



Red Oak Police Department

Patrol Observation “Code of Conduct”



I. FREQUENCY AND TIME RESTRICTIONS

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this section, an approved observer may not ride more than one time in any 90-day period.
- B. A Police Department chaplain may ride at any time with the on-duty commander's approval.
- C. An approved observation period shall not exceed 12 hours.
- D. Ride limitations for student interns will be determined by the police chief or operations Lieutenant.
- E. Civilian Police Department and N.E.E.D. employees may ride as frequently as needed as part of their training, but will be subject to the same scheduling provisions that are discussed in section V. SCHEDULING.
- F. Exceptions to the provisions in this section may be granted by the police chief or Operations Lieutenant.

II. ATTIRE

- A. Persons who are participating in the observation must wear business casual type attire that is consistent with the City's dress standards as described in Section 25.2 Work Apparel of the City of Red Oak Employee Manual as described below.
 - 1) Clothing worn should be neat, clean and in good repair. Jewelry or clothing should not create safety problems or be distracting to others.
 - a) Males – appropriate dress for males includes dress slacks or khaki pants (Dockers) with appropriate fill button collared shirt or collared polo shirt and dress-type footwear worn with socks. Ties, sports coats and suite coats are optional.
 - (1) Examples of inappropriate dress for males include tee shirts, sleeveless shirts, shorts, sweat suits, sandals, flip-flops, house shoes, and foodies. Athletic-type shoes may be worn on Casual Fridays if approved by your director.
 - b) Females – appropriate dress for females include dresses, skirts, or dress slacks with appropriate blouse, khaki pants, sweater, or jacket with dress type footwear. Proper undergarments, including bras, shall be worn at all times.
 - (1) Examples of inappropriate dress for females include tee shirts, tank tops, sundresses, shorts, sweat suits, leggings, mini-skirts, cocktail or party dresses, house shoes, footie's, sandals and flip-flops.
 - c) Items of clothing or jewelry that are identified as unprofessional in appearance or become a safety hazard as determined by the department manager or director shall not be worn.
 - (1) Example: Males – ear rings, ear studs, ear ornaments, and all employees – nose ornaments, tongue rings, etc.
 - 2) The following attire is prohibited:

Patrol Observation Code of Conduct (POCOC-1)



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- a) Denim jeans;
 - b) Shorts;
 - c) T-shirts;
 - d) Strapless and sheer tops;
 - e) Saggy pants;
 - f) Any attire that can be reasonable construed as being sexually suggestive;
 - g) Athletic shoes, flip-flops, house shoes, footies.
- B. A person who arrives for the observation and is not properly attired or groomed (including hygiene), may ride once the problem is corrected.

III. PROHIBITED CONDUCT; SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- A. The observer will not be allowed to exit the police vehicle if a safety risk exists.
- B. A prisoner may not be transported in a vehicle in which an observer is riding unless the assigned personnel can articulate the emergency need for it.
- C. The observer will not be allowed onto another person's private property without the property owner's consent.
- D. No observer under 18 years of age may accompany an officer on a bar check.
- E. Except in exigent circumstances, an outside agency law enforcement officer-observer will not be allowed to help with a building search or be placed in a situation that would likely cause the observer to be identified as a law enforcement officer.
- F. No firearm may be carried by a civilian observer, even if the person has a valid concealed handgun license.
- G. An officer who has an observer may not engage in a vehicle pursuit.