 1—THE FLAG

- Flag; stripes and stars on
- Same; additional stars
- Use of flag for advertising purposes; mutilation of flag
- Pledge of allegiance to the flag; manner of delivery
- Display and use of flag by civilians; codification of rules and customs; definition
- Time and occasions for display
- Position and manner of display
- Respect for flag
- Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag
- Modification of rules and customs by President

1. Flag; stripes and stars on

The flag of the United States shall be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; and the union of the flag shall be forty-eight stars, white in a blue field.

2. Same; additional stars

On the admission of a new State into the Union one star shall be added to the union of the flag; and such addition shall take effect on the fourth day of July then next succeeding such admission.

3. Use of flag for advertising purposes; mutilation of flag

Any person who, within the District of Columbia, in any manner, for exhibition or display, shall place or cause to be placed any word, figure, mark, picture, design, drawing, or any advertisement of any nature upon any flag, standard, colors, or ensign of the United States of America; or shall expose or cause to be exposed to public view any such flag, standard, colors, or ensign upon which shall have been printed, painted, or otherwise placed, or to which shall be attached, appended, affixed, or annexed any word, figure, mark, picture, design, or drawing, or any advertisement of any nature; or who, within the District of Columbia, shall manufacture, sell, expose for sale, or to public view, or give away or have in possession for sale, or to be given away or for use for any purpose, any article or substance being an article of merchandise, or a receptacle for merchandise or article or thing for carrying or transporting merchandise, upon which shall have been printed, painted, attached, or otherwise placed a representation of any such flag, standard, colors, or ensign, to advertise, call attention to, decorate, mark, or distinguish the article or substance on which so placed shall be deemed guilty of a

misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$100 or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or both, in the discretion of the court. The words “flag, standard, colors, or ensign”, as used herein, shall include any flag, standard, colors, ensign, or any picture or representation of either, or of any part or parts of either, made of any substance or represented on any substance, of any size evidently purporting to be either of said flag, standard, colors, or ensign of the United States of America or a picture or a representation of either, upon which shall be shown the colors, the stars and the stripes, in any number of either thereof, or of any part or parts of either, by which the average person seeing the same without deliberation may believe the same to represent the flag, colors, standard, or ensign of the United States of America.

4. Pledge of allegiance to the flag; manner of delivery

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: “I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”, should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

5. Display and use of flag by civilians; codification of rules and customs; definition

The following codification of existing rules and customs pertaining to the display and use of the flag of the United States of America is established for the use of such civilians or civilian groups or organizations as may not be required to conform with regulations promulgated by one or more executive departments of the Government of the United States. The flag of the United States for the purpose of this chapter shall be defined according to sections 1 and 2 of this title and Executive Order 10834 issued pursuant thereto.

6. Time and occasions for display

- (a) It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaves in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
- (b) The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- (c) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is displayed.
- (d) The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on New Year’s Day, January 1; Inauguration Day, January 20; Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday, third Monday in January; Lincoln’s Birthday, February 12; Washington’s Birthday, third Monday in February; Easter Sunday (variable); Mother’s Day, second Sunday in May; Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May; Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May; Flag Day, June 14; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Constitution Day, September 17; Columbus Day, second Monday in October; Navy Day, October 27; Veterans Day, November 11; Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November; Christmas Day, December 25; and such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States; the birthdays of States (date of admission); and on State holidays.
- (e) The flag should be displayed daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution.
- (f) The flag should be displayed in or near every polling place on election days.
- (g) The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every schoolhouse.

7. Position and manner of display

The flag, when carried in a procession with another flag or flags, should be either on the marching right; that is, the flag's own right, or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.

