



Ride-along Program Rules and Guidelines

1. All persons wishing to participate in the ride-along program must be at least 18 years of age, unless approved by the Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee.
2. All participants in the ride-along program must read, agree, and abide by all rules and guidelines and complete the Waiver and Release of Liability form before the ride-along.
3. Participants must have a valid photo ID or drivers license with them when reporting for their scheduled ride-along.
4. Participants must be dressed in clothing appropriate for contact with the public (no shorts, jeans, or t-shirts). If a participant shows up for their ride-along and they are not in appropriate clothing they will be denied participation in the ride-along program.
5. Participants shall be considered as observers only, and shall be under the direct supervision of the assigned officer during the ride-along.
6. Participants shall conduct themselves in a civil and courteous manner at all times.
7. Participants must wear their seat belts at all times while in the police vehicle.
8. Participants must remain in the police vehicle unless instructed to leave by an officer.
9. **PARTICIPANTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO POSSESS WEAPONS WHILE RIDING ALONG.**
10. In case of a potentially dangerous or hazardous call, participants may be dropped off at a safe location. If this occurs, the officer will give the participant specific instructions and arrange to have them picked up by another officer. **Please note that this is for the riders safety.**
11. Participants must not become involved in any incident the officer is handling. This includes discussions of any incident with victims, witnesses, or suspects.
12. For security and safety reasons, participants are not allowed to handle or use any of the officer's equipment or the equipment in the police vehicle.

Waiver & Release of Liability and if Applicable, Parental Consent Form

In consideration of the Vidalia Police Department (VPD) permitting me (person 18 years of age or older), or my son/daughter to participate in activities conducted at the VPD in support of the VPD's public education efforts, such as, but not limited to: participation in a the Citizen's Police Academy, Leadership Toombs, Station Tours, Ride-along Program, etcetera. I agree as follows:

- I. I fully understand and acknowledge that the activities at the Vidalia Police Department may involve inherit risks, dangers, and hazards. The events and/or activities I or my child may be participating in include but are not limited to: driver training, riding along with an officer in a patrol car, firearms training, self-defense instruction, arrest procedures, defensive tactics, ground fighting tactics, less-lethal weapons (baton, oleoresin capsicum-pepper-spray, etc), crowd control techniques, close quarters combat, American Red Cross trauma management, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED), Officer Survival Afloat, and Physical Conditioning.
- II. I understand that the participation of me or my child in the abovementioned activities may result in injury including, but not limited to bodily injury, strains, fractures, partial and/or total paralysis, or death.
- III. I understand that these risks and dangers may be caused by the negligence of the participants, the negligence of others, accidents, forces of nature or other causes, and that the risks and dangers may arise from foreseeable and unforeseeable causes including risks, hazards, and dangers that are integral to these activities.
- IV. By the participation of me / my child / children in these activities, I hereby assume all risks and dangers and all responsibility for any losses and/or damages.

I further waive, release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless the Vidalia Police Department, the City of Vidalia, and the Vidalia City Council and its respective agents and employees from any claim that may arise from my or my child's participation in the activities described above.

Name and age of participant or child(ren) in the activities at or with the Vidalia Police Department.

Participants name (Print) Age

Participants Name (Print) Age

I have read the above waiver and release of liability and parental consent and by signing it agree that it is my express intent to exempt and relieve the Vidalia Police Department, the City of Vidalia, and the Vidalia City Council and its agents and employees from liability for personal injury, property damage, or wrongful death other than claims that arise as the direct result of gross negligence.

Signature of Parent, Guardian or Participant (Adult Only) Date

Printed name of person signing above, address, and phone #

Signature of Parent, Guardian or Participant (Adult Only) Date

Printed name of person signing above, address, and phone #

Signature of Custodial Parent(s) Required. Both parents must sign.