



Edina Police Operations Manual

Policy Number
920.00

Subject:

RIDE-ALONG GUIDELINES

Effective Date
06/01/1993

Revised Date
03/04/2020

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PURPOSE:

The police ride-along program is designed to provide insight into the police role by allowing people to accompany officers during their normal duties.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY:

The Edina Police Department permits police ride-alongs as described below.

920.01

ELIGIBILITY

The following categories of people are permitted to participate in the ride-along program:

- a) City of Edina Employee
- b) Police Reserve/Explorer
- c) Edina resident over 18 years of age if
 - Criminal Justice student
 - Criminal Justice Professional
- d) Relative of a sworn police officer if over 18 years of age.
- e) Elected government official.
- f) Member of the media, if over 18 years of age.
 - The Fourth Amendment addresses residential privacy rights that attach to a citizen's home. The very narrow exception that law enforcement has does not extend to private citizens, including the media.
 - Officers shall not permit members of the media to accompany them onto private property when there is an expectation of privacy, nor will they assist in securing permission for media access from property owners.
- g) Sworn police officers from other jurisdictions.
- h) A person over 18 years of age, if application is initiated by an Edina police officer.

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Subd. 1 All people requesting a ride-along must complete an Application and Release (EPD Form 2530). The Application and Release should be submitted to the Patrol Sergeant.

Subd. 2 When an officer initiates a ride-along an Application and Release should be completed and submitted to the officer's Sergeant.

Subd. 3 The following individuals are exempted from this application requirement:

- a) Members of the Edina Police Reserve and Explorers.
- b) City of Edina employees.

920.03 DURATION

Subd. 1 The standard ride-along duration is up to four hours in length.

Subd. 2 The on-duty supervisor has full authority to extend or cut short the duration of the ride-along.

Subd. 3 Any violation of instructions to persons riding along can immediately cause termination of the ride-along.

920.04 FREQUENCY

A ride-along shall not occur more frequently than once every six months. City employees, explorers, reserves and government officials are exempt from this provision.

920.05 ASSIGNMENT OF OFFICERS

Subd. 1 Officers will be requested to declare their desire to participate in the ride-along program. Every effort will be made to accommodate the wishes of individual officers; however, participation may occur on an assigned basis.

Subd. 2 Probationary patrol officers may be allowed to have ride-alongs if approved by their Sergeant.