

General Policy of the Sheriff

Subject: Ride-Along Program	Effective Date: 3-20-2007 Revised: 09/27/2010
Distribution: ALL PERSONNEL	Reference: Pages: 3

I. PURPOSE

To establish a policy and procedure that would allow interested citizens the opportunity to accompany Pulaski County Sheriff's Office Patrol Deputies during the course of their patrol duties. This would allow citizens to gain a first hand look into the daily operations of a patrol deputy.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office to allow citizens the opportunity to ride-along with a patrol deputy to gain insight into the Pulaski County Sheriff's Office patrol operations.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Participation

1. The following persons are authorized to participate in the ride-along program.
 - a. Individuals approved to ride by the Sheriff.
 - b. College, University, or Vocational law enforcement oriented students engaged in research or fulfilling project or program requirements.
 - c. Members of an adult or youth civic groups over eighteen (18) years of age.
 - d. State, federal, and local law enforcement officials.
 - e. Visiting dignitaries.
 - f. Any adult approved by the Shift Lieutenant over the age of eighteen (18).

2. The following restrictions will be applied to citizens requesting to participate.
 - a. No family member will be allowed to ride with a related deputy.
 - b. No one with a personal relationship (dating) with a deputy will be allowed to ride with that deputy.
 - c. Citizens will not be allowed to carry any type of weapon regardless of license or permits. Law enforcement officers will be allowed to carry their department issued duty weapon with the approval of the Shift Lieutenant.
 - d. Media ride-along requests will be referred to the departmental Media Specialist's Office for review, approval, and scheduling.
 - e. Each citizen will be limited to one four hour tour in a thirty day period.

B. Procedure for Ride-Along

1. Authorization

- a. All requests to participate in the Ride-Along program will be approved by the Shift Lieutenant.
- b. The Shift Lieutenant may disallow any person's participation as a Ride-Along if, in his opinion, such participation may jeopardize any objective of the Sheriff's Office.

2. Waiver and Instructions

- a. Prior to participation, a waiver of liability form and instructions to Ride-Along participants must be completed.

3. Records Check

- a. An ACIC/NCIC criminal history and Pulaski County in-house check will be conducted on all Ride-Along applicants other than law enforcement officials.

C. Ride-Along

1. Prior to starting the ride-along the Deputy will ensure that the following are conducted.
 - a. Have the citizen read and sign the ride-along waiver.
 - b. Have the citizen read and sign the ride-along instruction sheet.

- c. Ensure that the citizen is dressed appropriately (business casual).
- d. Ensure that the citizen is not armed, even if they have a concealed weapons permit.
- e. Advise the participant that the deputy is subject to respond to all types of situations from routine to dangerous.
- f. Advise the participant that they must obey any legal order given by the deputy.

2. During the Ride-Along

- a. The deputy will assess each situation and take every possible step to minimize any risk to the Ride-Along participant.
- b. The deputy will prohibit the Ride-Along from accompanying the deputy into the scene of any potentially dangerous situation (Robberies in progress, burglaries in progress, disturbances, felony warrant arrests, hostage or barricaded subjects, mentally ill persons, etc.)
- c. The deputy will advise the Ride-Along participant that they will not be allowed to remain on the private property of any citizen if the citizen objects to their presence.
- d. The deputy will advise the Ride-Along participant that any failure to obey a lawful order by the assigned deputy or supervisor will terminate the individual's privilege to participate in the Ride-Along Program.

D. Post Ride-Along

- 1. After the ride-along is completed, the deputy will forward the instruction form and Waiver of Liability, to the Shift Lieutenant. The shift Lieutenant will forward these documents to the Patrol Captain or his designee.

IV. REPEALER

This policy supersedes and rescinds all previous policy regarding this topic.

Doc Holladay
Sheriff