

Police Observer Information Form

- Police observers must complete and sign the Request for Approval for Ride Along form to ride in a Giddings Police car. This privilege is called a ride along.
- NO person under the age of eighteen (18) will be permitted to ride along as an observer at any time unless the Chief of Police has granted prior approval.
- A warrant and criminal history check are done on all requestors prior to approval being given.
- Police observers may ride a maximum of one (1) time per six-month period unless approved in writing by the Chief of Police.
- Police observers should appear at the scheduled time. If the observer arrives after the assigned officer has gone on the street, the observer may have to reschedule the riding period for another date.
- Violation of any portions of the prohibited acts, or dress code, or any behavior that impairs the officer's ability to perform his/her job, will be grounds for being banned from riding.

Dress Code for Police Observers

- Police observers are to dress neatly and conservatively.
- Cleanliness is required at all times.
- Shorts and cut-offs are prohibited.
- Clothing bearing any sign or symbol that advertises any product, business or organization will not be permitted.
- Clothing with offensive designs, logos, letters or devices is prohibited.
- Conservative-type shoes or boots will be worn; sandals and bare feet are prohibited.

Prohibited Acts

- Will not consume alcoholic beverages prior to or during tours of duty;
- Will not use profane or abusive language during the tour of duty;
- Will not engage in excessive conversation, which may distract the officer or interfere with hearing the police radio;
- Will not make remarks or voice opinions to complainants, witnesses, victims, violators or suspects in any manner which would tend to provoke or degrade anyone or escalate tension;
- Will not be allowed into a private residence during the execution of a search or arrest warrant;
- Will not make known to any unauthorized person, information that may compromise a police operation, procedure or investigation that is either in progress or proposed;
- Will not make known to any unauthorized persons the identity of persons arrested, persons being confined in jail, or suspects in a criminal act;
- Will not use information learned during a tour of duty for personal gain;
- Will not carry weapons of any type. Observers possessing a permit to carry a concealed weapon will NOT be allowed to carry a weapon during a tour of duty;
- Non-sworn observers do not have any powers of a police officer, and have no authority.

Police observers will

- At all times conduct themselves with proper decorum.
- Follow ALL instructions from the officer. Failure to do so may result in immediately cancelation of the ride along.
- Remain in the police car during routine traffic stops unless otherwise directed by an officer.
- Remain in or near the police car during all calls unless otherwise directed by an officer.

Completed ride along forms can be faxed to
(979) 542-1816 or emailed to wweems@giddings.net

**FORMS MUST BE PHYSICALLY SIGNED BEFORE A
BACKGROUND CHECK IS COMPLETED.**

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL FOR RIDE ALONG

Last Name		First Name		MI	Date of Birth
Address		City, State, Zip		Home Phone Number	
Driver's License Number	State Issued	Expire Date	CHL – Y or N	Email	
Date REQUESTED		Time REQUESTED		Have you ridden before?	When?
Category of Rider (Circle One) :	Spouse	City Employee	Media	Other LE Agency	
	Relative	Friend	Applicant	Other	

In consideration of being allowed to accompany Giddings Police Officers on official patrols and otherwise participate in the Police Observer program:

I, the undersigned, binding my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to hereby release and agree not to hold liable, the City of Giddings, 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 participating in the Police Observer (Ride Along) Program.

I further agree, on behalf of myself, my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns to indemnify, hold and save harmless the City of Giddings, Giddings Police Department, Council of Governments, its supervisors, officers, agents, and employees from all liability, suits, actions, claims, losses, damages, award or judgment, without limits, all expenses of litigation, court costs, and attorney fees for injury or death to any person or damages to any property incurred or suffered as a result of participating in the Police Observer (Ride Along) Program whether or not also caused in part by a person indemnified hereunder.

In addition, I make the following representations and acknowledgements upon which I intend the City to rely: **(Attention: Observer must read, acknowledge and initial all the following statements)**

_____ I understand and agree that while accompanying any police officer during his law enforcement rounds, I am to be only an **unarmed** lay observer and bystander with no active role whatever and that I will have and am given no duties, rights, powers or authority whatever other than those conferred by law upon any other person in like or similar circumstances as may arise from time to time;

_____ I realize and agree that while participating in this program, I will not be an agent, servant or employee of the City of Giddings and therefore will not be covered by the City of Giddings for any workers' compensation, death or disability benefits;

_____ I realize that as an inherent incident of this program, I will at unpredictable times be placed in both foreseeable and unforeseeable positions of considerable danger and agree that neither the City nor any of its officers or employees shall be obligated to take any steps or action to protect my person or provide a means of withdrawal or retreat for me, and release them of any duty to do so;

_____ I agree that any information I may gain through participation in a study program will be used by me only for my personal education purposes except where I am summoned as a witness in any administrative or court proceeding;

_____ I understand that my participation in the above named projects is a privilege subject to revocation at any time by the Giddings Police Department.

Observers Signature:										Date of Signature	
DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - OFFICIAL POLICE USE ONLY											
Warrant Check Performed	Yes	No	Criminal History Check Performed	Yes	No	GPD Database Check performed	Yes	No	Results:		
Observer Assigned To:								Date and Time Assigned			
								District			
Supervisor Approval:								Date			
Chief of Police Approval								Date			