

Service Bars, Reefers and Overcoats

Also see [Blouse versus Reefer](#)

The Question

Are Service Tenure Insignias (aka "Service Bars") worn on the Reefer or the Overcoat?

Comments

Inspection Division has related that Service Tenure Insignias are **to be worn** on the Reefer/Overcoat.

As of November 2024, the directives can be misleading to the fact that Service Tenure Insignias are NOT worn on the Reefer or the Overcoat.

Uniform And Property [U04-01](#), XII-H-2 (Uniform And Appearance Standards), states that ... *"Upon completion of the below-listed periods of service, uniformed members are required to wear service bar(s) and/or star(s) on uniform outer garments **with the exception of shirts, rainwear, leather jackets, wool overcoats, fleece jackets, quarter-zip pullover, and sweaters authorized as an outer garment.**"*

There are **two types of wool overcoats**, according to Uniform And Property [U04-01-03](#) (Uniform Classifications) which lists the Reefer under the subheading of "Coat, 100% Wool" as an clothing item for Class A Uniforms. This should not be confused with another wool overcoat called the "Overcoat" (capital "O"), which is for lieutenants and above.

Chicago Police Department		Uniform and Property U04-01-03	
UNIFORM CLASSIFICATIONS			
			
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RESCINDS:	26 November 2021 Version		
INDEX CATEGORY:	04 - Uniform and Personal Equipment		
CALEA:	Law Enforcement Standards Chapter 41		

III. CLASS A UNIFORM

A. Clothing

3. Coat, 100% Wool

a. Reefer

b. Overcoat (lieutenants and above)

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A Reefer is made out of wool and is an overcoat, according to Uniform and Property [U06-01-04](#) (Reefer). *"Four button double-breasted reefer overcoat . . ."*

Chicago Police Department		Uniform and Property U06-01-04	
REEFER			
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RESCINDS:	U3.1505		
INDEX CATEGORY:	06 - Uniform and Equipment Specifications		
CALEA:			

I. REEFER

A. DESIGN:

Four button double-breasted reefer overcoat with a length approximately 34 inches inches long for a size 42R. Will have a convertible ulster-style collar, two out-side slash-through pockets, one inside "book" pocket on the left side, a star patch on left breast, and side vents. Female garments will be proportionately cut and sized.

B. MATERIAL:

Wool

1. Raeford 2 ply all wool elastique, #13507-96 Navy Blue, 19 to 20 ounces, or
2. Hamburger Woolen #975, or
3. Metcalf Brothers and Company wool elastique, #1470-2B, 11128 Brawny Blue, 28 ounces

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