

5-09/250.00 - Ride-Along Program

It is the policy of this Department to encourage interested citizens to familiarize themselves with the facilities, equipment, and operations of this Department by riding as observers and by touring station/unit facilities.

Assignments for ride-alongs (or station/unit tours) shall be made through prior arrangements with the station/unit involved. Station/unit commanders are urged to approve requests for ride-alongs which originate within their station/unit, provided the participant meets the criteria set forth under this section. When headquarter units receive group requests for ride-alongs, they shall supply the station/unit commander with the names and phone numbers of the persons wishing to participate in ride-alongs and coordinate the date and time with the station/unit involved. Individual requests should be referred to the appropriate station/unit.

High school juniors and seniors, 16-years-old or older, shall be permitted to participate as ride-alongs. Students below the junior year should be limited to well-planned comprehensive tours of station/unit facilities.

The number of ride-alongs allowed during any given shift shall be determined by the station/unit commander.

Vehicle safety belts shall be worn by all ride-along participants while riding in county vehicles.
