

GENERAL ORDER XXVIII

SUBJECT: POLICE RIDE-A-LONG PROGRAM

EFFECTIVE DATE: 11-03-05

REVIEW DATE: 01-13-12

NOTE: This rule or regulation is for internal use only, and does not enlarge an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this department, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

I. PURPOSE

To establish guidelines for a department ride-along program.

- II. Everyone who participates in the Police Ride-A-Long Program must complete and sign an application form.
- III. Participants under the age of 18 years must have the release and waiver signed by a parent or legal guardian.
- IV. Persons under the age of 16 years will be allowed to participate by special permission only (granted by the Chief of Police or Assistant Chief of Police) and accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or other responsible adult.
- V. Approval and scheduling will be made thru a department supervisor. Upon approval the applicant will be notified of the date and time to ride unless other arrangements have been made. The on-duty supervisor will make the ride assignment.
- VI. Applicants must present their approved application form and identification to the supervisor on duty the day they are scheduled to ride. All completed forms are to be directed to the Assistant Chief of Police.
- VII. Participants attire should reflect good taste and a professional appearance.
- VIII. No one will be permitted to ride more than once per year, limited to 8 hours, without special permission, this received from the Chief of Police or Assistant Chief of Police.
- XI. Students under the age of 18 riding for course requirements at school, unless special permission has been obtained, are limited to 4 hours ride-a-long time.
- X. Because of the potential for Police activity to escalate to a dangerous level, all

participants will adhere to the directions and instructions of the officer. Participants will not be taken to the scene of a potentially dangerous situation. Under some circumstances, it may be prudent for the officer to drop off a ride-a-long at a safe location until completion of the call.

- XI. All riders must agree not to publicly discuss the names of persons involved in police matters. It is essential to sound police practices that statements of evidence gathered during criminal investigations be held confidential. No video, photographic, or recording devices are allowed without permission. Note taking is permitted.
- XII. This program is scheduled Sunday thru Thursday between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 10:00 P.M.. Exceptions can be made with the approval of the Chief of Police or the Assistant Chief of Police.

AUTHORITY

- A. This policy is issued by the authority of the Chief of Police. Any policy additions, deviations or revisions shall be made only at the direction of the Chief of Police.

By Authority of:

Charles Brotherton, Jr., Chief of Police