

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS

CITIZEN RIDER/OBSERVER PROGRAM - APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Requirements for Participation:**

- You must be 18 years of age or older. (Exceptions will be made for members of the Police Explorers program with permission from a parent/legal guardian).
- You must be a:
  - St. Louis city resident; or
  - St. Louis city business owner; or
  - Prospective police officer (who has reached the eligibility list phase of the application process).
- You must have NO prior criminal record other than minor traffic offenses.
- **The Chief of Police has discretion to approve participation in the Citizen Rider/Observer Program for anyone not meeting all of the above criteria.**

**What You Need to Apply:**

- Signed Application Form; Waiver, Release of Claim, Indemnity and Rules of Participation; and Medical Release Form
- Proof of Age
  - Items that can be used to provide proof of identity and age are:
    - Valid Driver's License
    - Valid State Identification Card
  - The item will be photocopied and immediately returned to you.
- Proof of Current City Address/Business Ownership
  - Documents that can be used to provide proof of current city address are:
    - Utility bill issued within the last 2 months
    - Bank statement issued within the last 2 months
    - Personal Property Tax Bill for the last tax year
    - Auto or Life Insurance Bill issued within the last 2 months
    - Voter registration card
  - Business owners must submit proof of ownership such as licensing paperwork
  - You may redact sensitive information on any of the above documents if you wish, however your name and address should be listed.
  - The document will be photocopied and immediately returned to you.
- Records Check
  - May be obtained by contacting the records division Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm at 1200 Clark Avenue, (314) 444-5541.
  - A nominal fee applies.
- If you are a student wishing to fulfill a class requirement, you must provide documentation from your instructor, on school letterhead.
- **All documents (originals only, NO photocopies) should be signed and turned into the Public Information/Public Affairs at Police Headquarters, 1200 Clark Avenue, 63103. Questions should be directed to Public Information/Public Affairs: (314) 444-5603.**

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**  
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**After Applying for Participation:**

- Your application will be verified to ensure that it is complete, and if so, it will be forwarded to the Deputy Chief of Community Policing who approves/denies all Citizen Rider/Observer Program applications.
- You will be contacted no later than 7 business days after the application is turned in.

**Scheduling Participation:**

- If approved, you will be contacted by a District Captain to arrange a date and time for participation in the Citizen Rider/Observer Program.
- Participation is scheduled Sunday-Thursday only.
- You are permitted to ride during day watch (7am-3pm) or afternoon watch (3pm-11pm).
- Participation in the Citizen Rider/Observer Program is limited to once every two years.
- You are permitted to ride with patrol units only.
- You will be required to again show proof of identity when you arrive to complete your ride.

**During the Ride:**

- You will participate as an OBSERVER only, and shall not become involved in or interfere, physically or verbally, with police personnel while they are engaged in pursuance of their official duties.
- You must adhere to all orders of police personnel.
- You will be allowed to observe as much of any situation or function as is possible, consistent with you and others' safety.
- You will not put yourself in any position which might endanger the lives and safety of police personnel or others.
- NO cameras, tape recorders, or any other recording devices are permitted to be brought to any Rider/Observer program or function, with the exception of the expressed written permission from the Chief of Police. Such permission must be obtained in advance of participation in any program or function.
- Appropriate business casual attire must be worn. (NO: Jeans, t-shirts, leggings, sweats or sandals will be permitted).
- You may request that your participation be terminated at any time. Return to the originating District or Division will be made as soon as is practical.
- Supervisor may terminate ride along at any time. **Participation will be terminated if the Rider/Observer fails to follow the above stated rules of participation, or is acting in a manner inconsistent with the best interests of this Department.**

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS

RIDER/OBSERVER APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

If you are a City Business Owner, Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Business Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Party to Notify in Emergency \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Is There a Specific District in Which You Would Like to Ride? Yes  District \_\_\_\_\_ No

Shift Requested/Assigned: Day (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.)  Afternoon (3 p.m. – 11 p.m.)

Day of Week Requested: 1<sup>st</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup> Choice \_\_\_\_\_

(Allows 9 lines of text)

Reason for Request

(Police Department Use Only)

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

(Allows 4 lines of text)

Comments

Deputy Chief, Community Policing \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Notified By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Time of Scheduled Ride/Observation: \_\_\_\_\_

Ride Along completed with Officer: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recommend for future Ride-Along: Yes  No  If No, Please Provide Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

District/Unit Commander \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Once approved by the Deputy Chief, the original application should be forwarded to the District in which the ride will be completed. If the request is not approved, the form shall be returned to Public Information/Public Affairs.
2. Once the ride has been completed, the District should return the fully completed form including future recommendation, to Public Information/Public Affairs within 5 working days.
3. The original application will be filed by Public Information/Public Affairs with the District filing a copy.

