



City of East Ridge
Police Department
4214 Ringgold Road
East Ridge, TN 37412

Ride-Along Program

The East Ridge Police Department values our relationship with the citizens of the city. To further promote this relationship, the Department invites citizens of East Ridge to participate in the Department's Civilian Ride-Along Program. The purpose of the Ride-Along Program is to encourage community involvement in law enforcement and to educate the public by opening lines of communication between the community and police. Additionally, the Ride-Along Program promotes a better understanding of the challenges, risks and rewards of the police officer's job. As part of the Ride-Along Program, Citizens will ride in a patrol car with an officer as he or she answers calls, makes traffic stops, and conducts other patrol duties.

If interested, please complete the application below, read the Rules and Regulations and the Release and Waiver of Claims, and sign where indicated. All forms may be emailed to sallen@eastridgetn.gov or dropped off in person at the Department at 4214 Ringgold Rd during business hours. Be aware that a criminal background investigation will be conducted prior to approval being given to participate. Please allow two weeks for processing.

PROGRAM RULES AND GUIDELINES

1. Submitting a request does not guarantee ride along approval.
2. The date and shift requested by the applicant shall be accommodated when possible within preference guidelines.
3. Participants must have a valid photo ID or driver license with them when reporting for their scheduled ride along.
4. Wear neat, clean, appropriate clothing. Shorts, sweat suits or jogging suits, tank tops, halter tops, or clothing which is torn, soiled or displays offensive language or symbols shall not be allowed.
5. Participants shall be considered observers only and shall be under the direct supervision of the assigned officer during the ride along.
6. Participants shall conduct themselves in a civil and courteous manner at all times.
7. Participants must wear their seat belts at all times while in the patrol car.
8. Participants must remain in the patrol car unless instructed to leave by an officer.
9. In the case of a potentially dangerous or hazardous call, participants may be dropped off at a safe location. If this occurs, the officer will give the participant specific instructions and arrange for transportation from another officer. Please note that this is for the rider's safety.
10. Participants must not become involved in any incident the officer is handling. This includes discussions of an incident with victims, witnesses, or suspects.
11. No tape recordings, cameras, or similar devices are allowed without prior approval from the Chief of Police or his designee.
12. For security and safety reasons, participants are not allowed to handle or use any of the officer's equipment or the equipment in the patrol vehicle.
13. All participants in the Ride-Along Program must read, agree, and abide by all rules and guidelines and complete the Ride-Along Application prior to the ride along.
14. Failure to comply with any of the above listed rules and guidelines, together with other rules and regulations promulgated by the East Ridge Police Department, may result in the immediate termination of the ride-along.