

# CITY OF ANDERSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Anderson, South Carolina

<b>DIRECTIVE TYPE</b> General Order	<b>EFFECTIVE DATE</b> Friday, June 2, 2006	<b>NUMBER</b> 607.1
<b>SUBJECT</b> Ride Along Program	<b>REVISED</b> Friday, June 2, 2006 (Revision # 1)	
<b>REFERENCE</b>	<b>AMENDS/SUPERSEDES</b> G/O 607	
<b>DISTRIBUTION</b> All Personnel	<b>RE-EVALUATION DATE</b> Annual	<b>NO. PAGES</b> 3

### I. Purpose

To establish the guidelines for persons desiring to ride along with personnel from the City of Anderson Police Department.

### II. Policy

It is the policy of the City of Anderson Police Department to promote and improve community relations and to provide interested citizens with an insight into daily operations and duties of the Patrol, Criminal Investigation, and Support Services Divisions. In furtherance of that policy, the Ride-Along program is established.

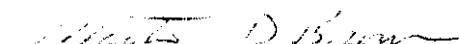
### III. Procedure

1. Individuals desiring to ride along must be at least 18 years of age. The Chief of Police may waive the age restriction.
2. Individuals desiring to ride along with the City of Anderson Police Department must complete form APD-675 prior to riding in a police vehicle. The rider will sign the form and have it witnessed prior to entering the police vehicle.
3. All participants will attest on their application that they have never been convicted of a felony and that they have no misdemeanor conviction within the past five years. Participants will further attest that they understand the potential dangers of the Ride-Along program and that they might be dropped off at a safe location during the ride should the host officer have to respond to certain emergency calls.

4. All participants, including other certified officers, will sign a separate release form for each occasion they ride along. Anyone under the age of 18 who has been authorized to ride by the Chief of Police must have the release of liability signed and witnessed by a parent or guardian in the presence of an officer.
5. Applications to ride along must be approved by the Chief of Police or the Chief's designee at least 24 hours prior to riding in a police vehicle. The Chief of Police or the Chief's designee may waive the 24-hour approval requirement on a case-by-case basis. The shift supervisor on duty may approve a certified South Carolina police officer during the requested ride along time.
6. All Ride-Along applications and completed release forms will be retained and filed in the Chief's Office.
7. Inappropriate attire and grooming are unacceptable and will disqualify persons from participation, even when all other qualifications and conditions have been met. Personal appearance of participants must be neat and clean and only conservative clothing may be worn. Examples of inappropriate attire are short skirts, worn blue jeans, shorts (other than assigned special duty uniform), cutoffs, sandals, halter-tops, t-shirts with words or logos that could be perceived as offensive, etc. The on-duty supervisor will make the determination concerning appropriate attire.
8. During the ride along, participants must conduct themselves in a business-like manner when in contact with the public.
9. Participants will ride for no more than (8) hours on any date and will be limited to (2) occasions of riding per month, unless special circumstances are stated and approved by the Chief of Police. No ride alongs shall occur between the hours of 2400 to 0700, unless the person is a certified police officer, or approved through the Chief of Police.
10. Civilian participants will not be armed. Certified South Carolina police officers may be armed provided that their weapon is carried with the rules and regulations of their agency.
11. Participants will not leave the police vehicle unless directed to do so by the host officer. All of the officer's directions will be obeyed without question.
12. At the discretion of the officer, participants may be asked to exit the vehicle prior to the response of an officer to a known danger call such as weapons involved, shots fired, a violent situation or in the case of a vehicle pursuit.
13. If the situation dictates that a ride along participant be dropped off at a safe location such as an open convenience store, restaurant, etc., the dispatcher will immediately be notified of the drop off location so that arrangements can be made to pick up the participant at the earliest opportunity.
14. Police officers operating police vehicles and carrying ride along participants will not engage in a vehicular pursuit **under any circumstances.**

15. If a participant is injured during the course of a ride along, the shift supervisor will be notified immediately. The shift supervisor will notify the Uniform Patrol Captain who will conduct an immediate investigation into the circumstances. The host officer will complete a report of the incident and forward it via the chain of command to the Chief of Police prior to the end of the shift. In the event the host officer is injured and unable to complete the report, the shift supervisor will complete the incident report.
16. Normally, officers should be restricted to hosting a maximum of four (4) ride alongs per month, provided, however, that ride alongs involving City Council members or members of the media shall not count as one of the four.
17. No officer will act as a ride along host officer until the officer has completed the new-hire probationary period.
18. Since police officers who host ride along participants aboard police vehicles are restricted as to the type of call they can respond to, shift supervisors may approve only one (1) ride along per shift.
19. It shall be clearly understood that the role of the ride along participant is that of observer only. The participant will not take part in arrests, investigative stops, etc.
20. Ride-alongs will normally occur with a same-sex officer. Exceptions include when the ride-along is a relative of the officer and/or when the Chief of Police provides written permission. However, as a general rule, officers will not be assigned a ride-along of the opposite sex during the night time.
21. Without express consent of the legal occupants Civilians are not to enter onto the private property or residences of individuals unless there is a necessity or law enforcement purpose to do so. The police are liable for inviting civilians on the property of others without express consent of the legal occupants.
22. This general order shall in no way supersede any Mutual Aid Agreement(s) which may now be in effect or come into effect in the future. Any and all persons called into service in the City of Anderson, South Carolina Police Department under the agreements which allow for mutual aid shall be permitted to accompany City of Anderson Police Department officers in City of Anderson Police Department vehicles. Other than the mutual aid agreements, no additional forms or agreements need to be signed. In addition, Federal, State, and Local Law Enforcement agencies as well as professional service providers, who are working with City of Anderson Police Department personnel in an official capacity, are not considered "Ride-Alongs". Therefore a Ride-Along agreement is unnecessary.

By order of:

  
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Martin D. Brown, Chief of Police

7-31-2006  
Date