

ADMINISTRATIVE BULLETIN NO. 15

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(Number only)

SUBJECT: FLYING AMERICAN FLAG AT HALF STAFF

The United States Flag code, Title 36, U.S.C., Chapter 10 as amended in pertinent part by P.L. 344, 94th Congress includes a section which states that the American flag can be displayed at half staff in accordance with recognized customs or practices not inconsistent with the law. A revised County policy approved by the Board of Supervisors on October 14, 1997, provides for flying the American flag at half staff at County facilities under the following circumstances:

1. On Memorial Day until noon.
2. Thirty days from the day of death of the President or a former President.
3. Ten days from the day of death of the Vice President, the Chief Justice of the United States, or the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
4. From the day of death until interment of an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, a member of the Cabinet, a former Vice President, the Secretary of the Army, Navy, or Air Force, or the Governor of California.
5. On the day of death and the following day for a United States Senator or a United States Representative.
6. As directed by the Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors upon the death of a government employee killed in the line of duty, if requested by a County department head. If so authorized, flags shall be flown at half staff at the facility(ies) that are under the authority of that department head, for a period of time specified by the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson may act in the absence of the Chairperson. The County Administrative Officer may act in the absence of the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson.
7. As directed by the Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors, upon the death of a public safety employee killed in the line of duty, the Fire Chief and Sheriff are authorized to direct their respective department facilities to fly flags at half staff, for a period specified by the department head.
8. As otherwise directed by the President of the United States, the Governor of California, or the Board of Supervisors or the County Administrative Officer in the absence of the Board.

Questions regarding the application of these guidelines should be directed to the County Administrative Office.