



# Rochester Police Department

One Community Drive  
Rochester, Illinois 62563  
217-498-7125  
police@rochesteril.org



## RIDE-ALONG REQUEST FORM AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Dear ride-along applicant:

1. If you are at least 18 years of age, you are welcome to apply for a ride-along with the Rochester Police Department by reading, completing, and signing this Ride-Along Request Form. Ride-alongs are limited to one (1) time per calendar year, unless the rider is enrolled in the Department's Internship Program, or in cases where the rider is a sworn police officer with another agency, or otherwise authorized by the Chief of police. In the cases of Internship or sworn police officer, the Request Form will be considered valid for a period of one (1) year, at which time it will expire and must be renewed. The Rochester Police Department may revoke validity at any time, without notice or cause.
2. Return this form to the Department - normally two weeks in advance. Call the Department to check the status of your request twenty-four (24) hours in advance.

Please note: There is no promise or guarantee that your request will be granted. In addition, your ride-along could be canceled with minimal notice.

3. As part of this program, you agree to undergo a comprehensive police records check.
4. Your basic responsibilities as a ride-along are to:
  - a. Remain in or return to the police vehicle in dangerous or sensitive situations (i.e., homicide, sex crimes, deaths, etc.),
  - b. Comply with all directions given by a police officer,
  - c. Not operate any equipment, unless an officer's safety is at risk, or you receive an officer's prior permission,
  - d. Be an observer only. Do not become involved verbally or physically unless the officer's safety is at risk, or you are directed to do so. The Village of Rochester will not be liable for a ride-along's unauthorized interventions.
5. You must be in civilian clothing.
6. You may not carry a firearm or other weapon unless you are a sworn police officer.
7. The personal safety of the officer and the Department's responsibilities to the community will be considered at all times. Therefore, an officer may terminate your ride-along at any time, without explanation or advance notice. In addition, if emergency circumstances dictate, you may be dropped off at a safe location other than the police station.
8. Affiliation: Intern \_\_\_\_\_ Police Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Explorer \_\_\_\_\_ Neighborhood Rep. \_\_\_\_\_  
Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Child \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

9. What is the reason for your ride-along request? (School/class, interested citizen, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Date Requested \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

DOB \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been arrested or convicted for a crime? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, for what? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you been on a ride-along in the last 12 months? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, with what Officer? \_\_\_\_\_

**HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT**

I, the undersigned, have read and understand this form and ask the Rochester Police Department for permission to ride, as an observer only, in a Rochester Police Department squad car. This observation is for the purpose of my educational benefit. If permission is granted, I agree to obey all instructions, orders, and commands given to me by Officer(s) at a scene or in command of any squad car in which I may be riding. I realize and appreciate the nature of law enforcement work, and know that I might encounter violence, uncertainty, danger and criminality during a ride-along. I understand that I may encounter situations during a ride-along that expose me to a risk of physical harm or injury, including, but not limited to, motor vehicle accidents. I freely and voluntarily accept these risks. I further agree to keep confidential my observations when requested to do so by a member of the Rochester Police Department. I further understand I will be a guest passenger in the squad car in which I ride. I have not offered any payment to the Police Department or any of its employees for the opportunity to ride in a squad car and observe law enforcement activity.

WHEREFORE, in consideration of the educational benefit I will gain by riding-along with a police officer, I hereby agree to hold the Village of Rochester, Illinois, it's elected and appointed officials, the Rochester Police Department and its Chief, employees, agents and servants harmless from any and all liability to me for death, personal injury, or property damage, whether proximate or remote, sustained while I ride-along and observe law enforcement activity.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Rider (regardless of age)      Date Signed

Witnessed by Officer \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Chief of Police \_\_\_\_\_