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

**MEDICAL CARE WAIVER**

I hereby voluntarily acknowledge and state that I have been advised that if offered the opportunity to receive medical care to be administered by members of the Emergency Medical Service of the City of St. Louis and/or to be transported to a hospital for medical care, that I, along with my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby voluntarily forever release and fully discharge the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, along with its agents, servants and employees and the City of St. Louis, along with its agents, servants and employees, from any and all liability arising from the refusal or acceptance of medical care, as well as the refusal or acceptance of transportation for the purpose to receive medical care.

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Signature of Person Releasing the St. Louis Metropolitan  
Police Department and City of St. Louis from all Liability

Date

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Signature of Witness

Date

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

**MEDICAL CARE WAIVER – MINOR**

**TO BE SIGNED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**

\_\_\_\_\_ by and through the undersigned parent/legal guardian,  
(said minor)  
\_\_\_\_\_ hereby voluntarily acknowledge and state that I have been  
(name of parent/legal guardian)

advised that if said minor is offered the opportunity to receive medical care to be administered by members of the Emergency Medical Service of the City of St. Louis and/or to be transported to a hospital for medical care, that I, along with my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby voluntarily forever release and fully discharge the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, along with its agents, servants and employees and the City of St. Louis, along with its agents, servants and employees, from any and all liability arising from the refusal or acceptance of medical care, as well as the refusal or acceptance of transportation for the purpose to receive medical care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian of "Rider/Observer" Releasing the Date  
St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and City of St. Louis from all Liability

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness (age of 18 or older) Date

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**

**MEDICAL CARE WAIVER – PARENT**

**TO BE SIGNED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**

\_\_\_\_\_ hereby voluntarily acknowledge and state that I have been  
(name of parent/legal guardian)  
advised that if said minor is offered the opportunity to receive medical care to be administered by members of the Emergency Medical Service of the City of St. Louis and/or to be transported to a hospital for medical care, that I, along with my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, do hereby voluntarily forever release and fully discharge the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, along with its agents, servants and employees and the City of St. Louis, along with its agents, servants and employees, from any and all liability arising from the refusal or acceptance of medical care, as well as the refusal or acceptance of transportation for the purpose to receive medical care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian of "Rider/Observer" Releasing the St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department and City of St. Louis from all Liability Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness (age of 18 or older) Date

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**  
**WAIVER, RELEASE OF CLAIM, INDEMNITY, AND RULES OF PARTICIPATION**

As a condition precedent to being permitted to participate as a "Rider/Observer" in any City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department "Ride Along" or "Cruiser Ride" program, or in any Public Affairs, Media, or other Police Department function or accommodation, I \_\_\_\_\_

the undersigned, hereby waive any and all right of claim, demand, suit, and remedy, at law or equity, of whatever kind or nature, either directly or indirectly brought or maintained against the said City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives, for the loss of life, bodily injuries, or damage to person or property which may or might occur by reason of and in connection with the undersigned's participation in any "Rider/Observer" program or function.

I further agree that this waiver of liability by me is binding on my legal representatives, heirs, successors, assigns, executors, and administrators, and shall have the same legal effect as I have agreed to herein.

It is further understood and agreed, that as against the City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives, this Waiver, Release of Claim, Indemnity, and Rules of Participation, may be pleaded as a counterclaim to, or as a defense in bar or abatement of any action of any kind whatsoever, brought, instituted, or taken by or on behalf of the undersigned, on account of any claim against said City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives.

I do hereby further expressly stipulate and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives against any loss, including costs and fees, on account of any and all claims for loss of life, bodily injury or damage to person or property brought against the aforesaid, for damages or any other claim, arising out of or in connection with my participation in any "Rider/Observer" program or function.

It is further expressly understood and agreed that the participant will adhere to the following terms and conditions of "Rider/Observer" participation:

1. The Rider/Observer participates as an OBSERVER only, and will not become involved in or interfere, physically or verbally, with police personnel while they are engaged in pursuance of their official duties.
2. Participants are allowed to ride on day watch or afternoon watch only.
3. Participants are allowed to ride Sunday – Thursday only.
4. Participants will only be allowed to ride with patrol officers and not with specialized units.
5. If possible, the Rider/Observer will be assigned to a two-person patrol unit.
6. The participant will adhere to all orders of police personnel.
7. The participant will be allowed to observe as much of any situation or function as is possible, consistent with the participant's and others' safety.
8. The participant will not put him/herself in any position which might endanger the lives and safety of police personnel, him/herself or others.
9. No cameras, tape recorders, or any other recording devices are permitted to be brought to any Citizen Rider/Observer program or function, with the exception of expressed written permission from the Chief of Police. Such permission must be obtained in advance of participation in any program or function.
10. Participants must be in appropriate business casual attire – no jeans, t-shirts, leggings, sweats or sandals are allowed.
11. Participation will be terminated if the Rider/Observer fails to follow the above stated rules of participation, or is acting in a manner inconsistent with the best interests of this Department.
12. The Rider/Observer may request that his/her participation be terminated at any time. Return to the originating District or Division will be made as soon as is practical.
13. Supervisor may terminate a ride along at any time.

