

- I. Policy
- II. Procedures
- III. Participant Rules

- I. Policy

It is the policy of this Division to encourage the participation of the public in our ride along program in order to familiarize them with the mission and duties of the Park Police. **This policy does not apply to an officer's spouse or children. They may participate with the approval of the officer's supervisor or commander.**

- II. Procedures

- A. All persons desiring to participate in the ride along program, with the exception noted above, will complete a "Ride Along Application and Waiver" *form available at www.parkpolice.org* (see Division Forms Log) and read the attached program rules.
 - 1. No one individual may ride more often than once every three months without the permission of the *day work* Patrol Commander.
 - 2. A supply of forms and rules will be kept available for the public at the front desk/office/Communications at each station.
- B. All completed forms received will be forwarded to the appropriate *day work Patrol Commander*.
- C. The *day work Patrol* commander will:
 - 1. Enter the date received and check for prior program participation.
 - 2. **Ensure that a wanted check is run on every applicant, except Division employees and family.**
 - 3. Review and approve/disapprove all applications for this program and forward all approved applications to the appropriate section commander for assignment. The Patrol Commander will notify applicants who are not approved in writing.
 - 4. Will ensure that the appropriate section Commander notifies the applicant of the ride along date and time.
 - 5. Maintain an alphabetical file of all completed applications.
- D. Officer participation in this program is voluntary. Any officer may refuse a ride along for cause. Assigned officers will complete the bottom section of the form upon completion of the ride along and forward it to the Patrol Commander via their supervisor.
- E. Officers will be aware of and ensure participant compliance with the rules in Section IV below.
 - 1. When responding to a potentially hazardous or dangerous call, officers will first drop the ride along at a safe location and notify Communications. Another officer may be sent to pick up the ride along or he/she may wait there for the assigned officer to return.
 - 2. Officers will not ask participants to perform any police related duties except in an emergency.

III. Participant Rules

The following rules are established for all ride along participants and will be given to them along with the application and waiver form.

- A. The Division's ride along program is available to all persons over the age of 13.
- B. All participants will be required to complete and sign the Ride Along Application and Waiver form. If the participant is under 18 years old, his/her parent or guardian must also sign the form giving consent.
- C. All ride alongs will be scheduled at the Division's convenience.
- D. Participants will wear proper casual dress attire, such as slacks and a shirt or blouse. No T-shirts or shorts are permitted.
- E. Ride alongs will be scheduled for a four hour period. Upon request, a Patrol Commander may approve ride alongs.
- F. In the case of a potentially dangerous or hazardous call, civilians will be dropped off at a safe location and arrangements made to pick up the ride along.
- G. Participants will not become involved in any situation except at the officer's request.
- H. Participants will remain in or on the police vehicle (horse, motorcycle, boat or car) unless advised otherwise by the officer.
- I. Participants will comply with the officer's instructions at all times and will wear appropriate safety equipment, as required.
- J. Failure to comply with any of the aforementioned rules will result in the immediate termination of the ride along.

**Approved Park Police Document
Signed Original on File**

End of Directive