

WYLIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Citizen Observer Instructions and Rules

The Wylie Police Department welcomes you to ride, as an observer, with one of our officers. As a professional law enforcement organization, we constantly strive to improve the level of service to our community. To that end, it is necessary to establish and maintain certain rules which govern the conduct and activities of citizens who ride with our officers to ensure the integrity of our department is protected. In order for a citizen to ride, as an observer, with the Wylie Police Department, he/she:

1. Must be Eighteen (18) years of age or older.
2. Must complete and submit the Rider Information Form (PD-60) and the Release of Claims Form (PD-61) to Police Administration, during normal office hours, a minimum of one week in advance.
3. Must be willing to undergo a background check, by the Department, to ensure the rider does not have an unacceptable criminal record and/or outstanding warrants.
 - a. Must never have been convicted of a felony or any criminal offense involving moral turpitude.
4. The approved rider must present their own copy of the written request form and a picture I.D. to the on duty supervisor that accommodates the rider's request for an observation ride.
5. Observers in the Ride Along Program are guests of the police department and shall conduct themselves in an appropriate responsible manner. Observers will:
 - a. Not use alcoholic beverages immediately prior to or during the watch which they are to ride;
 - b. Not use profane or abusive language or behave in any manner that would provoke or escalate tension;
 - c. Not enter into any investigation or converse with any citizen, witness, or prisoner concerning a police incident or investigation;
 - d. Not make known to unauthorized persons the identity of persons arrested, detained, confined in jail or suspected of an offense;
 - e. Not operate or use any police equipment or vehicle or any item in police custody or control except in case of an extreme emergency when instructed to do so by a police officer;
 - f. Not carry a firearm (unless they are commissioned peace officers) or convey the impression or state to anyone that they are police officers;

Page 2: Citizen Rider Observer Instructions and Rules

- g. Remain in the police car during routine traffic stops and disturbance calls of a serious nature and they shall not enter a house, building, or other property, public or private, from which the public would be excluded because of a police incident or by the owner of the property; and
 - h. Obey without question any instructions in the furtherance of the police mission given by a police officer.
4. Dress and Grooming Standards;
- a. Observers in the Ride Along Program must dress and groom themselves in an appropriate and business like manner. The on duty supervisor or his designee, will be the final judge of whether or not an observer's attire and/or grooming is appropriate for riding in a police car.
 - b. Minimum requirements are slacks or dress jeans and a shirt with a collar for males, slacks or dress jeans and a blouse for females. T-shirts and worn or unsightly blue jeans are not acceptable attire.
 - c. Riders will be clean and neat in appearance, hair will be groomed in such a manner that it can be maintained under all, but the most adverse conditions and does not present a ragged, unkempt, bushy or extreme appearance.
 - d. No observer shall wear, on his/her clothing, anything that advertises any product, business, or organization, or any sign, symbol, or word(s) that are inflammatory in nature.
5. Citizen observers will be allowed to ride for a four (4) hour period, unless circumstances justify otherwise. Additional time must be approved by a supervisor.

On behalf of all the men and women of the Wylie Police Department and myself, I hope that you find this as an educational, but enjoyable experience which serves to provide you with a better understanding of the law enforcement profession.

John A. Duscio
Chief of Police

**WYLIE POLICE DEPARTMENT
RIDER INFORMATION FORM**

Name: _____

Age: _____ D.O.B.: ____ / ____ / ____ Texas DL or ID #: _____

Social Security #: _____ - _____ - _____

Home Address: _____

Home/Cell Phone: (_____) _____

Business Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Business Phone: (_____) _____

Reason I want to ride with a member of the Wylie Police Department:

I would like to ride out on: Date/Day of the week: _____ Time: _____

Officer Information
Approved by: _____
Ride-Along Date: _____
Start Time: _____
Completed Time: _____
Officer: _____

Officer Information
Approved by: _____
Ride-Along Date: _____
Start Time: _____
Completed Time: _____
Officer: _____

**WYLIE POLICE DEPARTMENT
RELEASE OF CLAIMS**

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF COLLIN

Known all men by these present that I, _____, in consideration of being allowed to accompany the Wylie Police on official patrols, do by these presents for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, hereby release and agree not to hold liable, the City of Wylie, its officers, agents and employees from any and all actions, causes of action, claims, demands, costs or damages arising from or resulting from property damage, personal injuries or death sustained by me or my property while accompanying them.

I further agree by these presents for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to indemnify, hold and save harmless the City of Wylie, its agents, officers and employees, from any liability, action, claim damage, award or judgment incurred or suffered by the City or individuals as a result of any act or omission by me or caused by me while accompanying any employee, agent or officer of the City.

In addition, I make the following representations and acknowledgments upon which I intend the City of Wylie rely:

- 1) I understand and agree that while accompanying any officer, agent or employee of the City during his law enforcement rounds, I am to be only an unarmed lay observer and bystander with no action role whatsoever and that I will have and am given no duties, rights, powers or authority whatsoever other than those conferred by law upon any other person in like or similar circumstances as may arise from time to time and will under no circumstances interfere with the officers or offer any advice or counsel to any person being questioned, investigated, taken into custody or arrested by any officer;
- 2) Neither will I be considered an agent, servant or employee of the City of Wylie and thus, I will not be covered by the City for any worker's compensation, death or disability benefits;
- 3) I realize that I may and will at unpredictable times be placed in both foreseeable and unforeseeable positions of considerable danger that could cause injury, severe injury, permanent disability, death, mental anguish, stress disorder, mental disability, permanent mental disability, and agree that neither the City of Wylie nor any of its officers or employees shall be obligated to take any steps or actions to protect my person or provide a means of withdrawal or retreat for me, and I hereby release them of any duty to do so intending hereby to willfully and voluntarily assume all risk inherent in any situation and under any circumstances that may arise incident hereto;

Page 2: Release of Claims Form

- 4) I agree that any information I may gain will be used by me only for my personal educational purposes except where I am summoned as a witness in any administrative or court proceeding.

Witness my hand this the _____ Day of _____, 20_____.

Applicant's Signature

BEFORE ME, _____ personally appeared, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she freely and voluntarily executed the same for the purpose and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the _____ Day of

_____, 20_____.

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

Printed or Typed Name of Notary

My commission expires: _____