

# Air Force Honor Guard History



Undated photo of the USAF Honor Guard Drill Team at the Washington Monument. Circa 1960s

The Honor Guard traces its beginning to May 1948 when Headquarters Command USAF was instructed to develop plans for an elite ceremonial unit comparable to those of the other armed services. As a result, a ceremonial unit was activated within the Air Police Squadron in September 1948 with an authorized strength of 98 enlisted and two officers. However, due to transfers and personnel attrition, the end of the year found the Ceremonial Detachment, for all practical purposes, disbanded. It wasn't until March 1949 that sufficient personnel were assigned to enable the unit to function. The Ceremonial Detachment continued to be assigned to the Air Police Squadron until December 1971. Finally, on January 1, 1972, the Honor Guard came into its own as a separate unit. Today's Honor Guard is comprised of volunteers who are carefully screened for their ability and physical dexterity. Only those persons who are highly motivated and maintain an exceptionally high standard of appearance, conduct, and aptitude for ceremonial duty are considered.



## Counties Qualified to Receive Honor Guard Services

### CALIFORNIA

Butte  
Colusa  
Del Norte  
El Dorado  
Glenn  
Humboldt  
Lassen  
Mendocino  
Modoc  
Nevada  
Placer  
Plumas  
Shasta  
Sierra  
Siskiyou  
Sutter  
Tehama  
Trinity  
Yuba

### NEVADA

Carson City  
Churchill  
Douglas  
Lyon  
Mineral  
Pershing  
Storey  
Washoe

### OREGON

Curry  
Jackson  
Josephine  
Klamath

**\*\*Under the Uniform Code of Military Justice\*\***

*"Military personnel are not authorized to participate in partisan political management, campaigns, or conventions; use his or her official authority or influence for interfering with an election; affecting the course or outcome of an election; soliciting votes for a particular candidate or issue; or requiring or soliciting political contributions from others."*

TO HONOR WITH DIGNITY

Beale Air Force Base  
**HONOR GUARD**

TO HONOR WITH DIGNITY

**CONTACT  
INFORMATION  
AND DETAILS  
OF SERVICES**



*Receiving of military funeral honors is a congressional right awarded to all U.S. Military veterans, and is provided free of charge.*

### INDIVIDUALS THAT QUALIFY TO RECEIVE MILITARY HONORS

- ▶ *All prior Air Force and Army Air Corps personnel who have received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces. To include active duty personnel, retirees, veterans, national guardsmen, and reservists.*
- ▶ *Individuals must provide proof of service by filing a DD FORM 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty).*

### MISSION STATEMENT

*“To render funeral honors for our fallen veterans and to perform ceremonial functions with precision, professionalism and pride. To strive to exceed the standards of conduct and appearance while demonstrating the highest level of commitment as we represent the United States Air Force and Team Beale.”*

### CONTACT INFORMATION

**530-634-3346**

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Email

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Website

[www.bealefss.com/honorguard](http://www.bealefss.com/honorguard)

Hours of Operation

**0730-1630 Monday-Friday**

### OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED

- Presenting of the colors during the national anthem
- Posting of the colors for ceremonies
- Youth educational briefings
- Air Force wedding cordons
- Flag raising ceremonies
- Memorial services

*Contact the Honor Guard office with questions about other events not listed.*

