

WEST MELBOURNE POLICE DEPARTMENT CIVILIAN RIDE-ALONG INFORMATION



No person under eighteen (18) years of age will be allowed to participate in the ride-along program unless authorized by the Chief of Police.

Applicants who have had any felony arrests, misdemeanor convictions within the past two (2) years or pending felony or misdemeanor cases are not eligible to participate.

Applicants who have had any reckless driving convictions, DUI convictions, a suspended driver's license with knowledge, or any criminal traffic convictions within the past two (2) years are not eligible to participate.

Applicants will not be allowed to participate in the ride-along program more than one time in a 12-month period. Exception: The Patrol Division Lieutenant or his/her designee may approve more frequent participation when he/she may deem appropriate.

You must sign the "Release and Waiver" portion of the application form in front of a notary and have the waiver notarized.

Please arrive at the West Melbourne Police Department approximately fifteen (15) minutes before your scheduled appointment.

Please understand that the officer you have been assigned to may need to complete any in-progress police business before returning to the station to meet with you. He/she must also re-arrange his/her patrol car to accommodate a passenger. Therefore, appointment times are only approximate.

Wear appropriate attire and check your personal hygiene/grooming. Applicants who show up in inappropriate attire, wearing excessive perfume or cologne or whose personal hygiene is unacceptable to the host officer will not be allowed to ride-along. Examples of inappropriate attire includes, but are not limited to, the following: sleeveless or mid-drift shirts; clothing endorsing any product; clothing containing lewd or derogatory comments; open-toed shoes, sandals, flip-flops, or backless shoes; shorts or mini-skirts; or pants or jeans that show signs of wear such as holes, tears, or frays.

No ride-along observer will be allowed to carry a weapon of any kind on a ride-along. The only exception to this policy are current, active Florida law enforcement officers with approval from the Chief of Police or his designee.

The use of cameras or recording devices is not permitted during the ride-along.

Cell phone usage, including personal calls, texting, etc., shall be kept to a minimum and only as needed. Social networking (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) during a ride-along is prohibited.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST IN OUR DEPARTMENT

CIVILIAN OBSERVER / RIDE-ALONG APPLICATION FORM

Date: _____ Applicant Name: _____ DOB: _____

(First) (Middle) (Last)

Street Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Race: _____ Sex: _____ Occupation: _____ Last 4 of SSN: _____ Telephone: _____

Driver's License Number: _____ State: _____ Email: _____

Name and Phone Number of Emergency Contact: _____

Have you participated in our ride-along program before? Yes No

Explain why you wish to participate in the Ride-Along Program: _____

Circle Yes or No to the following:

Are you 18 years of age or older?	Yes No	Have you ever been arrested?	Yes No
Is your driver license valid?	Yes No	Do you have any criminal convictions?	Yes No

RELEASE, HOLD HARMLESS AND INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT

I, _____, for and in consideration of the City of West Melbourne allowing me to participate in a Police Ride-Along Program, which includes but is not limited to reporting to the West Melbourne Police Department ("WMPD") and riding with an on-duty WMPD police officer in a marked or unmarked patrol car (the "vehicle") while the officer is engaged in routine patrol, answering calls for service, and performing other responsibilities of his or her job, do hereby agree as follows:

I confirm that I am healthy and able to participate in this program, and that I can quickly and safely enter and exit the vehicle that I will be riding in. I agree to wear any safety equipment required or available for use while participating in the Ride-Along Program and to follow the direction and orders of WMPD personnel. Failure to follow any direction, order, regulations, or rules may expose me to additional harm and may result in the termination of my participation in this activity.

I hereby assume all risk of personal injury or death, and property damage or loss, from whatever causes, arising from my participation in the Ride-Along Program. I understand that riding in a WMPD vehicle will expose me to all hazards associated with vehicular travel as well as the extreme and unpredictable hazards of a law enforcement environment, including but not limited to vehicle accidents, stray bullets, physical attacks or armed conflict, pursuits, and emergency response to calls for service. I understand and accept these risks and acknowledge that said risks could result in injury, permanent disability, or death. I voluntarily, willingly, and knowingly assume any and all risks, known and unknown, in any way associated with being a passenger in any WMPD vehicle.

