



LEBANON POLICE RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM

The Lebanon Police Department's Ride-Along Program allows citizens to voluntarily accompany officers, and to observe law enforcement activities to better understand the problems of policing. The observer may request to ride in any area at any time or with a particular officer. If convenient to the department and conditions permit permission may be granted.

The department's community-oriented policing goals include a commitment to work with the community to solve neighborhood problems and to operate an open, accessible, and accountable agency. The Ride-Along Program is consistent with these goals. Please remember that safety of law enforcement personnel shall be the primary concern.

Ride-Along Request:

Persons wishing to ride with an officer shall fill out only the top section on the accompanying application. The second section will be used internally to finalize and schedule an approved ride-along. The third section is a liability waiver to be completed by you at the time of your ride-along, but not before.

Completed Ride-Along Forms should be e-mailed to ridealong@lebanonmo.org or turned into Dispatch at the police station at least five working days before the desired ride-along date.

LEBANON POLICE RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM INSTRUCTIONS

1. All persons riding with officers of the City of Lebanon Police Department should be dressed in a presentable manner. **If the observer is not dressed satisfactorily the officer and/or the supervisor have the right to refuse or terminate the ride-along.** The following is a list of acceptable dress:
 - a. Females - Dress slacks or pantsuit and shoes. **No Dresses, Jeans, or Tennis Shoes**
 - b. Males - Sports coat, dress slacks, and shoes. **No Dresses, Jeans, or Tennis Shoes**
2. Persons riding in the capacity of observers are under the complete control of the officer at all times.
3. Observers shall not leave the police car at the scene of any police activity or participate in any police activity unless directly requested by the officer.
4. Observers shall not converse with prisoners, suspects, victims, witnesses, or any other persons contacted on police business unless requested by the officer.
5. Observers shall not interfere with the officer's activities at any time. Although you are encouraged to ask questions regarding procedures and activities it must be done at an appropriate time.

Limitations:

1. A person cannot ride unless approval has been granted and the watch commander has the properly completed application and waiver form.
2. Approval will be for one specific eight-hour period unless the watch commander grants special limitations or extensions. The observer may end the ride at anytime during this period if he or she wishes.
3. No more than one observer shall accompany an officer at a time or on any given shift unless approved by the shift supervisor.
4. Persons under the age of 18 must have the request and waiver forms signed by their parent or guardian.
5. No one shall be allowed to ride with plain-clothes or K-9 units without specific advanced coordination and approval of the chief.
6. Observers will be allowed to ride three (3) times per year, and cannot ride more than one (1) time per month. The following are exempt from this limitation: Active police officers from other jurisdictions, Lebanon Police Chaplains, and City Officials.

