



CRYSTAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

"Service with compassion, integrity, and professionalism."

4141 Douglas Drive North, Crystal, MN 55422

Telephone: 763-531-1014 | Fax: 763-537-3279

CITIZEN OBSERVER PROGRAM

(Police Ride-Along)

Welcome to the Crystal Police Department!

Thank you for your interest in our agency. The Citizen Observer Program is designed to offer a window into the daily job of a Crystal Police Officer. If approved, you will be able to ride with the officer as he/she conducts their daily activities and responds to emergencies. In order to qualify as a Citizen Observer, you will need to meet the following eligibility standards:

1. Must be a citizen of Crystal 16 years of age or older or;
2. A police officer from another jurisdiction or;
3. A city employee/volunteer or;
4. A criminal justice student fulfilling a course requirement or;
5. A criminal justice professional or;
6. A current applicant of the police department who has passed a first-round interview or;
7. An elected government official or;
8. Acquaintance or immediate family member of a Crystal Police Department employee or;
9. A member of the media and;
10. Must successfully pass a criminal history check, warrant, court order and police contact history check and;
11. Submit a completed application.

While participating in the observer program, all participants are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner and not distract the officer from his/her duties. Participants shall not carry weapons during the observation unless they are a licensed peace officer and have notified the host officer. Participants shall follow the direction of the host officer at all times.

Please understand that the nature of police work can be risky, tense, and rapidly changing. Because of this, your requested observation period may be canceled, shortened, or denied due to a host of concerns including, but not limited to the following: staffing shortages, natural disaster, officer safety, civil unrest, and dangerous situations.

Attached you will find the program application and release (two separate documents). Please complete both forms and return this to the police department and you will be contacted about your request.

CITIZEN OBSERVER PROGRAM APPLICATION

Name
(First) _____ (Middle) _____ (Last) _____ DOB _____
Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
State ID/DL # _____ State of Issue _____
Phone _____ Email _____

(Please check all that apply)

I am:

- _____ A resident of Crystal 16 years of age or older
- _____ A licensed peace officer from another jurisdiction
- _____ A Crystal city employee or volunteer
- _____ A criminal justice student fulfilling a course requirement
- _____ A criminal justice professional
- _____ A family member or acquaintance of a Crystal Police Department Employee
- _____ A current applicant of the police department who has passed a first-round interview
- _____ An elected government official
- _____ A member of the media
- _____ Other (please describe)

(Please check all that apply)

- _____ I would like to carry a weapon during my observation period (licensed peace officers only)
- _____ I give my permission to have a criminal history, warrant, court order and police contact history check
- _____ conducted (city employees and volunteers are exempt)

When was your last observation period (ride-along) with the Crystal Police Department?

Please list dates and times that you would like to ride along.

By signing below, you agree to the following:

I have completed the application truthfully and accurately. I understand that while participating in the program, I must follow all instructions of the host officer. I will conduct myself in a manner that reflects positively on the Crystal Police Department. I will not distract the host officer from his/her job duties. At any time, my participation in the program may be ended by the host officer. I understand that my participation in the citizen observer program is not obligatory and that I may be denied participation.

Applicant Signature

Date

Name (please print clearly)

Location: G:\Records Unit\Forms

Administrative Use Only

_____ ID _____ QDP _____ RMS _____ CCH Initials _____

Approved _____ Denied _____ Initials _____

Assigned Date/Supervisor _____

CITY OF CRYSTAL
RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT
CITIZEN OBSERVER PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the undersigned has voluntarily elected to ride as a passenger in the police department vehicles of the City of Crystal, Hennepin County, Minnesota and to accompany police officers of said City while engaged in the performance of their duties, to study and observed for his or her own benefit the functions and operations of the Crystal Police Department and its personnel;

WHEREAS, the undersigned desires to do so at his or her own risk and recognizing the possible and inherent danger to his or her person and property resulting therefrom and that such dangers included but are not limited to, the risk that the undersigned:

- May be left alone in the squad car in high-risk areas;
- May be left out of the squad car, as police operations may require and left unaccompanied, possibly in high-risk areas;
- May be involved in high-speed chases, high-speed clocking of suspected traffic law violators, and other such dangers at such times involved as the squad car may break traffic laws in the course of operating as an emergency vehicle.
- May come in contact with dangerous animals or with persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs;
- May be subject to obscene or abusive language; and
- May be exposed to all risks and dangers inherent in public work which include extreme risks of bodily harm and trauma in addition to those to which the general populace may be exposed; and

WHEREAS, the City of Crystal does not wish to be liable for any damages arising from personal injuries and/or property damages sustained.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises and other good and valuable consideration, the undersigned does hereby, for himself or herself, his wife or her husband, heirs, executor or administrator, and personal representatives:

- (a) Assume full responsibility for any personal injury or damage to his or her person or property which may occur, directly or indirectly, while in, on, or about any such police department vehicle, the police department premises, or any part thereof at the Crystal City Hall or while accompanying any police officers of the City of Crystal while in performance of their duties;
- (b) Fully and forever release and discharge the City of Crystal, its agents and employees, from any and all claims, demands, damages, rights of action, or causes of action, present or future, whether the same be known, anticipated or unanticipated, resulting from, or arising out of, the undersigned being in, on, or about any such police department vehicle, or at any or all of the premises and places aforesaid, or while accompanying any police officers of the City of Crystal as aforesaid;
- (c) Indemnify and hold harmless the City of Crystal, its agents and employees, for any acts of conduct of the undersigned of whatever, while in, on, or about such police department vehicle or at any or all of the premises and places aforesaid, or while accompanying any such police

officers as aforesaid;

(d) Agree to defend and to pay any costs or attorney's fees as a result of any action brought by or against the City of Crystal, its agents and employees, for any acts or conduct of the undersigned of whatever kind or nature whatsoever, while in, on, or about any such police department vehicle, or at any of the premises and places aforesaid, or while accompanying any such police officers as aforesaid;

(e) Agree that it is the intent of the undersigned that this *Release and Indemnity Agreement* be in full force and effect at any time after the execution hereof.

(Name)

(Date)

IF THE AFOREMENTIONED PERSON IS A JUVENILE (i.e. UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE), THE CONSENT OF A PARENT OR GUARDIAN IS REQUIRED.

(Parent or Guardian)

(Date)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

_____ day of _____, 20 _____

(Notary Public)