

RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM

REQUESTS

Interested person shall make their requests to ride through a Watch Commander, who will arrange the shift and time that the participant will be assigned.

PROCEDURE

1. Department Waiver and Release Form:
 - A. The Departmental waiver and release form is required for all passenger observers.
 - B. Adults are authorized to sign the Waiver and Release Form after they have read the form completely and acknowledge that they understand its content and meaning
 - C. Waiver and Release Forms for juvenile riders must be signed by their parent or guardian.
 - D. The assigned officer will maintain control over the observer at all times and instruct him/her in the conditions which necessarily limit his/her participation. These instructions should include:
 1. The observer will not involve him/herself in any investigation, handling of evidence, discussions with victims or suspects, or handling any police equipment.
 2. The observer will follow the directions of the assigned officer.
 3. If the observer, when a juvenile, is left at a location because of necessity, he/she will remain at the location until picked up by another police officer or his/her parent or guardian.
 4. The observer may terminate his/her ride at any time he/she desires and the officer may, at his/her discretion, return the observer home or to the station should the observer become a hindrance to the performance of his/her duties.
 5. Observers may be allowed to continue riding during the transportation and booking process so long as it does not jeopardize his/her safety.
 6. Assigned officers are not to allow any observer to be present in any residences or situations that would cause undue stress or embarrassment to the observer, a victim or any other citizen.
 - E. In the event of an emergency, or extenuating circumstances, the rider may be let out onto the sidewalk in a well-lighted area to allow the officer to respond. In this event, the rider will be picked up by another officer or the Watch Commander. If this is not possible, a responsible party (or parent in the case of juveniles) will be called by the dispatcher to respond to the location where the rider was left.