

# Citizen Observer Instructions

## Eligibility & Processing

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- You must reside, work, or attend school in Chandler to be eligible. Observers are limited to one ride-along per year.
- You will be contacted to schedule your observation after a background check has been completed. Please allow two weeks for processing. Call 480-782-4200 with any questions.

## Before the Observation

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- If unable to keep your appointment, call 480-782-4200 as soon as possible.
- Observations are five hours long.
- Observers whose clothing does not meet standards will be subject to cancellation.
  - Pants or jeans must be free of rips, tears, and fraying. Collared or plain T-shirts are acceptable. Closed-toed shoes are required.
  - Prohibited: excessively tight or revealing clothing, garments with crude language, tank tops or tube tops.
- No tape recorders, cameras, or weapons allowed.
- Observers are encouraged to bring money for meal breaks, in addition to water and a light jacket. If desired, observers may bring one small clear bag. All bags carried in a patrol vehicle are subject to search for safety reasons.

## During the Observation

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- Observers must arrive 10 minutes prior to the starting time.
  - You may be asked to wait in the lobby, due to the confidential nature of some shift briefings.
  - The officer may be delayed due to prior calls for service. If the delay exceeds one hour, request the assistance of a patrol sergeant.
- Observers are under the command of the officer at all times.
  - Observers will not leave the patrol car at the scene of any police activity, unless permitted by the officer. Observers will not speak to prisoners, suspects, witnesses, or any other parties contacted unless requested by the officer.
  - Observers will not interfere with officer activities at any time, and will not participate in any police activity unless directly requested by the officer.
  - Questions may be asked at appropriate times.