- (a) The flag should not be displayed on a float in a parade except from a staff, or as provided in subsection (i) of this section.
- (b) The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle or of a railroad train or a boat. When the flag is displayed on a motorcar, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.
- (c) No other flag or pennant should be placed above or, if on the same level, to the right of the flag of the United States of America, except during church services conducted by naval chaplains at sea, when the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for the personnel of the Navy. No person shall display the flag of the United Nations or any other national or international flag equal, above, or in a position of superior prominence or honor to, or in place of, the flag of the United States at any place within the United States or any Territory or possession thereof: Provided, That nothing in this section shall make unlawful the continuance of the practice heretofore followed of displaying the flag of the United Nations in a position of superior prominence or honor, and other national flags in positions of equal prominence or honor, with that of the flag of the United States at the headquarters of the United Nations.
- (d) The flag of the United States of America, when it is displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the right, the flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.
- (e) The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.
- (f) When flags of States, cities, or localities, or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No such flag or pennant may be placed above the flag of the United States or to the United States flag's right.
- (g) When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.
- (h) When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff. When the flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.
- (i) When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.
- (j) When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.
- (k) When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker. When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the

flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the right of the audience.

- (l) The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but it should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.
- (m) The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. On Memorial Day the flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff. By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory. In the event of the death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to Presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with law. In the event of the death of a present or former official of the government of any State, territory, or possession of the United States, the Governor of that State, territory, or possession may proclaim that the National flag shall be flown at half-staff. The flag shall be flown at half-staff 30 days from the death of the President or a former President; 10 days from the day of death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice of the United States, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives; from the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a Secretary of an executive or military department, a former Vice President, or the Governor of a State, territory, or possession; and on the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress. The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day. As used in this subsection -

(1) the term "half-staff" means the position of the flag when it is one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff;

(2) the term "executive or military department" means any agency listed under sections 101 and 102 of title 5, United States Code; and

(3) the term "Member of Congress" means a Senator, a Representative, a Delegate, or the Resident Commissioner from Puerto Rico.

- (n) When the flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.
- (o) When the flag is suspended across a corridor or lobby in a building with only one main entrance, it should be suspended vertically with the union of the flag to the observer's left upon entering. If the building has more than one main entrance, the flag should be suspended vertically near the center of the corridor or lobby with the union to the north, when entrances are to the east and west or to the east when entrances are to the north and south. If there are entrances in more than two directions, the union should be to the east.

8. Respect for flag

No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, State flags, and organization or institutional flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.

- (a) The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.

- (b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.
- (c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
- (d) The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free. Bunting of blue, white, and red, always arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below, should be used for covering a speaker's desk, draping the front of the platform, and for decoration in general.
- (e) The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.
- (f) The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.
- (g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.
- (h) The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.
- (i) The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discard. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.
- (j) No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen, and members of patriotic organizations. The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a living thing. Therefore, the lapel flag pin being a replica, should be worn on the left lapel near the heart.
- (k) The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

9. Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag

During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Aliens should stand at attention. The salute to the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.

10. Modification of rules and customs by President

Any rule or custom pertaining to the display of the flag of the United States of America, set forth herein, may be altered, modified, or repealed, or additional rules with respect thereto may be prescribed, by the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, whenever he deems it to be appropriate or desirable; and any such alteration or additional rule shall be set forth in a proclamation.

The U.S. Flag Code
Title 36, U.S.C., Chapter 10
As amended by P.L. 322, 103rd Congress
Approved September 13, 1994

§ 170. National Anthem; Star-Spangled Banner

The composition consisting of the words and music known as The Star-Spangled Banner is designated the national anthem of the United States of America.

§ 171. Conduct during playing

During rendition of the national anthem when the flag is displayed, all present except those in uniform should stand at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. Men not in uniform should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should render the military salute at the first note of the anthem and retain this position until the last note. When the flag is not displayed, those present should face toward the music and act in the same manner they would if the flag were displayed there.

§ 172. Pledge of Allegiance to the flag; manner of delivery

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all," should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute.

§ 173. Display and use of flag by civilians; codification of rules and customs; definition

The following codification of existing rules and customs pertaining to the display and use of the flag of the United States of America is established for the use of such civilians or civilian groups or organizations as may not be required to conform with regulations promulgated by one or more executive departments of the Government of the United States. The flag of the United States for the purposes of this chapter shall be defined according to sections 1 and 2 of Title 4 and Executive Order 10834 issued pursuant thereto.

