

BARRE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT
RIDE-ALONG PARTICIPANT INSTRUCTIONS

In order to participate in the Barre City Police Department Ride-Along Program, participants must abide by the following rules:

Reporting for Ride-along:

1. The ride-along program should be scheduled during the day hours or evening tours of duty. All other times may be granted with written authorization from the Deputy Chief.
2. Participants should report to the police department no later than 15 minutes prior to their scheduled participation time.
3. If available, a supervising officer will meet with the ride-along participant. The ride along participant and the supervising officer will review the rules of the ride- along program with the participant. In this review, the participant should be reminded that they may be called as a witness in court, if they observe a police event which becomes subject to court action.
4. The supervising officer shall issue the participant a “ride-along” participant identification tag that the participant shall be required to wear on his/her outermost clothing.

Duties of the Ride-along Participant:

1. Participants shall play no active role in the police function. They must only act as an observer unless otherwise directed by their host-officer.
2. Participants shall not be allowed to operate any police equipment unless directed to do so by a police officer in an extreme emergency.
3. Participants must remain in the police vehicle at all times until directed otherwise by the host officer.
4. Participants must not speak to victims, witnesses, prisoners or other persons associated with a police event. Should a witness, prisoner, victim or other person speak to the participant, the participant should politely direct the person to speak to one of the officers present.

5. Tape recorders, cameras and video equipment by ride-along participants cannot be used without permission.
6. Ride-along participants are prohibited from carrying or possessing weapons of any kind.
7. If the host officer's assignment requires entering a private residence or private property not open to the public, under no circumstances is a ride-along participant permitted to accompany the officer. This includes accompanying the officer to the door of the residence. The ride-along participant must either remain in the cruiser or on public property.
8. If the host officer is required to respond to a serious incident which may present a danger to a ride-along participant, the host officer must leave the participant at a safe location prior to responding to the incident.
9. Participants shall follow the instructions of the host officer at all times during the ride-along.
10. The transportation of arrestees in the same vehicle as ride-along participants is prohibited.
11. Participants should be dressed in comfortable, casual but conservative clothing (pants and shirt/jacket for men, pants and blouse/jacket for women) during the ride-along. Participants who are inappropriately dressed, as determined by the supervising officer, shall not be allowed to participate in the program on the assigned date.