

# Texas Department of Public Safety Ride-Along Program Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk

State of Texas

County of Bastrop

In consideration of being allowed to accompany the Texas Department of Public Safety on official patrols and otherwise participate in the Ride-Along Program, I, MARTIN THEOPHILUS, binding my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, do hereby release and agree not to hold liable the State of Texas, its officers, agents and employees from any and all actions, causes of action, expressly including negligence, claims, demands, costs or damages arising from or resulting from property damage, personal injuries or death sustained by me or my property while participating in the Ride-Along Program.

I further agree, binding my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, to indemnify, hold and save harmless the State of Texas, its officers, agents and employees, from any liability, action, claim, damage, award or judgment incurred or suffered by the State or individuals as a result of any act or omission by me or caused in whole or in part by me while participating in the Ride-Along Program whether or not also caused in part by a person indemnified hereunder.

In addition, I make the following representations and acknowledgments upon which I intend the State to rely:

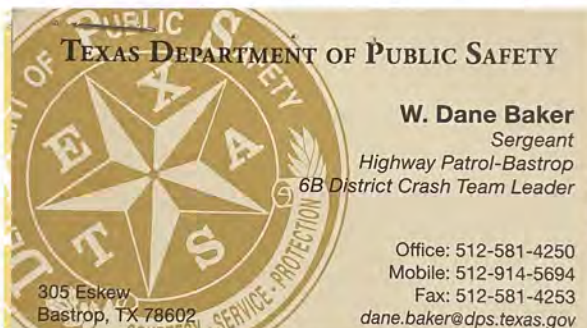
1. I understand and agree that while accompanying a trooper, or other officer, agent or employee of the State during his law enforcement rounds, I am to be only an unarmed lay observer and bystander with no active role whatever and that I will have and am given no duties, rights, powers or authority whatever other than those conferred by law upon any other person in like or similar circumstances as may arise from time to time and will under no circumstances interfere with State officers or offer any advice or counsel to any person being questioned, investigated, taken into custody or arrested by any State officer;
2. I realize and agree that while participating in the Ride-Along Program, I will not be an agent, servant or employee of the State of Texas and therefore will not be covered by the State for any workers' compensation, death or disability benefits, except that if I am accompanying the trooper or officer of the State while I am acting as an employee of an agency of the State of Texas or of a political subdivision of the State, I will look to my employing agency for any workers' compensation, death or disability benefits to which I might be entitled as a result of that employment;
3. I realize that as an inherent incident of the Ride-Along Program, I will at unpredictable times be placed in both foreseeable and unforeseeable positions of considerable danger and agree that neither the State nor any of its officers or employees shall be obligated to take any steps or action to protect my person or provide a means of withdrawal or retreat for me, and I hereby release them of any duty to do so, intending hereby to willfully and voluntarily assume all risk inherent in any situation and under any circumstances that may arise incident hereto;
4. I agree that any information I may gain through participation in the Ride-Along Program will be used by me only for my personal education purposes except where I am summoned as a witness in any administrative or court proceeding;
5. I have read the Ride-Along Program Information Form, and I understand that my participation in the Ride-Along Program is a privilege subject to revocation at any time by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Martin Theophilus  
Signature

October 18, 2018  
Date

Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared Martin Theophilus, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he freely and voluntarily executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 18 day of October, 2018.



[Signature]  
Notary Public's Signature  
Lara Littleton Wilson  
Printed or Typed Name of Notary  
My Commission Expires: 10/31/2021

# Texas Department of Public Safety Ride-Along Program Information Form

- Riders must complete and sign the Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk on the reverse of this sheet.
- No person under the age of eighteen (18) will be permitted to ride in a trooper or officer vehicle at any time except as provided by policy.
- Riders should appear at the scheduled time. If the rider arrives after the assigned trooper or officer has departed, the rider has the responsibility of rescheduling the ride for another date.
- Violation of any portions of the prohibited acts, or any behavior that impairs the trooper or officer's ability to perform his job, will be considered grounds for being banned from riding.
- Participants in the Ride-Along Program will:
  - At all times conduct themselves with proper decorum.
  - Remain in the trooper or officer vehicle during routine traffic stops, unless otherwise directed by the trooper or officer.
  - Remain in or near the trooper or officer vehicle during disturbance calls and calls of a serious nature in order to summon assistance by radio if needed, unless otherwise directed by the trooper or officer.
- Participants in the Ride-Along Program possessing a permit to carry a concealed weapon WILL NOT be allowed to carry a weapon during a tour of duty.

## Prohibited Acts

Participants in the Ride-Along Program:

- Will not consume alcoholic beverages prior to or during tours of duty;
- Will not use profane or abusive language during the tour of duty;
- Will not engage in excessive conversation, which may distract the trooper or officer or interfere with his ability to hear the radio;
- Will not make remarks or voice opinions to complainants, witnesses, victims, violators or suspects in any manner which would tend to provoke or degrade anyone or escalate tension;
- Will not be allowed into a private residence during the execution of a search or arrest warrant;
- Will not make known to any unauthorized person information that may compromise a Department operation, procedure or investigation that is either in progress or proposed;
- Will not make known to unauthorized persons the identity of persons arrested, persons being confined in jail or suspects in a criminal act;
- Will not use information learned during a tour of duty for personal gain;
- Will not carry weapons of ANY TYPE;
- Do not have any powers of a peace officer and have no authority except when acting at the direction of a peace officer.

## Dress Code Policy

- Participants in the Ride-Along Program are to dress neatly and conservatively.
- Cleanliness is required at all times.
- Hair and facial hair must be well groomed.
- Shorts and cut-offs are prohibited.
- Clothing bearing any sign or symbol that advertises any product, business or organization will not be permitted.
- Clothing with offensive designs, logos, letters or devices is prohibited.
- Conservative shoes or boots may be worn; sandals, open-toed shoes and bare feet are prohibited.



REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE AS AN OBSERVER

Date: Oct 18, 2018

I, MARTIN THEOPHILUS, request to be a rider/observer in a DPS patrol car operated by Trooper \_\_\_\_\_.

I understand that as a guest rider:

- 1. Except in an emergency, I will not take part in any contact with a violator unless specifically directed to do so by the Trooper.
- 2. Except in an emergency, I will not be permitted to drive the patrol vehicle or a violator's vehicle.
- 3. Even though I may hold a valid concealed handgun license, I will not be allowed to carry a firearm while riding in a patrol vehicle.
- 4. I have completed the attached LS-7 Release from Liability form and signed it before a notary.

Martin Theophilus  
Signature

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, this the 18 day of October, 2018.

personally appeared before me the said Martin Theophilus known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he freely and voluntarily executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF OFFICE, this the 18 day of October 2018.

[Signature]  
Notary Public

Approved ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Approved ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
First Line Supervisor

Approved ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Not Approved ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Service Commander

Submit original and one (1) copy.