§ 174. Time and occasions for display; hoisting and lowering

- (a) It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flag staffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed twenty-four hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
- (b) The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- (c) The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all weather flag is displayed.
- (d) The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on
 - New Year's Day - January 1
 - Inauguration Day - January 20
 - Lincoln's Birthday - February 12

Washington's Birthday - third Monday in February
Easter Sunday - (variable)
Mother's Day - second Sunday in May
Armed Forces Day - third Saturday in May
Memorial Day (half-staff until noon) - last Monday in May
Flag Day - June 14
Independence Day - July 4
Labor Day - first Monday - September 17
Columbus Day - second Monday in October
Navy Day - October 27
Veterans Day - November 11
Thanksgiving Day - fourth Thursday in November
Christmas Day - December 25
Other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States
Birthdays of States (date of admission)
State holidays

- (e) The flag should be displayed daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution.
- (f) The flag should be displayed in or near every polling place on election days.
- (g) The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every schoolhouse.

§ 175. Position and manner of display

The flag, when carried in a procession with another flag or flags, should be either on the marching right; that is, the flag's own right, or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line.

- (a) The flag should not be displayed on a float in a parade except from a staff, or as provided in subsection (i) of this section.
- (b) The flag should not be draped over the hood, top, sides, or back of a vehicle or of a railroad train or a boat. When the flag is displayed on a motorcar, the staff shall be fixed firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender.
- (c) No other flag or pennant should be placed above, or, if on the same level, to the right of the flag of the United States of America, except during church services conducted by naval chaplains at sea, when the church pennant may be flown above the flag during church services for the personnel of the Navy. No person shall display the flag of the United Nations or any other national or international flag equal, above, or in a position of superior prominence or honor to, or in place of, the flag of the United States at any place within the United States or any Territory or possession thereof: Provided, That nothing in this section shall make unlawful the continuance of the practice heretofore followed of displaying the flag of the United Nations in a position of superior prominence or honor, and other national flags in positions of equal prominence or honor, with that of the flag of the United States at the headquarters of the United Nations.
- (d) The flag of the United States of America, when it is displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the right, the flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.

- (e) The flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.
- (f) When flags of States, cities, or localities, or pennants of societies are flown on the same halyard with the flag of the United States, the latter should always be at the peak. When the flags are flown from adjacent staffs, the flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last. No such flag or pennant may be placed above the flag of the United States or to the United States flag's right.
- (g) When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.
- (h) When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting horizontally or at an angle from the window sill, balcony, or front of a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff. When the flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope extending from a house to a pole at the edge of the sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.
- (i) When displayed either horizontally or vertically against a wall, the union should be uppermost and to the flag's own right, that is, to the observer's left. When displayed in a window, the flag should be displayed in the same way, with the union or blue field to the left of the observer in the street.
- (j) When the flag is displayed over the middle of the street, it should be suspended vertically with the union to the north in an east and west street or to the east in a north and south street.
- (k) When used on a speaker's platform, the flag, if displayed flat, should be displayed above and behind the speaker. When displayed from a staff in a church or public auditorium, the flag of the United States of America should hold the position of superior prominence, in advance of the audience, and in the position of honor at the clergyman's or speaker's right as he faces the audience. Any other flag so displayed should be placed on the left of the clergyman or speaker or to the right of the audience.
- (l) The flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but it should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.
- (m) The flag, when flown at half-staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day. On Memorial Day the flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon only, then raised to the top of the staff. By order of the President, the flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the death of principal figures of the United States Government and the Governor of a State, territory, or possession, as a mark of respect to their memory. In the event of the death of other officials or foreign dignitaries, the flag is to be displayed at half-staff according to Presidential instructions or orders, or in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with law. In the event of the death of a present or former official of the government of any State, territory, or possession of the United States, the Governor of that State, territory, or possession may proclaim that the National flag shall be flown at half-staff. The flag shall be flown at half-staff thirty days from the death of the President or a former President; ten days from the death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice or a retired Chief Justice of the United States, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives; from the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a Secretary of an executive or military department, a former Vice President, or the Governor of a State, territory, or possession; and on the day of death and the following day for a Member of Congress. The flag shall be flown at half-staff on Peace

