FLAG CEREMONY OF FINAL TRIBUTE

PEOPLE:
Color Guard to retire the flag for the day
Color Guard for the flag receiving a final tribute
Table to rest the flags being retired, but not used in the ceremony. All properly folded.

Only 1 flag should be used in this ceremony to represent all the flags that will be burned in the following service, or given to a group who will properly dispose of them.

The assembly gathers around the flag pole and retires the flag that has flown during the day, just as they always would. As that flag is finished being folded, the second Color Guard stands ready.

CALLER: Color Guard dismissed. Waits till they have finished moving.

MC: Ceremonies for disposing unserviceable flags originated at the American Legion National Convention of 1937. The flag Code suggests (not require) that “when a flag has served its useful purpose, it should be destroyed, preferably by burning.” The burning of a flag at any other time is disrespectful. This final tribute will be conducted with the utmost respect. I ask that the audience please remain silent throughout the ceremony.

CALLER: Color Guard attention! Color Guard advance. Color Guard halt! Color Guard hoist the colors!

MC: This flag has served its nation well and long. It has worn to a condition in which it should no longer be used to represent the nation. This single flag represents all the flags collected here today and the honor we show here for this single flag, we are showing to ALL these flags seen here.

CALLER: Please join me in the Pledge of Allegiance. Recite pledge Please join me as we sing the first stanza of the Star Spangled Banner. sing song Color Guard retire the colors.

This time the flag is to be lowered VERY slowly compared to its usual lowering. Once the flag has been lowered and folded, it is delivered to the person standing by the other flags on the table.

CALLER: Color Guard dismissed!

MC: This concludes the Ceremony of Final Tribute.