**What U.S. Code governs the National Flag?**

Chapter 1, Title 4, United States Code governs the use/display of the National Flag for federal agencies and provides guidance for others.

It should be noted that each state Attorney General has the responsibility to set flag policy, including the National flag, for their respective states.

**(a)**It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open. However, when a patriotic effect is desired, the flag may be displayed 24 hours a day if properly illuminated during the hours of darkness.

**(b)**The flag should be hoisted briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

**(c)**The flag should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement, except when an all-weather flag is displayed.

**(d)**The flag should be displayed on all days, especially on New Year’s Day, January 1; Inauguration Day, January 20; Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday, third Monday in January; Lincoln’s Birthday, February 12; Washington’s Birthday, third Monday in February; Easter Sunday (variable); Mother’s Day, second Sunday in May; Armed Forces Day, third Saturday in May; Memorial Day (half-staff until noon), the last Monday in May; Flag Day, June 14; Father’s Day, third Sunday in June; Independence Day, July 4; National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day, July 27; Labor Day, first Monday in September; Constitution Day, September 17; Columbus Day, second Monday in October; Navy Day, October 27; Veterans Day, November 11; Thanksgiving Day, fourth Thursday in November; Christmas Day, December 25; and such other days as may be proclaimed by the President of the United States; the birthdays of States (date of admission); and on State holidays.

**(e)**The flag should be displayed daily on or near the main administration building of every public institution.

**(f)**The flag should be displayed in or near every polling place on election days.

**(g)**The flag should be displayed during school days in or near every schoolhouse.

**Flags policy as regards Republic of Ireland, taken from attached guidance:**

It is normal practice to fly the National Flag daily at all military posts **and from a limited number of important State buildings**.

The National Flag is also flown on St Patrick's Day (the National Holiday), Easter Sunday and Easter Monday (in commemoration of the Rising of 1916) and the National Day of Commemoration on the Sunday closest to the 11 July (the date of the Anglo-Irish Truce in 1921).

On these occasions the National Flag is flown from all State buildings throughout the country which are equipped with flagpoles, and many private individuals and concerns also fly it.

The National Flag is flown on the occasion of other significant national and local events such as festivals and commemorations.

The National Flag is frequently flown at half-mast on the death of a national or international figure on all prominent government buildings equipped with a flag pole. The death of a prominent local figure may be marked locally by the National Flag being flown at half-mast.

Where the National flag is flown at half-mast no other flag should be half-masted.

**AQW 25444/11-15**
Mr Michael Copeland
Ulster Unionist Party
East Belfast

Tabled Date: 09/09/2013
Answered On Date: 27/11/2013

Question: To ask the Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure to outline the current policy on flying the Union Flag over the Ulster Museum, Belfast.

Answer: No flags are flown over any NMNI sites.