Officers Memorial Day, unless that day is also Armed Forces Day. As used in this subsection

- (1) the term "half-staff" means the position of the flag when it is one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff;
 - (2) the term "executive or military department" means any agency listed under sections 101 and 102 of title 5; and
 - (3) the term "Member of Congress" means a Senator, a Representative, a Delegate, or the Resident Commissioner for Puerto Rico.
- (n) When the Flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground.
- (o) When the flag is suspended across a corridor or lobby in a building with only one main entrance, it should be suspended vertically with the union of the flag to the observer's left upon entering. If the building has more than one main entrance, the flag should be suspended vertically near the center of the corridor or lobby with the union to the north, when entrances are to the east and west or to the east when entrances are to the north and south. If there are entrances in more than two directions, the union should be to the east.

§ 176. Respect for flag

No disrespect should be shown to the flag of the United States of America; the flag should not be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, State flags, and organization or institutional flags are to be dipped as a mark of honor.

- (a) The flag should never be displayed with the union down, except as a signal of dire distress in instances of extreme danger to life or property.
- (b) The flag should never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, the floor, water, or merchandise.
- (c) The flag should never be carried flat or horizontally, but always aloft and free.
- (d) The flag should never be used as wearing apparel, bedding, or drapery. It should never be festooned, drawn back, nor up, in folds, but always allowed to fall free. Bunting of blue, white, and red always arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below, should be used for covering a speaker's desk, draping the front of the platform, and for decoration in general.
- (e) The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be easily torn, soiled, or damaged in any way.
- (f) The flag should never be used as a covering for a ceiling.
- (g) The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature.
- (h) The flag should never be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.
- (i) The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkin or boxes or anything that is designed for temporary use and discard. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.
- (j) No part of the flag should ever be used as a costume or athletic uniform. However, a flag patch may be affixed to the uniform of military personnel, firemen, policemen, and members of patriotic organizations. The flag represents a living country and is itself considered a

living thing. Therefore, the lapel flag pin being a replica, should be worn on the left lapel near the heart.

- (k) The flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.

§ 177. Conduct during hoisting, lowering or passing of flag

During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in a parade or in review, all persons present except those in uniform should face the flag and stand at attention with the right hand over the heart. Those present in uniform should render the military salute. When not in uniform, men should remove their headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Aliens should stand at attention. The salute to the flag in a moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.

§ 178. Modification of rules and customs by President

Any rule or custom pertaining to the display of the flag of the United States of America, set forth in section 171-178 of this title, may be altered, modified, or repealed, or additional rules with respect thereto may be prescribed, by the Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, whenever he deems it to be appropriate or desirable; and any such alteration or additional rule shall be set forth in a proclamation.

Texas Flag Code

GOVERNMENT CODE

TITLE 11. STATE SYMBOLS AND HONORS; PRESERVATION

SUBTITLE A. STATE SYMBOLS AND HONORS

CHAPTER 3100. STATE FLAG

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 3100.001. STATE FLAG. The state flag is the 1839 national flag of the Republic of Texas.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.002. DESCRIPTION: IN GENERAL.

- (a) The state flag is a rectangle that:
 - (1) has a width to length ratio of two to three; and
 - (2) contains:
 - (A) one blue vertical stripe that has a width equal to one-third the length of the flag;
 - (B) two equal horizontal stripes, the upper stripe white, the lower stripe red, each having a length equal to two-thirds the length of the flag; and
 - (C) one white, regular five-pointed star:
 - (i) located in the center of the blue stripe;
 - (ii) oriented so that one point faces upward; and
 - (iii) sized so that the diameter of a circle passing through the five points of the star is equal to three-fourths the width of the blue stripe.
- (b) The red and blue of the state flag are:
 - (1) the same colors used in the United States flag; and
 - (2) defined as numbers 193 (red) and 281 (dark blue) of the Pantone Matching System.
- (c) The red, white, and blue of the state flag represent, respectively, bravery, purity, and loyalty.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.003. DESCRIPTION UNDER GOVERNOR'S RULES. In addition to each requirement prescribed by Section 3100.002, the governor by executive order published in the Texas Register may prescribe changes or other rules relating to the description of the state flag.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.004. STATE FLAG MOUNTED ON FLAGSTAFF.

