

Pleasanton Police Department

Citizen Ride Along Program



Ride Along Program Description:

The Pleasanton Police Department offers a citizen Ride Along Program to provide interaction between patrol officers and members of our community. The primary goal of the program is to maintain the important relationships we have established with our community members while providing an opportunity to better understand the challenges, hazards and rewards of a police officer's daily duties.

Riding Along with an Officer Offers the Following:

- An opportunity for residents to get to know their police officers.
- An opportunity for citizens interested in a career in law enforcement to experience the diversity of a police officer's duties and of law enforcement in general.
- An educational opportunity to community members about what to expect and why should they call for police assistance.

General Procedures

- Generally Ride Along requests must be submitted one week prior to the requested Ride Along date.
- No one shall ride until department approval has been granted and a properly completed waiver has been signed and/or approved by a watch commander.
- Ride Alongs may accompany an officer during a booking process provided that their presence does not jeopardize their safety or the integrity of an investigation.
- Officers, while accompanied by an observer, are generally not permitted to engage in a vehicle pursuit, respond to a violent in-progress crime, or perform high risk traffic stops. In these situations, the observer or Ride Along will be dropped off at a safe location.
- Ride Alongs will not be permitted in any situation that would jeopardize their safety or cause undue stress or embarrassment to a victim or other citizen.
- A background check will be conducted of all Ride Along applicants.
- Participants are generally only permitted to ride between 9:00 am and 12:00 am.

Who can Participate in a Police Ride Along?

Anyone 16 years old or older, who lives, attends school or who is employed in Pleasanton, an applicant for a position with this agency, or an active law enforcement officer. Ride Along applicants may be disqualified for issues related to their criminal background, age, pending criminal action or lawsuit against the department, or at a supervisor's discretion. Participants must minimally meet the following conditions:

- No outstanding warrants and no felony arrests.
- The observer shall be in good health. No persons with severe colds or illnesses will be permitted to Ride-Along.
- Not currently on probation or parole.
- Not have participated in a ride along within the past 180 days (individuals are limited to two (2) ride alongs in a twelve (12) month period beginning with the first ride along, except for department job applicants).
- Submit to a criminal history check prior to the ride along.

- No Ride Along participant will be allowed to carry a firearm, unless the participant is currently a certified active police officer with another jurisdiction in the State of California or a federal law enforcement officer.

Rules of Conduct during a Ride Along:

- All candidates must read and sign a Ride Along waiver; minors must provide the waiver form signed by a parent or guardian.
- Observers shall, at all times, comply with all directions of the assigned officer.
- Observers shall not interfere with investigations in any way; observers must not become physically or verbally involved in any incident.
- All cameras and recording devices are prohibited and no photographs or recordings shall be taken.
- Observers must remain in the patrol car at all times unless told to do otherwise by the host officer.
- Observers must wear a seat belt when the vehicle is in motion.
- In the event of a serious situation, the observer must be willing to remain in a safe place as directed by the officer.
- Any privileged information overheard regarding a criminal investigation is to remain confidential in nature and the observer shall not discuss that information with anyone.
- Cell phones & electronic devices are to be shut off during the ride along.
- Be sensitive to people in distress.
- The ride along may be stopped at any time by the assigned officer if any of these guidelines are violated, or the participant interferes with the duties of the officer.

Dress Code and Acceptable Attire:

This agency is proud of the professional image and service we provide our community.

Since our department serves all members of the community, we would appreciate the ride along taking a conservative approach in considering attire while riding.

- Soiled or inappropriate clothing, including those with obvious logos, sweatshirts, hats of any kind, offensive or derogatory language, etc. are not permitted.
- Jeans are not allowed.
- No visible tattoos or extraordinary piercings are permitted.

Males: Slacks and a collared shirt is acceptable.

Females: A blouse or sweater and slacks are recommended; skirts and dresses are not encouraged.

Peace Officer Ride Along:

Off Duty members of other law enforcement agencies will not be permitted to ride along with on duty officers without the approval of the on-duty watch commander. Off duty officers shall not represent themselves as a police officer, or participate in any law enforcement activity, except as emergency circumstances may require.

CITIZEN RIDE ALONG PROGRAM APPLICATION

(Submit Completed Application to Pleasanton Police Department Records Division)

Name: _____ Date: _____
(Last, First, Middle)

Date of Birth: _____ Driver's License # _____

Address: _____ City: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work/Cell: _____

School/Organization: _____

Name of Person to Notify in Case of Emergency (parent if rider is under 18):

Name: _____ Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home # _____ Work/Cell: _____

Purpose for this Ride Along: _____

Have you previously participated in a Ride Along with the Pleasanton Police Department?

_____ No _____ Yes: When _____

Have you been fingerprinted for Pleasanton Police Purposes? _____ No _____ Yes

Explanation: _____

Dates Desired: (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____

Time Desired: _____

In order to participate in this program, you are required to sign (if a minor, you & a parent or guardian must sign) the attached "Assuming Risk of Injury and Damage Waiver and Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement." This form is attached and must be returned with this application. Police employees will verify parents consent via phone call or in person prior to the date of the Ride Along.

(Office Use Only)

Warrant/Corpus checked by: _____ Clear: Y N CII check clear: Y N

Local Contacts: Y N (attach printouts) Ride along previous six months: Y N

Approved () Denied () By: _____ Date: _____

Reason(s): _____

Assignment Date: _____ Time: _____ Officer: _____

Comments by assigned officer:

POLICE RIDE ALONG PROGRAM RELEASE AND WAIVER

I (my child) _____ have (has) requested permission of the City of Pleasanton to voluntarily participate in the POLICE RIDE ALONG PROGRAM so that I (my child) may observe firsthand the activities of the City of Pleasanton Police Department. I have been fully informed and fully understand the risks involved in such observation activity.

In consideration of the City of Pleasanton's acceptance of my (my child's) application to voluntarily participate in the department's POLICE RIDE ALONG PROGRAM, I (and my child) understand that this activity involves risks and that serious injuries could occur while I am (my child is) voluntarily participating in this activity. These risks include injury, or even death, from vehicle accidents, actions by third parties such as being hit, shot, or subject to assault with other substances, riots, breach of peace, explosions, and electrocution. Knowing these risks, I want (my child) to participate in this activity. I (on behalf of my child) hereby assume these risks, and hereby waive, for myself (my child), my (child's) heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, hereby waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I (my child) may have against the City of Pleasanton, the City of Pleasanton Police Department, and its Council, officials, employees, agents and/or volunteers for any and all injuries or damages suffered by me (my child) arising from whatever cause directly or indirectly connected with, related to or associated with my (child's) participation in the RIDE ALONG PROGRAM. I attest that I am (my child is) physically capable and fit to participate in the RIDE ALONG PROGRAM. I understand and agree that medical and/or other services rendered to me (my child) by or at the insistence of any of the above parties is not an admission of liability to provide or continue to provide any such services, and is not a waiver by any said parties of rights herein.

I have read the above and understand that important legal rights are being waived.

Signature of Applicant _____
Date

Signature of Parent or Guardian (if applicant under 18 years of age) _____
Date

Name of Parent or Guardian (please print)

Police employees will verify parental consent prior to Ride Along.

Verified by (PD employee)