



701 Laurel Street, Menlo Park, Ca 94025
 Business (650) 330-6300 Fax (650) 327-4314

POLICE RIDE-A-LONG PROGRAM REQUEST FORM AND WAIVER

I, the undersigned, hereby request permission to ride in a police vehicle of the City of Menlo Park, at such times and in such areas as may be approved by the Chief of Police or his designated representative. I understand that the police vehicle will be engaged in normal police patrol and law enforcement activities, some of which may be dangerous and expose passengers to risk or harm. I acknowledge this risk of harm and voluntarily accept it, hereby releasing the City of Menlo Park, the Menlo Park Police Department, the individual officers and employees of the City of Menlo Park from any liability which might result from my participation in this program. I give permission to have my background checked for criminal history. I agree to the rules and instructions listed on the back of this form.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

NOTE: Applicants under eighteen (18) years of age must have this form read and signed by their parent or guardian prior to any participation in this program. The ride-along program is generally open to persons who are at least fourteen (14) years of age.

PERMISSION OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

I, the undersigned, being the parent or guardian of _____ hereby join with him/her in requesting permission for him/her to ride in a police vehicle as aforesaid and do join with him/her in granting a release and discharge to the City of Menlo Park, the Menlo Park Police Department, the individual officers and employees of the City of Menlo Park, as set out in detail above.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

In case of emergency notify: _____ Phone: _____

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING REQUIRED INFORMATION

Full Name of Applicant:		Phone Number:
Address:		Email Address:
Driver's License/I.D. Card #:		Date of Birth:
Dates preferred (Please allow 2 weeks to process)	Times Preferred (Please pick a 4-hour period)	I would like to ride with Officer:
1 st _____	_____	School attending/Occupation:
2 nd _____	_____	
3 rd _____	_____	

Background Check: _____ Date: _____
Dispatcher's Signature

Application Approved: _____ Date: _____
Sergeant's Signature

Menlo Park Police Department Ride-Along Rules & Regulations

1. No person shall be allowed to ride without having submitted a signed ride-along request and waiver form. Refusal to complete this form, or false statements of any nature on same, will disqualify that person from participation in the program. The request to ride form must be turned in to the Police Department two (2) weeks prior to the first requested date of participation. At the Watch Commander's discretion, exceptions may be made for special situations requiring shorter notice, as long as other procedures are followed. Special situations may include out of state visitors or criminal justice personnel.
2. Civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once every six months, without prior approval of the patrol commander.
3. Participants must obey the orders and instructions given by the officer to whom they are assigned.
4. Participants must not leave the patrol vehicle unless instructed to do so by the officer.
5. When the patrol unit is assigned to a dangerous call, the rider may be dropped off at a safe location and he/she must remain there until the officer or another police unit returns to pick him/her up.
6. The rider will provide his/her own transportation to and from the Police Department.
7. Persons with extensive criminal backgrounds will not be allowed to ride with an officer. Background checks will be conducted on all applicants.
8. Ride along tours usually last four (4) hours; however, either the officer or the rider may terminate the tour at any time. The Watch Commander will be advised of early termination.
9. Applicants will be notified by the Police Department after filing the written application request form. At that time, the ride will be scheduled and/or confirmed, or denied.
10. The applicant's participation is a privilege and not a right. The basic premise of the ride along program is to establish rapport with the police and learn about the functions of law enforcement.
11. Participants shall not converse with any prisoners, suspects, victims or witnesses nor shall they participate in any police activity unless directly requested by officers.
12. All participants must agree not to discuss names of persons involved in police cases or incidents. The observer will be considered a confidant of the Police Department and it is essential that all matters pertaining to evidence or statements gathered in investigations be held confidential.
13. Tape recorders and cameras will not be permitted while participating in the program, unless express permission is granted by the Watch Commander.
14. By signing the waiver form on the reverse of this page, the ride along participant agrees to the rules and regulations listed above.