

MENDOCINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS FOR OBSERVER

1. Observer will be under the complete control of the Deputy Sheriff at all times. If a dangerous or emergency situation arises, the deputy may direct observer to take appropriate actions to ensure their safety. Observer shall follow the directions of the deputy. The deputy may, at any time, discharge an observer if he feels the observer's presence would constitute a hazard to the observer or citizenry or interfere with the proper performance of his duties.
2. Observer will remain in the radio car at the scene of police activities unless otherwise instructed or permission is given by the deputy.
3. Observer is not to participate in police activities unless specifically requested by the deputy or the deputy's immediate supervisor.
4. Observer is not to engage in any conversation with prisoners, suspects, witnesses, or any other parties contacted by the deputy in the course of business unless requested by the deputy.
5. Observer shall not interfere verbally or physically at any time during the deputy's activities. You are encouraged to seek information regarding procedures and activities, but all questions should be asked at an appropriate time.
6. Observer shall arrive at the Sheriff's Office 15 minutes prior to the assigned time. If, for some reason, an observer is unable to keep his appointment, he should notify this office as soon as possible.
7. Observer should wear suitable clothing which is neat and in good taste, such as slacks and sport shirt, or blouse. Don't forget to wear warm clothing in cold weather. Tape recorders or cameras will not be allowed; nor may the observer carry any object(s) that might be considered a weapon.
8. Observer is required to sign the *Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver & Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement* form (see Page 2 of this packet) in the presence of an authorized representative of the Sheriff's Office.
9. Observer will be required to keep all names and information confidential if such information could in any way jeopardize a citizen's reputation or community standing or if such information could cause a detrimental condition to public safety.
10. The Shift Commander has full authority to deny "Ride-Along" participation, at any time during or prior to the observer's participation if he feels it interferes with safety or efficiency of the Sheriff's Office operation due to any existing condition.
11. At the conclusion of the "Ride-Along", observer will be given a Evaluation Sheet (see Page 3 of this packet) and will be asked to complete it and return it to the Sheriff's Office.

I HAVE READ EACH OF THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS AND I UNDERSTAND THEM.

Observer: _____	Witness: _____
Parent/Guardian: _____ (If observer is under 18 years old)	Date: _____

MENDOCINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM

APPLICATION AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

The Mendocino County Sheriff's Office invites the public to participate in the "Ride-Along Program". You will have an opportunity to observe the functions of the Sheriff's Office in Field Services, Communications, Civil, and Corrections Divisions. There are certain requirements and regulations in the program to assure as much protection as possible for you and the deputy you ride with.

APPLICATION

NAME: _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____
Last First Initial

ADDRESS: _____ Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

An MCSO Shift Supervisor will contact you at the phone number(s) above to schedule your Ride-Along. Phone numbers that are illegible or inaccurate will cause the application to be rejected.

The observer's time will be scheduled by the Shift Supervisor and will be subject to Sheriff's Office conditions. Please state your preferred choice of DAYS (Note: not dates).

FIRST CHOICE: _____ SECOND CHOICE: _____ THIRD CHOICE: _____

If you are a student and your participation is related to a class assignment or function, please provide:

NAME OF SCHOOL: _____ INSTRUCTOR: _____

AGREEMENT ASSUMING RISK OF INJURY OR DAMAGE, WAIVER & RELEASE OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

I, _____, am under/over the age of 18 and not a member of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office. I have made a request for permission to ride in an assigned vehicle and to accompany a member of the Sheriff's Office during the performance of their official duties.

The County of Mendocino, through it's Sheriff's Office, is willing to allow me to ride as a guest in an assigned vehicle and to accompany a member of the Sheriff's Office during the performance of their duties, only if I agree to the following conditions:

1. That I am aware the work of the Sheriff's Office is inherently dangerous and that I may be subject to the risk of death or personal injury or damage to my person or property by accompanying a member of the Sheriff's Office during the performance of their official duties. I freely, voluntarily, and with such knowledge assume the risk of death, personal injury, or property damage, incurred in any way whatsoever while accompanying a member of the Sheriff's Office during the performance of their official duties.

2. That I, or my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, will defend and indemnify the County of Mendocino, it's officers, employees and agents, and each of them, against any and all manner of actions, causes or actions, suits, debts, claims, demands or damages or liability or expense of every kind and nature incurred or arising by reason of any actual or claimed negligent or wrongful act or omission of mine while riding in any vehicle assigned to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office or while accompanying any member, or members, of said Sheriff's Office during the performance of their official duties.

Observer: _____

Witness: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

(If observer is under 18 years old)

CAUTION: THIS FORM IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT.

Read the *Agreement Assuming Risk of Injury or Damage, Waiver & Release of Claims and Indemnity Agreement* in its entirety. DO NOT SIGN UNLESS YOU UNDERSTAND AGREE WITH THE TERMS.

CLETS Verified _____

Supervisor Approved _____

MENDOCINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM

EVALUATION SHEET

The purpose of this program is to offer the citizen an opportunity to learn about the role and functions of the Sheriff's Office. We are interested in making the Ride-Along Program as meaningful as possible and therefore, request your comments on this sheet (please use the back if more space is needed).

1. What was your general opinion of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office prior to your participation in the Ride-Along Program?

2. Because of your experiences while taking part in this program; do you feel your attitude about the Sheriff's Office has changed? Positively Affected Not Affected Negatively Affected

3. Has the Ride-Along Program enabled you to better understand the responsibilities and duties of a Deputy Sheriff? No Yes Please Explain:

4. Following your participation in the Ride-Along Program, what do you understand to be the role and functions of the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office?

5. Would you recommend this program to your friends? No Yes Please explain:

6. Do you have any suggestions, which you feel would assist in improving our service to the community?

Signature: _____	Date: _____
Received by: _____ I.D.# _____	Date: _____

RETURN TO: Mendocino County Sheriff's Office 951 Low Gap Road Ukiah, CA 95482
brittonr@mendocinocounty.org