



RULES, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM

OVERVIEW:

The Seymour Police Department has a Ride-Along Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program") that gives civilians the opportunity to observe law enforcement patrol activities. The goal is to help riders understand the problems and concerns of law enforcement, while establishing lines of communication between law enforcement officers and the community.

APPLICATION:

An interested candidate must apply to participate in the Program using the "Ride-Along Request" form. The Chief and/or his designee will consider the request for approval. Assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis.

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY:

A candidate must complete and sign a Release and Waiver of Liability form provided by the Police Department. The Release and Waiver of Liability form must include the candidate's full name, address and date of birth. The candidate must sign the Release and Waiver of Liability form. Candidates under 18 years of age must have a parent or legal guardian sign the Release and Waiver of Liability form. Candidates under 16 years of age will not be allowed to participate in the Program unless approved by the Chief of Police.

APPROVAL:

Upon receipt of the "Ride-Along Request" form and the completed and signed Release and Waiver of Liability form, the request will be considered for approval. The Chief of Police or his/her designee will notify a candidate whether his/her request has been approved or disapproved. Early application is suggested since the Police Department prefers to schedule the ride-along at least one week in advance. Ride-along requests are considered on a case-by-case basis and are approved or disapproved in the sole discretion of the Police Department and the City of Seymour. Submission of a ride-along request does not guarantee that it will be approved.

PARTICIPATION:

Participants will be under the direction of a police officer. Participants will not be allowed to become involved in the police officer's activities unless specifically directed to do so by the officer. If the police officer or the participant decides that a dangerous situation exists which would compromise the participant's safety, the ride-along will terminate and the participant will be dropped off at a place of safety. Arrangements will be made for the participant's transportation back to the Police Department if the ride-along is terminated.

I/we certify that I/we have read, understand and will comply with the foregoing Rules, Policies and Procedures of the Seymour Police Department Ride-Along Program.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have signed this document on _____, _____, _____.
Month Date Year

Signature of Seymour Police Department
Ride-Along Program Participant

If under the age of 18, signature of Participant's
Parent or Legal Guardian



**RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY
FOR FUTURE ACCIDENTAL INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE**

I AGREE that in consideration of being allowed to participate in the Seymour Police Department Ride-Along Program (hereinafter referred to as the "Program") which is governed by the policies of the Seymour Police Department, I hereby release the Police Department, the City of Seymour, and their officers, employees and agents as follows:

1. I, _____, date of birth _____
First name M.I. Last name
of: _____
Address: Number Street/Road City State ZIP

wish to participate in the Seymour Police Department Ride-Along Program. I understand that Program is offered by the Seymour Police Department as a means of furthering the understanding and communication, as well as information, between the Seymour Police Department and the citizens and organizations of the City of Seymour. I acknowledge that participation in the Program carries some risk of harm to me.

2. I have read, understand and agree to comply with, the Program rules, policies and procedures prepared by the Seymour Police Department and attached hereto. I understand that this Program has some potential danger to me and I agree that neither the Police Department, the City of Seymour, nor their officers, employees or agents, shall be held liable in any way for any negligent acts or omissions occurring during my participation in the Program which may result in injury, death, property damage and/or other damage to me, such as, without limitation, automobile accident, gunshot, assault or battery.

3. In consideration of being allowed to participate in the Program, I do hereby personally assume all risks from any negligent acts or omissions occurring during, or arising out, my participation in the Program, and do hereby further release the Seymour Police Department, the City of Seymour, and their officers, employees and agents for any injuries or damages to me arising out of any negligent acts or omissions which may occur while I am participating in the Program, whether foreseen or unforeseen, such as, without limitation, automobile accident, gunshot, assault or battery. I do further agree to hold harmless the Police Department, the City of Seymour, and their officers, employees and agents, from any claims asserted by me, my family, my estate, heirs and/or assigns alleging damages due to negligent acts or omissions of others occurring during my participation in the Program.

4. I further state that I am of lawful age to sign this Release, or, if I am under the age of eighteen (18), I have had this form signed by my parent or legal guardian.

