

## **Leander Police Department Ride-Along Program Information Form**

- You must fill out and sign the Request for Approval to Ride in a Leander Police Unit form before your ride-along.
- Only people 18 years or older can ride with an officer, except as provided by policy for public safety cadets.
- Show up on the date and time you are scheduled. If you need to change your ride-along, it's your responsibility to reschedule.
- If you break the rules or act in a way that distracts the officer or keeps them from doing their job, you will be removed from the program and banned permanently.
- While on the ride-along program, you must:
  - Always act respectfully and professionally.
  - Stay inside the officer's vehicle during traffic stops, unless the officer tells you otherwise.
  - Stay with or close to the officer during disturbance calls or serious situations. Be ready to call for help on the radio if asked, unless the officer gives you other instructions.
- If you have a permit to carry a concealed weapon, you cannot bring or carry a weapon during the ride-along.
- Remember: You are not a police officer. You have no police powers or authority, except when the officer specifically directs you to do something.

### **Prohibited Acts**

During your ride along with a patrol officer, you must not:

- Drink alcohol before or during the ride along.
- Use offensive, abusive, or unprofessional language.
- Talk too much or in a way that distracts the officer or makes it hard for them to hear the radio.
- Make comments to victims, witnesses, suspects, or anyone involved in a police call that could upset, provoke, or escalate the situation.
- Enter a private home when officers are carrying out a search or arrest warrant.
- Share information with anyone who is not authorized if it could interfere with police operations, investigations, or procedures.
- Share information that could put someone's safety at risk.
- Reveal the identity of people who are arrested, in jail, under investigation, or suspected of a crime.
- Use anything you learn during the ride-along for personal benefit.
- Carry any type of weapon, even if you have a permit.

### **Dress Code Policy**

When you join a patrol officer for a ride-along, you must follow these clothing rules:

- Dress neatly, cleanly, and in a professional way at all times.
- Shorts and cut-off pants are not allowed.
- Do not wear clothing with logos, signs, or symbols that advertise a product, business, or organization.
- Clothing with offensive words, pictures, or designs is not permitted.
- Wear conservative shoes or boots. Sandals, open-toed shoes, or going barefoot are not allowed.
- Do not wear clothing or accessories that make you look like a police officer. This rule applies even if you are a member of another law enforcement agency.



*Leander Police Department*  
**Request for Approval to Ride in Leander Police Unit**

705 Leander Drive  
Leander, Texas 78646  
Phone (512) 528-2800

The purpose of the ride-along program is to allow members of the community to see what a police officer encounters while on their regular tour of duty. Currently the program allows for one ride-along unless you are a graduate of the Leander Citizen's Police Academy or Public Safety Cadet program. By completing this request form, you are consenting to a basic background and warrant check and must pass that background to be considered for the ride-along. You must be 18 years of age or older to participate in the ride-along program. A member of the Leander Police Public Safety Cadet Program, who is 16 or 17 may ride out during the day shift, and any who are 18 years or older may ride out on the night shift. Should the department approve your request to ride with an officer, you must follow the lawful directions of the officer when on patrol. Failure to follow the lawful direction of the officer will result in the discontinuation of the ride-along. The ride-along is limited to 6 hours, however the officer and any appropriate supervisor may extend or discontinue the ride-along at any time that they deem it in the best interest of the department. Once this request has been processed, an officer from professional standards will contact you to schedule your ride-along. If you have any questions regarding the status of your request to ride-along, contact professional standards at [lpd\\_psd@leandertx.gov](mailto:lpd_psd@leandertx.gov) or 512-528-2800 opt. 4.

**Personal Information for Background Check**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I. \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
D.O.B. \_\_\_\_\_ Race: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Drivers License # \_\_\_\_\_ D.L. State: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Personal Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Background Information Questionnaire**

☐ I am 18 years of age or older. ☐ I am an active LPD Public Safety Cadet Member, age ☐ 16 or 17, ☐ 18 or older.

Have you ridden with this Department before? ☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, when and with who?: \_\_\_\_\_

Reason for requesting a ride-along with LPD: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Requesting to Ride: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: ☐ 6AM – 6PM, ☐ 2PM – 2AM, ☐ 6PM – 6AM, Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Specific Officer Requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Administrative Office Use Only**

Date Request Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant passed background and warrant check? ☐ Yes ☐ No If no, why?: \_\_\_\_\_

Command supervisor approval, PSD sergeant for applicants:

☐ No ☐ Yes Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Ride-along scheduled: Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: ☐ 6AM – 6PM, ☐ 2PM – 2AM, ☐ 6PM – 6AM Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Officer assigned: (subject to change by sergeant): \_\_\_\_\_

## Department Standard Operational Procedure – Chapter 28

### Limited Liability Release Form

In consideration of being allowed to accompany Leander Police Officers on official patrol and otherwise participate in the Ride Along Program:

I, the undersigned, binding my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, do hereby release and agree to hold harmless, the City of Leander, its officers, agents, and employees and especially Officer \_\_\_\_\_ from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, demands, costs or damages arising from or resulting from property damage, personal injuries or death sustained by me while participating in the rider program, whether or not such damage or injury was caused or contributed to by any acts or omissions, including negligent acts or omissions, of any other person or persons. I further agree, binding my heirs, executors administrators and assigns to indemnify the City of Leander, its agents, officers, and employees, and especially the above named officer, from and against any liability, action, claim, damage, award or judgment incurred or suffered by the above city or individuals as a result of any act or omission by me or caused in whole or in part by me while participating in the rider program whether or not also caused in part by a person indemnified hereunder. In addition, I make the following representations and acknowledgments upon which I intend the City of Leander to rely:

1. I understand and agree that while accompanying any police officer during his law enforcement tour, I am to be only an unarmed, lay observer and bystander, with no active role whatever and that I will have and am given no duties, rights, powers of authority whatever other than those conferred by law upon any other person in like or similar circumstances as may arise from time to time.
2. I realize and agree that while participating in the rider program, I will not be an agent, servant, or employee of the City of Leander and therefore will not be covered by the City of Leander for any workers compensation, death or disability benefits.
3. I realize and acknowledge that there is an element of danger inherent in riding with a police officer on duty. It is foreseeable that situations may arise at any time, suddenly and without warning, in which I may be placed in great physical danger. I knowingly and willingly agree to assume these risks. I agree that neither the City of Leander, nor any of its officers or employees shall be obligated to take any extraordinary steps to protect my person or to provide a means of withdrawal or retreat for me, and I release them from any duty to do so.
4. I agree that any information that I may gain, through participation in the program, will be used by me only for my personal education purposes except where I am summoned as a witness in any administrative or court proceeding.
5. I understand that my participation in the above named program is a privilege subject to revocation at any time by the City of Leander, whose decision in the matter will be binding.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rider name, printed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rider signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date