



Schertz Police Department



Request to Ride Along
1400 Schertz Parkway, Bldg 6
Schertz, Texas 78646
Phone: 210-619-1200

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. 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. Requests for a person under 18 require signature of both the participating minor and the minor's parent(s) or guardian(s), prior to the minor's participation in the ride-along. No individual under age 12 may participate in the Ride Along program. A Division Commander will review the request and make a decision for approval or denial for the ride-along request. A denial of approval may be appealed to the Chief of Police. Once this request has been processed, the Patrol Lieutenant or their designee will contact you to schedule your ride-along. If you have any questions regarding the status of your request to ride-along, contact the community projects officer. The duration of a ride along may vary but should not exceed an eight (8) hour block.

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: _____ Cell Phone: _____
Email: _____
Occupation: _____
Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

Background Information Questionnaire

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

Reason for requesting a ride-along with SZPD: _____

Date Requesting to Ride: _____ Time Requested: _____
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? _____

Division Supervisor: _____ Date: _____ Approval: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Ride-along scheduled: Date: _____ Time: _____
Officer assigned: (Subject to change by Sergeant): _____

*****RIDE ALONG WAIVER MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE RIDE ALONG BEGINS*****

Policy: 4.67 Title: Ride-Along Program
Date Issued: December 2, 2014 (Replaces 4.67)
Revised: August 17, 2023

OBSERVER RULES

A. Dress/Grooming Standards

1. Observers in the Ride-Along Program shall dress and groom themselves in an appropriate and business-like manner. The section or shift supervisor may determine whether an observer participating in this program complies with the attire and grooming requirements of the Ride-Along Program.

2. Suitable professional or business casual attire must be worn. Blue jeans with holes/slits and/or T-shirts are not acceptable. All clothing must be clean with no holes.

3. Males shall be clean shaven or have neatly trimmed beards or mustaches.

4. Hair for both men and women shall be neatly groomed.

5. Clothing that advertises any product, business, or organization, or contains any sign or symbol that is inflammatory in nature is not permitted.

6. Sworn/commissioned officers from other agencies may not wear their agency uniform during the ride-along and must comply with the attire and grooming standards specified in this directive.

B. Conduct Standards

1. Observers in the Ride-Along Program are guests of the Police Department and shall conduct themselves in an appropriately responsible manner.

2. Observers shall:

a. remain in the police vehicle during routine traffic stops and disturbance calls of a serious nature.

When the officer is required to enter a private residence, or any premise that is not generally open to the public, the officer shall advise the person in control that an observer is accompanying the officer and shall obtain permission for the observer to enter the residence or premise. If permission is not granted, the observer shall remain in the police vehicle; and

b. obey without question any instructions given by the officer in charge.

3. Observers shall not:

a. Be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs and shall not have any observable odor of an alcoholic beverage on their breath;

b. Use profane or abusive language or behave in any manner that would provoke or escalate tension;

c. Enter into any police investigation or converse with any citizen, witness, or prisoner concerning any police incident;

d. Make known to unauthorized persons the identity of any persons arrested, detained, confined in jail, or suspected of any offense;

e. Disclose the location or information of any calls for service or law enforcement activity encountered during the ride-along through any means, including a social networking site, during the ride-along;

f. Operate or use any police equipment or vehicle or any item in police custody or control, except in case of emergency when requested to do so by a police officer;

g. Operate or use any police equipment or vehicle or any item in police custody or control, except in case of emergency when requested to do so by a police officer;

h. Carry a firearm, unless the observer is a sworn/commissioned full-time peace officer;

i. Imply or make statements to any individual that they are police officers; or

j. Use any recording device to capture video, photos or audio during the ride-along, unless the observer is a credentialed member of the media who has obtained permission in advance through the Chief of Police's Office. If permission is granted, an unaltered copy of all observer-recorded footage must be provided to the police department, as needed, for evidentiary purposes.