

## OFFICE OF OPERATIONS

ORDER NO. 3

March 1, 1994

TO: All Personnel, Office of Operations

FROM: Director, Office of Operations

SUBJECT: "RIDE ALONG" PROCEDURES

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

PURPOSE

This Order establishes and standardizes the procedure for approving ride alongs and activates the "Ride Along Request and Waiver" form.

INFORMATION

For many years, the Los Angeles Police Department has provided a ride along program to the community. However, there is no standardized procedure for processing those requests nor is there a standardized waiver form releasing the City of liability. This Order establishes a standardized form and procedure for processing ride along requests.

PROCEDURES

The general purpose of a ride along is to educate and open up lines of communication with the community, thus fostering an environment of mutual trust and respect. The Department will, when ever practicable, provide ride alongs to the community and members of other law enforcement agencies. Ride alongs shall be conducted by a supervisor. A ride along must be 18 years of age or older; however, a person under 18 who is a member of a Department sponsored youth program, i.e., Explorers, may participate in a ride along with the Area commanding officer's approval.

**Note:** All requests to ride in a police vehicle for the purpose of gathering information for published articles, and all requests from the media shall be referred to and coordinated with the Officer-in-Charge, Press Relations Section.

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This Order does not affect media access of any type, or any ride along activities arranged at the direction of the Commanding Officer, Community Affairs Group, or his designee.

Employee's Responsibilities

An employee receiving a request for a ride along, shall complete the first four lines of the "Ride Along Request and Waiver" form (Temp. Form 328). The form shall then be forwarded to the concerned commanding officer.

Commanding Officer's Responsibilities

The commanding officer shall review the request and determine if it is in the best interest of the Department to approve the ride along. If approved, the request shall then be forwarded to the appropriate watch commander. If the request is denied, the commanding officer shall ensure that the person requesting the ride along is notified of the denial.

**Exception:** Senior Lead Officers (SLO) may, with the patrol commanding officer's approval, conduct a ride along, (provided that the SLO's primary duty during the ride along is not responding to calls for service). Ride alongs assigned to SLOs shall be directly related to the SLO's duties and confined to their area of assignment.

Watch Commander's Responsibilities

Upon receipt of an approved request, the watch commander shall determine, based on deployment considerations, the date, time and duration of the ride along. The watch commander shall ensure that the person is contacted and advised of the date, time and duration of the ride along.

Prior to the ride along, the watch commander shall have the requester complete and sign the remainder of the form. After the ride along has been completed, the watch commander shall ensure the supervisor who conducts the ride along completes the lower portion of the form. The completed form shall be attached to and retained with the Watch Commander's Daily Report (Form 15.80).

Supervisor's Responsibilities

Upon completion of the ride along, the assigned supervisor or SLO shall complete the lower portion of the "Ride Along Request and Waiver" form and submit it to the watch commander.


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Forms Availability

The "Ride Along Request and Waiver" form (Temp. Form 328) should be available at Supply Division 60 days after publication of this Order. Until the form is available, Area/division personnel shall duplicate the attached form as needed.



BERNARD C. PARKS, Assistant Chief  
Director  
Office of Operations

Attachment

DISTRIBUTION "0"

# RIDE ALONG REQUEST & WAIVER

Person Requesting		Date of request	
Address		Day Phone No.	Evening Phone No.
Date(s) / Time(s) Available for Ride Along		Organization or Affiliation of Person Requesting	
Purpose of Ride Along		Driver's License No. or Other Identification	
Approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Denied <input type="checkbox"/>	Commanding Officer	Division

## RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

For and in consideration of permitting \_\_\_\_\_ to ride in a Los Angeles Police vehicle as a "ride along" or responding to a call for police services in the City of Los Angeles, I hereby voluntarily release, discharge, waive and relinquish any and all actions or causes of action for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death occurring to me which arise from or are related to the performance of the LAPD officers activity or any activities incidental thereto wherever or however the same may occur and for whatever period said activities may continue, and I for myself and my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns hereby release, waive, discharge and relinquish any action or causes of action, aforesaid, which may hereafter arise for myself and for my estate, and agree that under no circumstances will I or my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns prosecute, present any claim for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death against the City of Los Angeles or any of its officers, agents, servants or employees (hereinafter "Indemnified Parties") for any of said causes of action, whether the same shall arise by the negligence of any of said persons, or otherwise.

**IT IS THE INTENTION OF \_\_\_\_\_ BY THIS INSTRUMENT, TO EXEMPT AND RELIEVE THE INDEMNIFIED PARTIES FROM LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR WRONGFUL DEATH CAUSED BY NEGLIGENCE.**

I, for myself and for my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns agree that in the event any claim for personal injury, property damage or wrongful death shall be prosecuted against the INDEMNIFIED PARTIES, I shall indemnify and save harmless the same INDEMNIFIED PARTIES from any and all claims or causes of action by whomever or wherever made or presented for personal injuries, property damage or wrongful death.

No oral representations, statements or inducement apart from this written agreement have been made.

I acknowledge that I have read the foregoing paragraphs, and have been fully and completely advised of the potential dangers incidental to riding in police vehicles as a "ride along" or responding to requests for police services and the police activities that occur at the location of the incident, and I am fully aware of the legal consequences of signing the within instrument and voluntarily do so.

### Scheduled Ride Along:

**Requester To Complete This Section**

Ride Along's Name (Print)	Ride Along's Signature	Date
In case of Emergency Notify (Name)	Address	Phone No.

**L.A.P.D. Supervisor To Complete This Section**

Supervisor	Serial No.	Date of Ride Along	Times (Start / Stop)
Supervisor's Comments			