- (a) If the state flag is mounted on a flagstaff:
 - (1) the flag should be attached at the peak of the staff;
 - (2) the staff should be at least 2-1/2 times as long as the flag's hoist; and
 - (3) if the staff has a finial, the finial should be a star or a spearhead.
- (b) If the state flag is permanently mounted on a flagstaff:

- (1) the flag may be decorated with gold fringe; and
- (2) the staff may be decorated with gold cord or tassels.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

SUBCHAPTER B. DISPLAY OF STATE FLAG

Sec. 3100.051. DISPLAY: IN GENERAL. The state flag should be displayed:

- (1) on each state or national holiday and on any special occasion of historical significance; and
- (2) daily on or near the main administration building of each state institution.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.052. DISPLAY OUTDOORS.

- (a) The state flag should not normally be displayed outdoors before sunrise or after sunset.
- (b) For patriotic effect, the state flag may be displayed outdoors:
 - (1) 24 hours a day, if properly illuminated during darkness; or
 - (2) in the same circumstances that the flag of the United States may be displayed.
- (c) The state flag should not be displayed outdoors during inclement weather unless the flag is a weatherproof flag.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.053. ORIENTATION ON FLAGPOLE OR FLAGSTAFF. If the state flag is displayed on a flagpole or flagstaff, the white stripe should be at the top of the flag, except as a signal of dire distress in an instance of extreme danger to life or property.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.054. DISPLAY ON FLAGPOLE OR FLAGSTAFF WITH OTHER FLAG: IN GENERAL. A flag or pennant, other than the flag of the United States, displayed with the state flag:

- (1) should not be above the state flag; or
- (2) if the other flag or pennant is at the same height as the state flag, should not be, from the perspective of an observer, to the left of the state flag.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.055. DISPLAY ON FLAGPOLE OR FLAGSTAFF WITH FLAG OF UNITED STATES.

- (a) If it is necessary for the state flag and the flag of the United States to be displayed on the same flagpole or flagstaff, the United States flag should be above the state flag.
- (b) If the state flag and the flag of the United States are displayed on flagpoles or flagstaffs at the same location:
 - (1) the flags should be displayed on flagpoles or flagstaffs of the same height;
 - (2) the flags should be of approximately equal size;
 - (3) the flag of the United States should be, from the perspective of an observer, to the left of the state flag;
 - (4) the flag of the United States should be hoisted before the state flag is hoisted; and

(5) the state flag should be lowered before the flag of the United States is lowered.
Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.056. DISPLAY ON FLAGPOLE OR FLAGSTAFF WITH FLAGS OF MUNICIPALITIES, LOCALITIES, OR ORGANIZATIONS.

- (a) If the state flag is displayed on a flagpole or flagstaff with a group of flags or pennants of municipalities, localities, or organizations that are displayed on flagpoles or flagstuffs, the state flag should be at the center and at the highest point of the group.
- (b) If the state flag is displayed on the same halyard as a flag or pennant of a municipality, locality, or organization, the state flag should be at the peak.
- (c) If the state flag and the flag or pennant of a municipality, locality, or organization are displayed on adjacent flagpoles or flagstuffs:
 - (1) the state flag should be hoisted before the flag or pennant of the municipality, locality, or organization is hoisted; and
 - (2) the flag or pennant of the municipality, locality, or organization should be lowered before the state flag is lowered.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.057. DISPLAY ON FLAGPOLE OR FLAGSTAFF WITH FLAGS OF OTHER STATES, OTHER NATIONS, OR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

- (a) If the state flag is displayed with the flag of another state of the United States, of a nation other than the United States, or of an international organization, the state flag:
 - (1) should be, from the perspective of an observer, to the left of the other flag on a separate flagpole or flagstaff; and
 - (2) should not be above the other flag on the same flagpole or flagstaff or on a taller flagpole or flagstaff than the flagpole or flagstaff on which the other flag is displayed.
- (b) This section does not apply to the United States, including the armed services, if federal custom or practice requires another manner of display.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.058. DISPLAY WITH OTHER FLAG ON CROSSED FLAGSTAFFS.

