

FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT
OBSERVER ORIENTATION

"To provide a safe and orderly environment in our city through professionalism dedication, an active partnership with the community and a concern for individual dignity" This is the mission statement of the Fort Lauderdale Police Department. In order to better facilitate that "active partnership with the community", this observer program has been developed. The following information is offered in order to make your experiences educational and pleasant as possible.

You may choose to ride any one of the three shifts:

Shift 1	7:00 am – 3:00 pm	(0700 – 1500 Hours)
Shift 2	12:00 Noon – 10:00 pm	(1200 – 2200 Hours)
Shift 3 (Early)	7:00 pm – 5:00 am	(1900 – 0500 Hours)
Shift 3 (Late)	9:30 pm – 7:30 am	(2130 – 0730 Hours)

You may also express a preference for which district in which you ride. The City of Fort Lauderdale has been divided into three districts or geographical areas (see attached map).

Please list your shift and district preference on the "request to ride" form, making sure to indicate shift times, along with the day most convenient for you to ride. Please allow three days for processing of this form. Upon this form being properly filled out and submitted, a criminal history check will be completed on you to screen out inappropriate applicants. Once the history is checked, your application will be given to a shift captain for approval and then assigned to a sergeant who will contact you and confirm your ride time.

You will be permitted to ride a maximum of once every six months and will not be permitted to ride with a family member. When observing, you are required to dress appropriately. Collared shirts and slacks are suggested. Tee shirts, leggings, shorts, jeans and other inappropriate clothing are prohibited. All observers will be required to display an ID card on his/her outer clothing at all times. Your "host" officer will obtain this ID card from Property Control. You will also be expected to comply with the instructions of the "host" officer. All observers are to remain in the vehicle unless authorized by the officer to exit the vehicle. You will be prohibited from taking an active role in in-progress calls and the searching of suspects. Observers are not to handle evidence or establish any dialogue with suspects, witnesses, arrestees or victims.

Please be present in the lobby of the police station (or in front of it if the doors are closed) one half-hour prior to your chosen shift.

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO RIDE AS OBSERVER AND HOLD-HARMLESS / INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

The undersigned, being over the age of eighteen, does hereby request the Fort Lauderdale Police Department for permission to ride, as an observer only, in an authorized Fort Lauderdale Police Department motor vehicle. This observation is for the purpose of educational benefit. If permission is granted, I hereby agree to obey at all times all instructions, orders, and commands given me by the officer or officers in command of any vehicle in which I may be riding. I fully realize and appreciate the basic nature of law enforcement work and the possibility that situations will arise which might result in my being exposed to the danger of physical or emotional harm or injury, including, but not limited to, motor vehicle accidents. I knowingly and voluntarily accept these risks. I understand that my observation may be terminated at any time without notice by the Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

WHEREFORE, in consideration of the educational benefit to the below named person and the granting of the above request, the undersigned hereby agree to hold the City of Fort Lauderdale, its Commission, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and its Chief, employees, agents and servants harmless from any and all liability for personal or emotional injury or property damage, whether proximate or remote, sustained during the period of time said person may be in the capacity of an observer, as aforesaid. Furthermore, the undersigned agree to indemnify the City of Fort Lauderdale, its Commission, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department and its Chief, employees, agents and servants from any and all damage, actions, suits, claims or demands of whatsoever kind, made by or on behalf of any person or entity, as a result of the City of Fort Lauderdale granting the below named person the status as Observer, including but not limited to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

Print Name _____ DOB _____ Race/Sex _____ Drivers License #, State _____

Address _____ City _____ State, _____ Zip Code _____

Local address (if different than above) _____ Local daytime phone # _____ Local evening phone # _____

District 1 2 3
Shift 1 2 3 Early Late
(circle shift and early or late)

Social Security # _____ Day requested _____ Date requested _____

Reason For Riding As Observer _____

Signature: Observer _____

Unit Requesting (name of person or unit initiating) _____

NCIC/FCIC, CRIMINAL HISTORY Yes _____ No _____ Done by _____
CCN

Approved: Lieutenant _____ CCN# _____ Date: _____

Not Approved: Lieutenant _____ CCN# _____ Reason: _____

Observation Time: _____
(Day) (Date) Shift #

Unit Assigned: _____

Distribution: ORIGINAL-Police Secretary COPY-Observer

FORT LAUDERDALE POLICE DISTRICTS AND ZONES

