

FACT SHEET

SUBJECT: Criteria for Military Escort(s) of Deceased Soldiers

1. Purpose. To provide guidance on selection and assignment of military escorts.
2. Facts.
 - a. The responsible commander at the preparing mortuary generally selects military escorts from the deceased's unit of assignment. However, if qualifications cannot be met an escort may be requested from another installation or nearby command.
 - b. One escort is authorized to accompany the remains (including cremated remains) of an eligible deceased soldier. One or more escorts may be provided for group remains. The number of escorts to be used for remains in a group burial will be determined by Cdr, PERSCOM (TAPC-PED-D).
 - c. An escort shall be neat in appearance (no medical profiles restricting wear of uniform or waiving personal appearance standards), of good character, sober and drug free, tactful in speech and pleasant in personality, and capable of taking appropriate action in an emergency.
 - d. If practical, the military escort will be of a status corresponding to the status of the deceased. This includes being of the same branch of service, of a grade at least equal to that of the deceased, from the same unit when practicable, and able to speak the language spoken by the person authorized to direct disposition (PADD).
 - e. After the mortuary affairs officer processes and prepares the remains, escorts accompany the remains from the preparing mortuary to the final destination. Escort duty will be in a TDY status and per diem will be paid (JFTR, Vol 1) for allowable travel time plus one day at the final destination.
3. Point of contact is the Mortuary Affairs Office, 798-3927/2293.

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