- (a) If the state flag is displayed with another flag, other than the flag of the United States, against a wall on crossed flagstuffs, the state flag should:
 - (1) be, from the perspective of an observer, to the left of the other flag; and
 - (2) have its flagstaff in front of the flagstaff of the other flag.
- (b) If the state flag and the flag of the United States are displayed against a wall on crossed flagstuffs, the state flag should:
 - (1) be, from the perspective of an observer, to the right of the flag of the United States; and
 - (2) have its flagstaff behind the flagstaff of the United States flag.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.059. HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL DISPLAY.

- (a) If the state flag is displayed horizontally, the white stripe should be above the red stripe and, from the perspective of an observer, to the right of the blue stripe.
- (b) If the state flag is displayed vertically:
 - (1) the blue stripe should be above the white and red stripes; and

- (2) the white stripe should be, from the perspective of an observer, to the left of the red stripe.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.060. DISPLAY FROM OR IN BUILDING.

- (a) If the state flag is displayed from a flagstaff that projects horizontally or at an angle from a building, the top of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half-staff.
- (b) If the state flag is suspended over a sidewalk from a rope that extends from a building to a pole at the edge of a sidewalk, the flag should be hoisted from the building so that the white stripe is nearest the pole.
- (c) If the state flag is suspended across a corridor or lobby in a building that has only one main entrance, the flag should be suspended vertically so that the white stripe is, from the perspective of an observer who is entering the building, to the left of the red stripe. If the building has more than one main entrance, the state flag should be suspended vertically near the center of the corridor or lobby. If the entrances are on the east and west faces of the building, the white stripe should be to the north. If the entrances are on the north and south faces of the building, the white stripe should be to the east. If there are entrances on more than two faces of the building, the white stripe should be to the east.
- (d) If the state flag is displayed in a window, the white stripe should be above the red stripe and, from the perspective of an observer who is outside the window, to the right of the blue stripe.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.061. DISPLAY OVER STREET. If the state flag is displayed over a street, the flag should be suspended vertically with the blue stripe above the white and red stripes. If the street is an east-west street, the white stripe should be to the north. If the street is a north-south street, the white stripe should be to the east.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.062. DISPLAY ON SPEAKER'S PLATFORM.

- (a) If the state flag is displayed flat on a speaker's platform, the flag should be displayed above and behind the speaker.
- (b) If the state flag and the flag of the United States are displayed on a speaker's platform, the state flag should be, from the perspective of an observer, to the right of the United States flag.
- (c) The use of the state flag to drape the front of a platform is governed by Section 3100.070(c).

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.063. DISPLAY ON CASKET.

- (a) If the state flag is used to cover a casket, the flag should be placed so that:
 - (1) the blue stripe is at the head of the casket; and
 - (2) the white stripe is over the left shoulder of the casket.
- (b) The state flag should not be lowered in the grave or allowed to touch the ground.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.064. DISPLAY ON FLAGSTAFF ON MOTOR VEHICLE. If the state flag is displayed on a flagstaff on a motor vehicle, the staff should be attached firmly to the chassis or clamped to the right fender. If the flag of the United States and the state flag are displayed on flagstaffs on a motor vehicle:

- (1) the staff of the flag of the United States should be clamped to the right fender of the vehicle;
and
- (2) the staff of the state flag should be clamped to the left fender of the vehicle.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.065. DISPLAY AT HALF-STAFF.

- (a) If the state flag is to be displayed at half-staff, the flag should be hoisted to the peak of the flagpole for an instant and then lowered to the half-staff position.
- (b) Before the state flag is lowered for the day, it should first be raised to the peak of the flagpole.
- (c) On Memorial Day, the state flag should be displayed at half-staff until noon and at that time raised to the peak of the flagpole.
- (d) The state flag should be displayed at half-staff on Peace Officers Memorial Day, May 15, unless that date is also Armed Forces Day.
- (e) By order of the governor, the state flag shall be displayed at half-staff on a person's death as a mark of respect to the memory of that person.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.066. CARRYING OF STATE FLAG: IN GENERAL. The state flag should, when practicable, be carried aloft and free, not flat or horizontally.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.067. CARRYING IN PROCESSION WITH OTHER FLAGS.