5. I understand the contents of this Release and have read it before signing it. I have signed this Release freely, knowingly and voluntarily.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed this document on _____, _____, _____.
Month Date Year

Signature of Seymour Police Department
Ride-Along Program Participant

If under the age of 18, signature of Participant's
Parent or Legal Guardian



RIDE-ALONG REQUEST FORM

SEYMOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Name: _____
(First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)

Address: _____
(Street Address) (City) (State) (Zip code)

Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____

Driver's License #: State: _____

Date and Time Requested to Ride: _____

Officer you wish to ride along with, if any: _____

APPLICANT BACKGROUND

Status: (Check)

Adult (over 18 years of age)

Minor (under 18 years of age)

Do you have any of the following: (Check all that apply).

Traffic convictions anywhere.

Municipal ordinance violations/convictions anywhere.

Criminal arrest/convictions anywhere (i.e. misdemeanor or felony).

Restraining Order, No-Contact Order, Harassment Injunction, or other Court Order. Please detail below.

Explain:

Medical: Are there any medical conditions that should be known for the applicant's safety during the ride along?

Emergency Notification: (Whom to notify in case of an emergency).

Name	Phone 1
<hr/>	
Address	Phone 2

Basis for Ride-Along Request

The Applicant is: (check all that apply).

- An official job applicant at the Seymour Police Department (already applied).
- An elected official? What office? _____
- A visiting sworn officer. What department? _____
- A member of the news media. What agency? _____
- A spouse/significant other of officer. Relationship? _____
- Other relative or acquaintance. Relationship? _____
- A college student in an accredited school. Name of school or program:

- Police Chaplain
- Other. Please describe: _____

Reason for Ride-Along Request: (expand on above, i.e. It is needed for an assignment in the CJ program. The instructor recommended a ride along for credit or experience. It will be used to develop a new story on police topic. You want to see your spouse's job first hand, etc. Include name of instructor and year of college you are in, if applicable.)

CITIZEN RIDE ALONG RULES

1. Ride Along must sign Waiver of Liability.
2. Ride Along must carry identification.
3. Ride Along must comply with the rules set forth by the Seymour Police Department.
 - a. The rider shall not interfere with the officer's performance of his/her duties in any way.
 - b. The rider shall remain in the squad unless otherwise directed by the officer.
 - c. No police equipment will be used or touched without the express direction of the officer.
 - d. Cameras and audio recorders will not be authorized unless approved by the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
 - e. All activities and information observed, overheard, or resulting from the ride-a long's involvement with the Seymour Police Department and its clients will be treated by the ride-along as "confidential." Any reports required of ride along participants are subject to review by the Chief of Police.
 - f. All questions and comments, et cetera, should be asked or stated after an incident, not during the incident.
 - g. All riders will comply with the dress code. Riders will dress in business casual and wear clean clothes, including shirts and shoes.
 - h. At no time should a rider participate in enforcing laws unless requested to do so by the officer.
 - i. Ride-alongs are not permitted to ride during a vehicle pursuit. The officer will drop the ride-along in a safe location before joining the pursuit, or the officer will not get involved in the pursuit.
 - j. The ride alongs are not permitted to respond to a high-risk call such as a gun call. The officer will drop the ride-along in a safe location before responding to the high-risk call, or the officer will not respond to the high-risk call and will notify dispatch of the situation.
 - k. Ride-alongs shall not carry any personal weapons, with the exception of certified Wisconsin Law Enforcement Officers. In such cases, prior approval must be obtained from the Chief of Police or his/her designee.
 - l. Ride-alongs are required to follow any and all instructions given by the Chief of Police and/or supervising officer.

Request Considerations: ** Please note that this application will be reviewed to determine if your request for ride-along complies with department policy, and that your background and status meet pre-determined selection criteria. These criteria include, but are not limited to: criminal history, driving record, your stated educational/career goals and department staffing levels. You will be contact you to advise you if this application is approved or denied, or to obtain any further information. Applications which are incomplete or which contain untruthful information will be denied. **Applicants are limited to one ride-along per year.**

Parental Consent: (for minor only)

The parent/guardian signing below has read and understands all the pages contained in this policy and consents to the release of liability for the City of Seymour and the Seymour Police Department, and further consents to allowing their child to participate in the ride-along program.

Signature of parent or guardian granting permission for minor Date

Signature of second parent (if required). Date

Witness Date

Return Original to Administrative Assistant
Copy to Chief of Police