



# City of Citrus Heights Police Department

Ronald A. Lawrence  
Chief of Police

6315 Fountain Square Drive  
Citrus Heights, CA 95621



## **RIDE-ALONG APPLICATION**



Thank you for taking an interest in riding with an officer at the Citrus Heights Police Department. The purpose of the Citizen Ride-Along Program is to provide an opportunity for interested persons to observe field operations and the challenges our officers are faced with. We intend for the program to be educational and provide participants with a better understanding of the responsibilities of our Police Officers. Overall police effectiveness will not be achieved without community involvement.

Any Citrus Heights resident who is at least 16 years of age may apply for a Citizen Ride-Along. Approved applicants may ride once every year. All participants in the program must sign the waiver and release, assuming the risk of injury or danger and waiving any claim against the City of Citrus Heights, the Citrus Heights Police Department, the Chief of Police, or officers. Individuals under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian sign the waiver.

Please mail the completed application and waiver to: Citrus Heights Police Department, 6315 Fountain Square Drive, Citrus Heights, CA 95621 or fax it to: (916) 727-4973. After your criminal background is completed and the application is approved, you will be notified by phone of the date and time of your appointment. Please allow two weeks to be contacted and scheduled for your ride-along. You may request your four (4) hour ride for any of our three shifts.

Ride-alongs begin at 9:00 am (Day Shift), 2:30 pm (Swing Shift), and 7:00 pm (Night Shift). As the officers have briefings before you are scheduled to ride, there is no need to arrive exceptionally early – just on time. When you arrive during business hours, go to the front counter and let the staff or volunteer know you are here for a ride along. After hours, call into the in-house dispatch center at (916) 727-5500 or use the red phone outside the police department to do so. A sergeant will contact you to arrange for an officer to meet you out front once he or she is notified.

If you have any questions, please contact (916) 727-5500. Thank you.



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## ***Ride-Along Regulations***

1. No person shall be allowed to ride without having submitted a signed ride-along request and waiver form. Refusal to complete this form or false statements of any nature on the form will disqualify that person from participation in the program. The request to ride form must be turned in to the Police Department two (2) weeks prior to the first requested date of participation. At the Field Supervisor's discretion, exceptions may be made for special situations requiring shorter notice, as long as other procedures are followed. Special situations may include out-of-state visitors, family members, or criminal justice personnel.
2. Civilian ride-alongs will be allowed to ride no more than once a year without prior approval of the Field Supervisor.
3. Participants must obey the orders and instructions given by the officer to whom they are assigned.
4. Participants must not leave the patrol vehicle unless instructed to do so by the officer.
5. When the patrol unit is assigned to a dangerous call, the rider may be dropped off at a safe location and he or she must remain there until the officer or another police unit returns to pick him or her up.
6. The rider will provide his or her own transportation to and from the Police Department.
7. Background checks will be conducted on all applicants. Persons with extensive criminal backgrounds will not be allowed to ride with an officer.
8. Ride-along tours usually last four (4) hours; however, either the officer or the rider may terminate the tour at any time. The Field Supervisor will be advised of early termination.
9. Applicants will be contacted by the Police Department after filing the written application request form. At that time, the ride will be scheduled or denied.
10. The applicant's participation is a privilege and not a right. The basic premise of the ride along program is to establish rapport with the police and learn about the functions of law enforcement.
11. Participants shall not converse with any prisoners, suspects, victims or witnesses; nor shall they participate in any police activity unless directly requested by officers.
12. All participants must agree not to discuss names of persons involved in police cases or incidents. The observer will be considered a confidant of the Police Department, and it is essential all matters pertaining to evidence or statements gathered in investigations be held confidential.
13. Tape recorders and cameras will not be permitted while participating in the program, unless express permission is granted by the Watch Commander.
14. Participants must be presentably attired in clean, neat, and suitable clothing, including footwear. Business casual attire is recommended, such as slacks and a collared shirt. Wearing worn jeans, T-shirts, or flip-flops will result in the ride-along being cancelled and possibly rescheduled.
15. By signing the attached waiver form, the ride along participant agrees to the rules and regulations listed above.



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## ***Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage Waiver and Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement***

(Must be submitted with the completed Request Form)

WHEREAS, I \_\_\_\_\_, (being/not being) over the age of twenty-one (21) and not being a member of the Citrus Heights Police Department, has made a voluntary request to ride/visit as a guest in a vehicle/dispatch center assigned to the Department and to accompany a member or members of the Police Department during the performance of their official duties, and

WHEREAS, the Citrus Heights Police Department is willing to allow me to ride/sit with as a guest in a vehicle/in dispatch assigned to that department and to accompany a member or members of the Police Department during the performance of their official duties, I do hereby agree:

1. That I am aware the work of the Citrus Heights Police Department is inherently dangerous and that I may be subject to the risk of death or personal injury or damage to my property by accompanying a member or members of the Police Department during the performance of their official duties, and that I freely, voluntarily, and with such knowledge assume the risk of death, personal injury, or property damage arising from or any way connected with the use of weapons; unlawful acts or forcible resistance by law violators or suspected law violators, assaults, riot, breach of peace, fire explosions, gas, electrocution, or the escape of radioactive substances while accompanying a member or members of the Police Department during the performance of their official duties.
2. That the City of Citrus Heights, Chief of Police, and all members of the Citrus Heights Police Department shall not be responsible or liable for any injury, damage, loss or expense, either to me or my property, incurred while riding in any vehicle assigned to the Police Department or while accompanying any member or members of said department during the performance of their official duties and resulting from any negligent act or omission on the part of any member of the Citrus Heights Police Department.
3. For myself, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to defend the indemnify the City of Citrus Heights, Chief of Police, and all members of the Citrus Heights Police Department, their sureties and each of them, against any and all manner and actions, cause of actions, suits, debts, claims, demands, damages, liability or expense of every kind and nature incurred or arising by reasons of any actual or claimed negligent or wrongful act or omission of mine while riding in any vehicle assigned to the Citrus Heights Police Department during the performance of their official duties.

I hereby represent that I have carefully read and understand the content of this document and sign that same of my own free will.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