I hereby grant express, voluntary, and knowing consent to the rendering of all emergency medical treatment that may become necessary while participating as a passenger in a WMPD vehicle. I understand that I shall be obligated to pay the costs of any such treatment.

I hereby agree to release, hold harmless, indemnify, and defend the City of West Melbourne, its employees, agents, and representatives, from any and all liability, claims, demands, damages, expenses, fees, fines, penalties, suits, proceedings, actions, and cost of actions, including attorney's fees for trial and appeal, arising

from or connected in any way with my participation in the Police Ride-Along Program, whether due to my acts or the acts of others. I agree this provision includes any claims based on negligence, action, or inaction by the WMPD or WMPD employees, agents, and representatives.

I agree to appear in court or other official proceeding to testify about what I observed while riding with WMPD personnel. I further understand and agree my participation in the Police Ride-Along Program may be terminated at any time by a designee of the Chief of Police of West Melbourne, Florida.

I have read this Release, Hold Harmless, and Indemnification Agreement and the WMPD Police Ride-Along Program informational handout. I understand and will comply with the terms and directions of both during my ride-along. I further agree to have a background investigation completed, and understand that the results of the background check may disqualify me from participation in the Ride-Along Program. I have attached a copy of my current and valid driver's license or state-issued ID card with this form.

I hereby execute this release, hold harmless, and indemnification on behalf of myself and my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

PARENT/GUARDIAN, IF APPLICANT IS UNDER AGE 18

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF BREVARD

Before me this day personally appeared _____ who says that he/she executed the above instrument of his/her own free will and accord, with full knowledge of the purpose therefore.

Sworn to and subscribed in my presence this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

Notary Stamp:

BELOW FOR INTEROFFICE USE ONLY – PLACE ID NUMBER AND DATE IN BLANKS UPON COMPLETION OF EACH BACKGROUND CHECK

Background Results:

Driver License: ___ Valid ___ Suspended

Driver History: ___ Disqualifying ___ Acceptable

FCIC/NCIC Wanted Person: ___ Not Wanted

FCIC Florida History: ___ Criminal History ___ No History

NCIC National History: ___ Criminal History ___ No History

Local History: ___ Yes ___ No Summary: _____

Background Conducted By: _____ Date: _____

Background Reviewed By: _____ Date: _____

Ride-along Approved / Denied by: _____

Squad Assignment: _____

Date/Time Scheduled: _____

Additional Comments: _____

WEST MELBOURNE POLICE DEPARTMENT CIVILIAN RIDE-ALONG ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Please read the following acknowledgements with the host officer, initial on each line, and sign below to indicate your compliance with these directives.

_____ I am eighteen (18) years or older.

_____ I have not had any felony convictions.

_____ I have not had any felony arrests or misdemeanor convictions within the past two (2) years, nor do I have pending felony or misdemeanor cases.

_____ I have not had any reckless driving convictions, DUI convictions, a suspended driver's license with knowledge, or any criminal traffic convictions within the past two (2) years.

_____ I have not participated in the West Melbourne Police Department's Civilian Ride-along program within the past 12 months.

_____ I have signed the "Release and Waiver" portion of the Civilian Observer/Ride-Along Application Form in front of a notary and the waiver has been notarized.

_____ I understand my appointment time is only approximate and my ride-along time may be cut short due to unforeseen circumstances/police activity.

_____ I understand that, unless I am a currently active Florida law enforcement officer with the approval of the Chief of Police or his designee, I am PROHIBITED from carrying a weapon of any kind on a ride-along and I certify that I am not currently armed.

_____ I understand the use of cameras or recording devices are not permitted during the ride-along.

_____ I understand that cell phone usage, including personal calls, texting, etc., shall be kept to a minimum and only as needed. Social networking (Facebook, Twitter, etc.) during a ride-along is prohibited.

_____ I understand that I am to immediately comply with all instructions of any officer of the West Melbourne Police Department.

_____ I understand that the ride-along may be terminated at any time by me or a supervisor of the West Melbourne Police Department.

_____ I understand the provisions of the Ride-Along Program and I agree to comply.

Signature of Ride-Along Observer

Signature of Host Officer