- (a) If the state flag is carried in a procession with another flag, other than the flag of the United States, the state flag should be on the marching right. If there is a line of other flags in the procession, the state flag should be in front of the center of that line.
- (b) If the flag of the United States is carried in a procession with the state flag, the flag of the United States should be on the marching right.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.068. HOISTING AND LOWERING; PASSING IN PARADE OR REVIEW.

- (a) The state flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.
- (b) During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the state flag or if the flag is passing in a parade or in review:
 - (1) each citizen of this state who is present and not in uniform should:
 - (A) face the state flag and stand at attention with the person's right hand over the heart;
and
 - (B) if wearing a head covering that is easy to remove, remove the head covering with the right hand and hold it at the person's left shoulder, with the person's hand over the heart;
 - (2) each person who is present and in uniform should make the military salute; and

- (3) each person who is present but not a citizen of this state should stand at attention.
- (c) The salute to the state flag in a moving column shall be made at the moment the state flag passes that person.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.069. STATE FLAG AS FEATURE OF UNVEILING CEREMONY.

- (a) The state flag should form a distinctive feature of the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument.
- (b) The state flag should not be used as the covering for the statue or monument.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.070. LIMITATIONS ON DISPLAY.

- (a) The state flag should not:
 - (1) touch anything beneath it, including the ground or floor;
 - (2) be dipped to any person or thing, except as a mark of honor for the United States flag;
 - (3) trail in water;
 - (4) have placed on any part of it, or attached to it, any mark, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing;
 - (5) be used or stored in a manner in which it can easily be soiled or damaged;
 - (6) be used as a receptacle for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything;
 - (7) be displayed on a float in a parade, except from a staff or in the manner provided by Section 3100.059;
 - (8) be draped over the hood, top, side, or back of any vehicle, train, boat, or aircraft;
 - (9) be used as bedding or drapery;
 - (10) be festooned or drawn back or up in folds, but instead allowed to fall free; or
 - (11) be used as a covering for a ceiling.
- (b) Advertising should not be fastened to a flagpole, flagstaff, or halyard on which the state flag is displayed.
- (c) Bunting of blue, white, and red, arranged with the blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below, should be used instead of the state flag to cover a speaker's desk or to drape the front of a platform and for decoration in general.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.071. AUTHORITY OF GOVERNOR. By executive order published in the Texas Register, the governor may:

- (1) change or repeal any requirement relating to the display of the state flag provided by Sections 3100.051-3100.070; or
- (2) prescribe additional requirements concerning the display of the state flag.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.072. LIMITATIONS ON GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION OR AGENCY.

- (a) A governmental subdivision or agency may not enact or enforce a law that prohibits:
 - (1) the display of:
 - (A) a municipal flag;
 - (B) the state flag;

- (C) the flag of another state of the United States;
- (D) the United States flag; or
- (E) the flag of a nation other than the United States; or
- (2) any conduct covered by this subchapter.
- (b) This section does not prohibit a governmental subdivision or agency from enacting or enforcing a law to protect the public health or safety.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

SUBCHAPTER C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO STATE FLAG

Sec. 3100.101. PLEDGE. The pledge of allegiance to the state flag is: "Honor the Texas flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one state under God, one and indivisible."

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. 650, Sec. 1, eff. June 15, 2007.

Sec. 3100.102. OCCASIONS AT WHICH PLEDGE MAY BE RECITED. The pledge of allegiance to the state flag may be recited at any:

- (1) public or private meeting at which the pledge of allegiance to the United States flag is recited; and
- (2) state historical event or celebration.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.103. ORDER OF RECITATION. The pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States should be recited before the pledge of allegiance to the state flag if both are recited.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.104. RECITING PLEDGE. If the pledge to the state flag is recited, each person who is present and:

- (1) not in uniform should:
 - (A) face the state flag and stand at attention with the person's right hand over the heart;
 - (B) if wearing a head covering that is easy to remove, remove that head covering with the right hand and hold it at the person's left shoulder, with the person's hand over the heart; and
 - (C) recite the pledge; or
- (2) in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and make the military salute.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

SUBCHAPTER D. RETIREMENT OF STATE FLAG

Sec. 3100.151. MANNER OF RETIREMENT.

