



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

24-123

September 4, 2024

TO: All Personnel

FROM: Uniform Committee

SUBJECT: Update to Uniform Vendor Project

Members of UFA's Uniform Committee have been working diligently over the last several months to finalize the onboarding of our new vendors to provide more options for your uniform items. This project has proven to be more complicated than initially expected, but we are nearing the end of the process.

First and foremost, we want to thank you for your patience over the past year. We hear and understand the frustrations related to our current uniform provider. Though we have been in regular communications with Skaggs, we have experienced limited success with meaningful, long-term improvements.

To facilitate the addition of our new vendors, we have made the following changes:

1. Due to the restrictions of a regional dealer agreement between 5.11 and Skaggs, we have made the decision to move away from 5.11 and go to the First Tactical brand of t-shirts & quarter zip job shirts.
 - o A long-standing manufacturer agreement with 5.11 allows only Skaggs to carry and sell the 5.11 products we use, thus prohibiting other vendors from providing the same items to us. We have attempted to negotiate different terms with 5.11 at multiple levels without success.
2. First Tactical brand is nearly identical to 5.11 and may come at a slightly reduced cost. The First Tactical products include a line similar to 5.11, while also offering the following: quarter zip job shirt which we believe will be more durable, female specific sizing, broader men's sizes ranging from XS to 6XL, and black fabric options for our chief officers.
 - o UFA's Administration is implementing a 2-year phase out period for 5.11 items that are still in good, serviceable condition. The new approved First Tactical products will be added to the Uniform Policy and will be the only approved uniform items as of July 1, 2026.
3. The State EMS designation on the t-shirt will be moving to the right side of the chest under the officer rank designation (if applicable). This has been a common request from all vendors which will simplify the logistics involved with the logo screen print process.
 - o Vendors will no longer need to pre-screen print and stock each of our three EMS levels. Moving forward they will print a standard UFA T-shirt with UFA logos on the left chest and the T-shirt back. At the time of order, the EMS designation and officer rank will be added to the right chest area according to the UFA customer's indicated rank and medical certification level.
4. The embroidery on the back of quarter zip outerwear will no longer be added. This change will reduce cost by nearly 40% and should speed up the production of these items. This embellishment change will also more closely compliment the branding on our current Carhartt outerwear jackets, with a front logo only.

The following vendors will be ready to supply uniforms as described below:

- Galls Uniforms – A national vendor, based in Lexington, KY with regional distribution centers, will be ready to start taking orders for UFA uniform items beginning on **Monday, September 16, 2024**. Ordering will be completely online with products delivered via FedEx direct to UFA personnel’s home addresses. Shipping costs will be forthcoming. Additional information and directions will also be forthcoming regarding account/login setup for Galls online ordering. All employees will soon receive an email from Galls to set up an account if they choose to do so.
- L.N. Curtis – A regional vendor, with a local branch in Salt Lake located near 2100 South & Bangerter Hwy (1635 south Gramercy Road, Salt Lake, 84104). L.N. Curtis is ready to supply Workrite Nomex pants and badge shirts immediately, with other stock uniform items expected soon. Ordering will be done via email, utilizing a fillable PDF form. UFA’s finalized order form is forthcoming and will be made available for you soon. Customer service will also be available by phone and in-person, with three assigned sales associates knowledgeable to UFA products ready to serve you. In-store fitting, sizing & alterations will be available. Order pick up via in-store Will Call is available at no cost or the option of shipping to personnel’s home address is also an option. Shipping costs will be based on your total order price as listed below:
 - \$13.99 shipping for orders up to \$150
 - \$15.99 shipping for orders \$151-\$350
 - \$18.99 shipping for orders \$351-500
- Skaggs Uniforms – No significant changes. Skaggs currently has a limited T-shirt inventory in stock; stock mainly includes Advanced EMT items and some 'Blank UFA screen printed' style. UFA t-shirt 'blanks' will be customized upon ordering with your State EMS and officer designations. Skaggs will be stocking First Tactical products as soon as product arrives and will replace 5.11 items as they are depleted.

We are excited for the upcoming addition of these new vendors. We are confident that both Galls and LN Curtis will offer an improvement in customer service and dependable product availability for our uniform needs. Additional information for these vendors will be shared over the coming weeks as it becomes available.