
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS POLICE

GENERAL ORDER

ORDER NUMBER: 50.11
ISSUED DATE: 12/05/2014
EFFECTIVE DATE: 12/12/2014
RESCINDS: 50.11 issued 08/26/2011

SUBJECT: Ride-Along Program

REFERENCE: CALEA

CROSS REFERENCE:

CONTENTS:

all times and be concerned primarily with the welfare and safety of the observer(s) in the police unit.

I. PURPOSE

a. When arriving at the scene of a call, as a precautionary measure, the Host Officer should be sure that the dispatched district unit has already arrived at the scene.

II. FIELD PROCEDURE FOR RIDE-ALONG UNITS

b. The Host Officer may allow the participants to leave the police vehicle to enable them to better observe the nature of the call. However, the officer should maintain close supervision of the participant while out of the vehicle, and should be constantly alert for potential hazards, which may endanger personal safety.

III. ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION, AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

c. The Host Officer will not allow the observer(s) to enter any area where a person has a reasonable expectation of privacy without specific consent or documented legal authority.

I. PURPOSE

A. To encourage citizens to become aware of, and familiar with, the facilities, equipment, and operations of the Kansas City Kansas Police Department and to provide them with an opportunity to ride with a police officer to observe police activity.

II. FIELD PROCEDURE FOR RIDE-ALONG UNITS

III. ELIGIBILITY, APPLICATION, AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

A. The selection of the "Host Officers" shall be made from a work shift from the Operations Bureau or other appropriate bureau. The selection will be made by the Commander of Training and approved by the respective station commander. Preferably certified Field Training Officers will be used. Alternatively, ride-along participants may be approved and assigned by any Bureau Director or commander for ride-alongs within their bureau/division.

A. The Ride-Along Program is normally available to citizens who are eighteen (18) years of age or older. This criterion may be waived at the discretion of the Chief of Police.

B. The Host Officer should report to their respective patrol division to meet his/her assigned observer(s).

B. Persons expressing an interest in participating in the Ride-Along Program should be directed to contact the Police Training Unit or the affected Bureau Director. A personal appearance is mandatory when making application.

C. The Host Officer should use the following procedures:

C. Applicants will be reviewed in the chronological order in which they apply.

1. The Host Officers should report "in-service" in the normal fashion, indicating that Ride-Along participant(s) are in the vehicle.

D. The number of excursions by participants, and the units that the participant will ride with, will be limited to twice a year and will be controlled by the Commander of Training.

2. Whenever a Ride-Along Host Officer decides to respond to a particular call:

E. All applicants will further be required to execute a liability waiver form prior to their assignment to ride.

a. Advise the dispatcher of intention to respond.

F. At the discretion of the Chief of Police or the affected Bureau Director, the application process may be waived.

b. Plan arrival at the scene so as not to arrive on the scene before the other police units.

G. The Ride-Along Program will be administered by the Commander of Training but coordinated by the Bureau where the ride-along will take place in.

c. Insure the safety of the observer.

H. The Ride-Along Program will normally be conducted between the hours of 1800 and 2200, Monday through Saturday. At the discretion of the Bureau Director or his/her designee, the hours and dates of the ride along can be adjusted to meet the needs of a program participant.

d. When clearing the scene, advise the dispatcher of service status.

3. Advise the dispatcher at the end of the Ride-Along tour, return to the respective patrol division and collect the Ride-Along Identification Card.

I. The Commander of Training or the appropriate Bureau Director will be responsible for exercising discretion in

4. The Host Officer is free to respond to all calls with exception of those that are potentially dangerous in nature. The Host Officer should use discretion at

screening applicants. The following guidelines will be used:

1. The Commander of Training or Bureau Director will not discriminate against applicants because of race, color, sex, or religion.
 2. The Commander of Training or Bureau Director shall attempt to determine, in his/her best judgement, that the applicant is of sound mind and body and that the applicant will not pose any unusual liability risk for the officers or officials of the Unified Government. The Commander of Training or Bureau Director will determine the applicant's suitability for participation in the program.
 3. A background check will be conducted on each applicant.
 4. All completed paperwork for ride alongs will be sent to and maintained at the training academy.
- J. For the purpose of identification, all approved Ride-Along participants will be issued an Identification Card, which must be worn in plain view on an outer garment. These cards are available at all patrol divisions and at the Police Training Unit.