OVERVIEW:

Often citizens wish it were possible for them to be at the scene of police incidents and exactly how the incident is handled so they may better judge the quality of their police department. Others are considering a career in law enforcement and wish a preview of what such a career might involve.

In response to such feelings, the Dixie State University Police Department has made it possible for you to “Ride-Along” in a patrol vehicle, with a police officer, during their tour of duty. We sincerely hope that by offering such a program, we may improve the state of understanding that exists between our officers, and you, the public. Please feel free to ask questions which you might wish of our officers, because only through-improved communications with each other can this goal be reached.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

Fill out a waiver form and take it to the Dixie State University Police Department located at 225 S. University Avenue, North Burns Offices 168, St. George, Utah 84770.

WILL I HAVE TO SIGN SOMETHING?

Yes. We must have you sign a waiver form, which frees the department of liability in the event you are injured while riding along with us. If you are under 18 years of age, your parents must sign the waiver. A background check will be conducted after your application is received and prior to your ride. You will be notified by email or phone if you have been accepted or rejected for the “Ride-Along”.

COULD I GET HURT?

Police work, by its very nature, is sometimes dangerous. We will do everything within our power to see that you are not exposed to danger. This sometimes means that the rider must be dropped off at a convenience store on some calls, or be asked to stay in the car, so be prepared.
HOW LONG CAN I RIDE AT A TIME?

Normally, four hours. Longer rides may be arranged under special circumstances.

HOW SHOULD I DRESS?

We require that all persons riding along be dressed in business casual attire, including slacks, collared shirt or jacket, and shoes. We advise female participants NOT TO WEAR dresses, skirts, or high-heeled shoes. Sandals, t-shirts, hooded sweatshirts, baseball caps, halter tops, jeans, sports logo attire, shorts and clothing with holes or tears, are not permitted. Please consider the weather also. The “Shift Supervisor” will refuse a ride to anyone not properly dressed.

CAN I BRING A CAMERA?

Due to constitutional questions of “Right to Privacy”, we do not allow camera or recorders.

HOW OFTEN CAN I RIDE?

In order to allow as many people as possible the chance to participate in this program, we limit “Ride-Alongs” to once a year.