

State of Louisiana



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 24-84

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES-FLAGS

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:152 requires that the flag of the United States wave from sunrise to sunset every day over the State Capitol and the public departments and institutions of this State.

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:153 requires that the official flag of Louisiana wave from sunrise to sunset every day over the State Capitol and the public departments and institutions of the State.

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:153.1 requires that the POW/MIA Flag be displayed beneath the Louisiana State Flag and that the POW/MIA Flag wave from sunrise to sunset each day over the State Capitol.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish protocols that promote dignity and respect for the United States Flag, the State Flag, and the POW/MIA Flag.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to maintain consistency in the use of flags by public departments and institutions of the State through the establishment of policies governing the flying of flags by departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the State.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JEFF LANDRY, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1:

- A. The policies established by this Order shall apply to all flags flown by departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the State.
- B. Nothing in this Order shall be applied in a manner that violates or is contrary to Public Law 94-344, known as the Federal Flag Code.

Section 2:

Unless the context of this Executive Order indicates otherwise, the words and terms used in this Executive Order shall be defined as follows:

- A. "Flags of Louisiana" means the historical display of the ten flags flown over the State of Louisiana from the Spanish Flag of DeSoto in 1541 through the adoption of the Louisiana State Flag in 1912.
- B. "Half-staff" means the position of the flag when it is one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff.
- C. "Honor and Remember Flag" means the flag defined in R.S. 49:156 as the official state emblem of military service.
- D. "POW/MIA Flag" means the National League of Families POW/MIA Flag as designated by 36 U.S.C. § 902.
- E. "State Flag" means the flag of Louisiana as defined in La. R.S. 49:153, consisting of a solid blue field with the coat-of-arms of the state, the pelican tearing its breast to feed its young, in white in the center with an appropriate display of three drops of blood, and with a ribbon beneath, also in white, containing in blue the motto of the state, "Union, Justice and Confidence."
- F. "United States Flag" means the flag of the United States as defined in 4 U.S.C. §§ 1-2 as thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white. The union of the flag shall be fifty stars, white in a blue field.

Section 3:

- A. The United States Flag shall be flown daily from sunrise to sunset by public departments and institutions of the State.
- B. When a patriotic effect is desired, the United States Flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
- C. When flags are flown from adjacent halyards, flagpoles, or flagstaffs that are of equal height no flag may be placed to the United States Flag's right.
- D. When the halyards, flagpoles, or flagstaffs are not the same height, the United States flag should be at the center and at the highest point of the group. The flag of the United States should be hoisted first and lowered last.
- E. No flag may be placed above the United States Flag.

Section 4:

- A. The State Flag shall be flown daily from sunrise to sunset by public departments and institutions of the State.

- B. The State Flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
- C. The State Flag shall be placed to the United States Flag's left or beneath the flag of the United States when flown on the same halyard, flagpole, or flagstaff.

Section 5:

- A. The POW/MIA Flag shall wave from sunrise to sunset each day over the State Capitol.
- B. The POW/MIA Flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.
- C. When flying the POW/MIA Flag on the same flagstaff as the United States Flag, the POW/MIA Flag should fly immediately below the United States flag. However, if the United States Flag and the State Flag will be flown along with the POW/MIA Flag on the same flagstaff, the order from top to bottom should be: the United States Flag, State Flag, then the POW/MIA Flag.
- D. When flags are flown from separate adjacent halyards, flagpoles, or flagstaffs that are of equal height the POW/MIA Flag should be on the State Flag's left.

Section 6:

- A. Flags should be of approximately equal size.
- B. When a flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferably by burning.
- C. Flags should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.
- D. Flags should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

Section 7:

- A. Except as provided herein, only flags specifically adopted or recognized by Louisiana State Law shall be flown by departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the State.
- B. In addition to flags specifically recognized by Louisiana State Law, the following flags may be flown by executive branch agencies and offices:
 - a. Military Flags of the Armed Forces
 - b. Louisiana National Guard Flags
 - c. The Flags of Louisiana

- d. An official flag of a state department, university, or agency that contains the name or symbol of the state department, university, or agency.

Section 8:

- A. The United States 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.
- B. The flag shall be flown at half-staff upon the order of the Governor of the State of Louisiana.
- C. On Memorial Day all state buildings flying the flag of the United States of America shall display the flag at half-staff until noon and shall thereafter raise the flag to the top of the staff.
- D. The Honor and Remember Flag shall be displayed over the State Capitol on the following days:
- a. Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, and
 - b. Veterans Day, November 11.

Section 9:

- A. All departments, commissions, boards, agencies, and officers of the state, or any political subdivision thereof, are authorized and directed to cooperate in the implementation of this Order.
- B. This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until amended, modified, terminated, or rescinded by the Governor, or terminated by operation of law.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 14th day of June, 2024.



Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

Nancy Landry
SECRETARY OF STATE