



FORT WORTH POLICE DEPARTMENT

RIDE-IN INSTRUCTIONS

You have requested and received permission to "ride-in" with a Fort Worth Police Officer during a tour of duty. The officer and the staff of the Police Department welcome you and sincerely hope this will be a rewarding experience.

You must be aware that the nature of a police officer's duty is sometimes dangerous and at times involves tense situations. The officer's duty hours and activities are controlled by policy, procedure, and regulations. In the interest of a successful "Ride-In," please observe the following guidelines:

1. The officer's decision as to the extent of your involvement in situations is absolute.
2. The officer may decide that in the interest of your safety your presence at a scene is not advisable, in which event, the officer may choose to let you out at a safe location and return to pick you up later.
3. Ride-in participants will refrain from bringing alcohol into a police vehicle or facility or consuming same during or eight (8) hours prior to your "Ride-In" tour. All City vehicles are smoke-free; therefore, smoking is prohibited in the vehicles, city buildings, and any residences or businesses you may enter during the ride-in.
4. Whether or not you have a Concealed Handgun License, if you are found to be armed with any firearm or prohibited weapon, your ride-in will be immediately terminated and any request to participate in future "Ride-Ins" will be automatically denied. You may also be subject to arrest for any such violation as per the Texas Penal Code.
5. You will refrain from involving yourself in physical struggle or verbal argument with persons encountered by the officer during the tour; however, if the officer decides that your assistance is necessary and requests such assistance of you, you are bound by law to come to the officer's aid. (Article 2.14, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure).
6. The use of any video and/or audio recording device, including those on cell phones, tablets, etc, during the duration of the ride-in is strictly prohibited unless prior written authorization is received from the Police Public Relations Office.
7. Ride-in participants shall wear appropriate attire and be well groomed. Please refrain from wearing strong fragrances. For your safety, an example of appropriate attire includes long slacks, shirt and conservative shoes. Tank or halter tops, T-shirts with logos or slogans, shorts, provocative clothing, flip flops, and sandals are prohibited. Please note that authorized police groups such as COPs, MAC, CAPA, etc are permitted to wear their shirts with the organization's logo. Police from other agencies and military are asked not to wear their uniform during a ride-in.
8. You are limited to a one (1) shift tour and you will remain with your assigned officer for the entire tour. Repeats within the next six (6) months must be by permission of the patrol commander. Although a ride-ins is permitted twice a year, the ride-in must be in different patrol divisions. Only one (1) ride-in participant is permitted per police unit.