**I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE OF CLAIM, INDEMNITY, AND RULES OF PARTICIPATION. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THEM AND WILL COMPLY WITH THEIR TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of "Rider/Observer"

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**  
**WAIVER, RELEASE OF CLAIM, INDEMNITY, AND RULES OF PARTICIPATION – MINOR**  
**TO BE SIGNED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**

As a condition precedent to being permitted to participate as a "Rider/Observer" in any City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department "Ride Along" or "Cruiser Ride" program, or in any Public Affairs, Media, or other Police Department function or accommodation,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of minor)

by and through the undersigned parent/legal guardian,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of parent/legal guardian)

hereby waive any and all right of claim, demand, suit, and remedy, at law or equity, of whatever kind or nature, either directly or indirectly brought or maintained against the said City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives, for the loss of life, bodily injuries, or damage to person or property which may or might occur by reason of and in connection with said minor's participation in any "Rider/Observer" program or function.

I further agree that this waiver of liability by me is binding on my legal representatives, heirs, successors, assigns, executors, and administrators, and shall have the same legal effect as I have agreed to herein.

It is further understood and agreed, that as against the City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives, this Waiver, Release of Claim, Indemnity, and Rules of Participation, may be pleaded as a counterclaim to, or as a defense in bar or abatement of any action of any kind whatsoever, brought, instituted, or taken by or on behalf of said minor, on account of any claim against said City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives.

I do hereby further expressly stipulate and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives against any loss, including costs and fees, on account of any and all claims for loss of life, bodily injury or damage to person or property brought against the aforesaid, for damages or any other claim, arising out of or in connection with said minor's participation in any "Rider/Observer" program or function.

It is further expressly understood and agreed that the participant will adhere to the following terms and conditions of "Rider/Observer" participation:

1. The Rider/Observer participates as an OBSERVER only, and will not become involved in or interfere, physically or verbally, with police personnel while they are engaged in pursuance of their official duties.
2. Participants are allowed to ride on day watch or afternoon watch only.
3. Participants are allowed to ride Sunday – Thursday only.
4. Participants will only be allowed to ride with patrol officers and not with specialized units.
5. If possible, the Rider/Observer will be assigned to a two-person patrol unit.
6. The participant will adhere to all orders of police personnel.
7. The participant will be allowed to observe as much of any situation or function as is possible, consistent with the participant's and others' safety.
8. The participant will not put him/herself in any position which might endanger the lives and safety of police personnel, him/herself or others.
9. No cameras, tape recorders, or any other recording devices are permitted to be brought to any Citizen Rider/Observer program or function, with the exception of expressed written permission from the Chief of Police. Such permission must be obtained in advance of participation in any program or function.
10. Participants must be in appropriate business casual attire – no jeans, t-shirts, leggings, sweats or sandals are allowed.
11. Participation will be terminated if the Rider/Observer fails to follow the above stated rules of participation, or is acting in a manner inconsistent with the best interests of this Department.
12. The Rider/Observer may request that his/her participation be terminated at any time. Return to the originating District or Division will be made as soon as is practical.
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**I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE OF CLAIM, INDEMNITY, AND RULES OF PARTICIPATION. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THEM AND WILL COMPLY WITH THEIR TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness (age 18 or older)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian of "Rider/Observer"

**METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT – CITY OF ST. LOUIS**  
**WAIVER, RELEASE OF CLAIM, INDEMNITY, AND RULES OF PARTICIPATION – PARENT**  
**TO BE SIGNED BY PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN**

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\_\_\_\_\_  
(name of parent/legal guardian of said minor and name of minor)

hereby waive any and all right of claim, demand, suit, and remedy, at law or equity, of whatever kind or nature, either directly or indirectly brought or maintained against the said City of St. Louis, Board of Police Commissioners, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, its employees, agents, and legal representatives, for the loss of life, bodily injuries, or damage to person or property which may or might occur by reason of and in connection with said minor's participation in any "Rider/Observer" program or function.

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**I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE OF CLAIM, INDEMNITY, AND RULES OF PARTICIPATION. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THEM AND WILL COMPLY WITH THEIR TERMS AND CONDITIONS.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Witness (age 18 or older)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian of "Rider/Observer"