

Walnut Creek Police Department

Ride-Along Program

Rules and Regulations

The Walnut Creek Police Department ride-along program is offered to Walnut Creek residents, business owners/employees, students, applicants and those employed by the City. Every attempt will be made to accommodate interested persons; however any person who is not an employee of the police department may be disqualified without cause. Disqualification factors include but are not limited to:

- Prior criminal history
 - Pending criminal action
 - Failure to follow any policy or procedure outlined in this or any other department policy
1. No person shall be allowed to ride without having submitted a signed ride-along request and waiver form. Refusal to complete this form, or false statements of any nature on same, will disqualify that person from participation in the program. The request to ride form must be submitted two (2) weeks prior to the first requested date of participation. Exceptions may be made for special situations requiring shorter notice, as long as the other procedures are followed.
 2. Ride-Alongs should be limited to two hours, unless the officer extends the time. Either the officer or the participant may terminate the ride-along at any time.
 3. Citizens will be limited to one ride-along per year.
 4. Any person approved to ride is required to be suitably dressed. No T-shirts, tank tops, or short pants will be permitted. The Watch Commander or Field Supervisor shall refuse a ride-along to anyone not properly dressed.
 5. Participants must follow the directions of the officer, to whom they are assigned, at all times.
 6. Participants shall not interfere with the officer's duties or become involved in any investigation, handling of evidence, interactions with victims or suspects and may not handle or manipulate police equipment of any type.
 7. Applicants will be contacted by an officer, after filing the written application request, to schedule the ride-along.
 8. The applicant's participation is a privilege and not a right. The basic premise of the ride-along program is to enhance public awareness of the role and functions of law enforcement
 9. All participants must agree not to discuss names of persons involved in police cases or incidents. The observer will be considered a confidant of the Police Department and it is essential that all matters pertaining to evidence or statements gathered in investigations be held confidential.
 10. Tape recorders and/or cameras will not be permitted, unless express permission is granted by the Watch Commander.
 11. By signing the attached waiver, the participant agrees to the rules and regulations listed above. To access the waiver <<CLICK HERE>>