



COLUMBIA HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY MANUAL

TITLE: RIDE-ALONG REQUESTS	GENERAL ORDER NUMBER: 611
REFERENCES: ATTACHMENTS: Ride-Along Request Form	EFFECTIVE DATE: 06/01/2016
REVIEW DATE: 01/01/2019	DISTRIBUTION: A

The purpose of this General Order is to allow Columbia Heights residents interested in municipal law enforcement to directly observe police activity. Immediate family members may also ride along to experience the rewards and stressors of law enforcement. The experience may encourage discussion and understanding of police work.

611:1 Procedures

611:11 Routing of Ride-Along Requests

Ride-along requests shall be routed to the Captain or designee.

611:12 Citizen Requests

The citizen's full name, date of birth, sex, telephone number, and current address shall be included with the request.

611:121

Citizens requesting to ride along must be 14 years of age or older, and have a legitimate interest in law enforcement.

611:122

Citizens requesting to ride along shall be subject to complete warrant, driver's license, and all City inquiry checks prior to riding. Current police officers and family members of existing employees are exempt from backgrounding requirements.

611: 123

Citizens may ride with detectives under the same provisions outlined in this General Order.

611:13 Ride-Along Request

All riders shall sign the Ride-Along Request form prior to riding.

611: 14 Non-Sworn Employees

Non-sworn employees not assigned to the patrol division may ride while off duty with permission from the shift supervisor. No liability release is required. Employees are limited to riding for one 8-hour shift once per calendar month, or two 4-hour shifts once per calendar month.

611: 15 Prospective Employees and Officers From Other Agencies

Prospective employees may ride at the discretion of the Chief of Police; law enforcement officers currently employed by other agencies may ride at the discretion of the shift supervisor.

611: 16 Officer's Immediate Family

During the calendar year, each member of an officer's immediate family may ride along once. Family members are subject to the same conditions listed in section 611:12 of this General Order, except that family members 12 years of age or older may ride along.

611:2 High-Risk Calls

611:21 Procedures for High-Risk Calls

Ride-alongs shall observe the following procedures for high-risk calls:

- The ride-along shall remain in the police vehicle and observe. At the discretion of the participating officer, the option is available to leave the ride-along at a safe location prior to arrival at the scene.

- The ride-along shall not exit the police vehicle until the participating officer has determined that the situation is safe and under control. The ride-along shall exit only upon the verbal permission and authority of the participating officer.

In a pursuit situation, the squad containing the ride-along shall not participate in a pursuit unless authorized by a supervisor.

611:3 Responsibility

611:31 Chief of Police

The Chief of police or designee has the responsibility to review ride-along requests,

and determine if they meet the criteria for approval.

611:32 Shift Supervisor

The approved request shall be routed to the shift supervisor.

611:321 Assignment

The shift supervisor shall sign the Ride-Along Request form, and assign the ride-along to an officer.

611:333 Probationary Officers

Probationary patrol officers shall not participate in the Ride-Along Program.

BY ORDER OF:
Scott Nadeau, Chief of Police

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