

## **CHAPTER V**

### **POLICE RIDE ALONGS**

The Belgrade/Brooten Police Department does allow police observer ride along as our schedule allows.

Interested parties that are riding along with a police officer are subject to pass a criminal background check. Ride along must sign the Belgrade/Brooten Police Department release, non-disclosure, and indemnity agreement prior to riding along. The Police Chief has the ultimate decision on who rides with.

The following factors may be considered in disqualifying an applicant and are not limited to:

- Being under 18 years of age
- Prior criminal history
- Pending criminal action
- Pending lawsuit against the Department
- Denial by a supervisor

#### **RIDE A LONG PROCEDURES**

- Riders are not allowed to carry weapons while riding with an officer, unless you are a licensed Police Officer in the State of Minnesota.
- Riders are to remain in the vehicle unless allowed to exit the vehicle by the officer.
- Riders are there for observation only. At no time should you initiate contact with someone or help at a scene unless instructed to do so by the officer.
- Riders should dress appropriate for the weather.
- Never dress in anything that would lead someone to believe you are a police officer. Please dress in a conservative manner and remember you are representing the Police Department while on a ride along. A nice pair of jeans (no holes) or pants and a polo shirt would be appropriate for riders. Low cut shirts, jogging pants or tank tops are not allowed.
- Any rider who shows up wearing inappropriate clothing will not be allowed to ride.
- Officers have the right to refuse to allow riders when necessary.
- For your safety, if the officer gets involved in a pursuit with a suspect you may be required to exit the squad car. Please have a cell phone with you.
- No Cell or video recording and or pictures may be taken during the ride along unless instructed by the officer. If this does take place, the Belgrade/Brooten Police Department have the authorization to confiscate the phone as evidence of possible data breach.

#### **Officer Responsibility**

Officers with ride along need to be aware that the civilian can be released out of the vehicle at any point during the ride along where the person is in danger or is no longer welcome in the vehicle.

Officers are not allowed to have civilians using the in-squad computer system or allow riders to take pictures or video of the computer or screen for data practice reasons.