- (a) If a state flag is no longer used or useful as an emblem for display, it should be destroyed, preferably by burning, in a ceremony or another dignified way that emphasizes its honor as a fitting emblem for this state.

- (b) It is encouraged that retirement of the state flag be a public ceremony under the direction of uniformed personnel representing a state or national military service or a patriotic society, but the state flag may be retired in a private ceremony.

Added by Acts 2001, 77th Leg., ch. 1420, Sec. 7.001, eff. Sept. 1, 2001.

Sec. 3100.152. CONDUCT OF RETIREMENT CEREMONY.

- (a) A retirement ceremony for a state flag should be conducted with the honor and respect inherent in the traditions of this state.
- (b) During a retirement ceremony:
 - (1) each citizen of this state who is present and not in uniform should:
 - (A) stand at attention with the person's right hand over the heart; and
 - (B) if wearing a head covering that is easy to remove, remove the head covering with the person's right hand and hold it at the person's left shoulder, with the right hand over the heart;
 - (2) each person who is present and in uniform should make the military salute at the appropriate time as designated by the ceremony; and
 - (3) each person who is present but not a citizen of this state should stand at attention.
- (c) In a retirement ceremony in which the flag is to be burned or buried, the flag may be retired as a whole or the colors of the flag may be separated for individual dedication, with the separation taking place immediately before the retirement and dedication ceremony.
 - (d) The official retirement ceremony for the state flag encouraged for public use is:

Links and Bibliography

- (1) Air Force Flag Regulation
<http://www.nava.org/Flag%20Information/articles/Flag%20protocol-US%20AF.pdf>
- (2) Army Regulation 600-25 Salutes, Honors, and Visits of Courtesy
http://www.army.mil/usapa/epubs/pdf/r600_25.pdf
- (3) Army Regulation 840-10 Flags, Guidons, Streamers, Tabards, and Automobile and Aircraft Plates
http://www.apd.army.mil/pdf/r840_10.pdf
- (4) CRS Report for Congress The United States Flag: Federal Law Relating to Display and Associated Questions Updated April 14, 2009
http://www.senate.gov/CRSReports/crs-publish.cfm?pid='0E%2C*PLS%3F%22%20%20%20%0A
- (5) Flag Rules and Regulations
<http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/flagetiq.html>
- (6) Marine Corps Drill and Ceremonies Manual MCO P10520.3
<http://www.marines.mil/news/publications/Documents/MCO%20P10520.3B.pdf>
- (7) Naval Telecommunications Procedures Flags, Pennants, & Customs NTP 13(B)
<http://www.ushistory.org/betsy/images/ntp13b.pdf>
- (8) Navy Military Funerals, Bureau of Naval Personnel NAVPERS 15555D
http://www.combatindex.com/store/tech_man/Sample/Funerals_and_Deceased_Personnel/15555d.pdf
- (9) North American Vexillological Association
<http://www.nava.org/>
- (10) Texas Flag Code
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ref/abouttx/flagcode.html>
- (11) U.S. Code Collection Title 4 Chapter 1 – The Flag
http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/html/uscode04/usc_sup_01_4_10_1.html
- (12) U. S. Code Collection Title 36 Organizations Patriotic and National Observances, Ceremonies, and Organizations
<http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/36/>
- (13) Vexillological Association of the State of Texas
<http://www.texflags.org/>
- (14) Website dedicated to the Flag of the United States of America
<http://www.usflag.org/>
- (15) The Care and Display of the American Flag by the Editors of Sharpman.Com 2004.

(16) Your Flag Everything You Want to Know About the Flag of the United States of America by the Boy Scouts of America revised 2001.

(17) Boastwain's Whistle Knot for Flag grommets

<http://www.ropeworks.biz/reader/boatswai.pdf>