

FROM: Sam Granato, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Citizen Rider Program

Thank you for your interest in the Citizen Rider Program of the Yakima Police Department. The purpose of the program is to promote understanding and communication between our police officers and the citizens of the Yakima Valley.

To qualify for and schedule a “courtesy ride”:

1. The rider must be at least sixteen (16) years of age. If the rider is less than eighteen (18) years of age, a parent or guardian must also sign the waiver form.
2. Read and complete the “application – passenger permit and waiver” form on the reverse side of this notice.
3. On this application, the rider must select a date to ride at least 7 working days from the date the application is being submitted. The designated start times for “courtesy rides” are: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 5:45 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. The rider should choose from these options for their ride to begin. “Courtesy rides” generally are a maximum of three hours.
4. The application will be reviewed and a criminal history records check will be completed. If, for some reason, the “courtesy ride” is denied, the rider will be notified. Otherwise, the rider should plan on reporting to the police department at the date and time he/she listed on the application.

Participation guidelines:

1. The rider must dress appropriately (clean, pressed slacks and shirt, etc.) and their conduct and demeanor while on the ride must remain exemplary.
2. The on-duty Shift Sergeant may cancel your ride at any time due to inappropriate dress or behavior; lack of sufficient staffing; or activity levels that would make a courtesy ride impractical on the date scheduled.
3. “Courtesy rides” are authorized for persons no more than once every six (6) months.
4. Prior to the beginning of the courtesy ride the “Citizen Ride-Along Guidelines” video will be viewed with the assigned officer.

If you have any questions regarding the Citizen Rider Program, please contact the on duty Watch Commander or his/her designee.

Sincerely,

Sam Granato
Chief of Police

City of Yakima
Police Department



Application – Passenger Permit and Waiver

Full Name: _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Address: _____ Telephone _____

Occupation _____ Employer _____

Y / N

Have you ever participated in the rider program before?

If Yes, how many times? _____. Date of your last ride-along _____.

Why are you interested in the ride-along program? _____

Requested Date: _____ Time _____ Officer _____

WAIVER

The undersigned has requested permission from the City of Yakima Police Department for the undersigned, (or minor child) to ride in a Yakima Police vehicle. The undersigned understands that no benefit will accrue to the City of Yakima, the Yakima Police Department, nor to any individual police officer in the event such a request is granted, but such permission is sought for the sole benefit of the undersigned.

The undersigned knows and understands that extraordinary risks exist while riding in such a police vehicle, over and above those risks ordinarily attendant to riding as a passenger in a non-police vehicle, because of the nature of the activities for which such police vehicle has and will be used while the undersigned (or minor child) is riding therein, including, but not limited to, high speed travel, its use in various emergency situations and for other police activities. The undersigned, with such knowledge and understanding, nevertheless hereby voluntarily assumes any and all risks attendant to riding in a police vehicle, whether those risks involve the manner of driving such vehicle.

In consideration of such permission being given, the undersigned hereby waives and all claims of liability for damages of any and every nature whatsoever against the City of Yakima, the Yakima Police Department or any police officer of the Yakima Police Department, which might otherwise accrue to the undersigned or which may be claimed by another against the undersigned, by reason of riding by the undersigned in a police vehicle for which this permission is sought.

I have read and understand the above waiver _____ date _____
(rider signature)

Parent/Guardian if rider is a minor: _____ date _____
(Parent/Guardian signature)

Records Check completed Y / N by _____ Date _____

Request Granted / Denied by: _____ Date _____
(circle one)

Assigned to: _____ Squad _____ Date _____ Time _____
(officer name)