

Ride Along Guidelines



These guidelines explain riding procedures. Please read. If you have any questions, please ask any fire department member upon your arrival.

RISKS

The Fire Service is a very exciting field; however, this excitement is often accompanied by certain dangers. It is important that you understand these dangers before you decide to ride any apparatus. Although precautions are taken, you may be exposed to hazards. These hazards include, but are not limited to: FIRE; EXPLOSIONS; RADIOACTIVE, CHEMICAL, AND OR HEAT EXPOSURE; PNEUMATIC OR HYDRAULIC INJURIES; FLYING OBJECTS; SHARP OBJECTS; VEHICLE ACCIDENTS; BIO-HAZARDOUS MATERIALS; INFECTIOUS PATIENTS. If you have any questions about any of these, or other risks, please ask a Fire Department Member. You agree to assume all risk by riding the Fire/Rescue/EMS apparatus. In order to ride you must also read, agree to, and sign the Riding Waiver and Release.

CHAIN OF COMMAND

The Lyndon Station Fire Department depends on a rigid chain of command in order to facilitate fast, appropriate actions. As an observer, you will not be taking an active role in operations. You must however, understand the basics of command to help insure you are not harmed. When you arrive at the Fire Station, introduce yourself to the Officer if they are present. Tell them you are here to observe, and ask them to introduce you to the crew staffing the apparatus you are to ride. Get to know the crew and ask them what to do when the alarm goes off. If no one gives you directions, report to the Officer immediately after the alarm sounds. If you cannot find the Officer, report to the apparatus and wait for the crew.

When on the scene of a call, you must follow the directions of every member. Officer's directions take precedence over other members. Use common sense and try to stay out of the way. This does not mean sit in the truck. You are free to OBSERVE at a safe distance. This distance will depend on the

situation. If you have questions, please ask. If the First Responder or firefighter is busy and unable to answer you, hold your questions and ask the members after the call is complete. Fire/EMS providers love to talk about their profession. The more inquisitive you are, the more rewarding your experience will be.

DRESS CODE

There are certain standards, which must be met regarding uniforms. These standards serve to protect you from certain dangers, and to present a professional image to those we serve. The preferred uniform includes: Polo or oxford shirt, navy pants, black shoes or boots. We understand this is not always practical, so alternatives are acceptable within reason. Please refrain from wearing: bright colors (wear blue, black, or white), open-toed shoes, shorts, tank tops, logo tee-shirts, logo-jackets. You may wear professional uniforms only if you are certified at that level (i.e. EMT patches) or a member of that fire/EMS department.

PROFESSIONALISM

Please act professionally at all times; you represent the fire department when you ride our apparatus. Please be polite and respectful to the Fire Department Members. They are very friendly and eager to assist you. Feel free to ask questions of anyone. If you experience a problem or feel a member is abusing you, please notify an Officer immediately.

EXPECTATION OF THE RIDE ALONG

1. Must be at least 18 years old, Lyndon Station Fire Department family members can be 16 years old with parent's consent.
2. You must sign a Liability Waiver.
3. May ride between 0700 and up to 2400.
4. You are expect to follow all department Rules, Regulations and Policies:
 - o Seatbelt usage in any department vehicle
 - o **Patient confidentiality will be strictly maintained (HIPAA requirements)**
 - o Professional conduct is always expected

5. The rider will be a passive observer and must obey any orders given by Lyndon Station Fire Department members.
6. The rider will not interfere with Lyndon Station Fire Department personnel in the performance of their duties.
7. The rider will not handle any LSFD equipment unless specifically authorized by LSFD personnel.
8. You are required to dress professionally.

**LYNDON STATION FIRE DEPARTMENT
RIDE ALONG
WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

In consideration of being permitted to ride in a vehicle owned and operated by the Village of Lyndon Station, or to accompany First Responders of the Lyndon Station Fire Department on any call, I shall be liable to and hereby agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the Village of Lyndon Station, and its officers, officials, agents, and employees against all loss or expense (including liability costs and attorney's fees) by reason of any claim or suit, or of liability imposed by law upon the Village or its agents or employees for damages because of bodily injury, including death at any time resulting there from, sustained by any person or persons or on account of damages to property, including loss of use thereof, arising from, in connection with, caused by or resulting from my acts or omissions in the performance of this agreement, whether caused by or contributed by the Village or its agents or employees.

I understand and agree that all patient information to which I become aware in the course of my participation is strictly confidential and no part will be divulged or shared with any person not involved directly with the care of the patient. I have reviewed the HIPAA training information and understand my obligation under HIPAA requirements pertaining to patient medical information confidentiality. I agree I am not able to disclose any patient identifiable medical information at any time

Date

Signature (Parent or Guardian Name if under 18 yrs old)

Please Print the Following Information:

Printed Name of Participant

Parent or Guardian Name (if under 18 yrs old)

Address

Home Telephone

Work Telephone

Date of Birth

Date of Ride

Time of Ride (evenings or weekends only)

Department Sponsor _____

Station & Unit # _____

Personnel Chief Approval (Yes/No)