

RANGER CORPS

1. **PURPOSE:** To establish uniform guidelines for the operation of the Police Ranger Corps.
2. **POLICY:** The youth of our community shall be provided with an introductory law enforcement program, the Police Ranger Corps.
3. **SCOPE:** This directive is applicable to all sworn personnel and members of the Police Ranger Corps.
4. **RESPONSIBILITY:** It shall be the responsibility of all sworn personnel and Police Rangers to comply with this directive.
5. **GOALS:** To provide youth with an accurate view of the role of police officer in our community. To improve the relations between youth, the community, and the Huntsville Police Department. To acquaint youth with the operations and goals of the Department. To promote interest and provide training to those who desire a law enforcement career.
6. **PROCEDURES: ACCEPTANCE TO THE RANGER CORPS**
 - A. **QUALIFICATIONS:** The following qualifications must be met by applicants for consideration to participate in the Huntsville Police Rangers Corps.:
 1. Be at least 16, and no more than 20 years of age;
 2. Complete the application;
 3. Possess a valid driver's license;
 4. Have a sincere interest in law enforcement;
 5. Be neat in appearance and well groomed;
 6. Have a parent's or legal guardian's written consent to join the Ranger Corps, if under the age of 18; and
 7. Be a full-time high school student and maintain a "B" or better average; or
 8. Have a high school diploma from a school accredited by a regional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education; or
 9. Possess a GED certificate issued by the appropriate state agency.

B. **SELECTION:** Police Rangers will be selected without regard to race, color, gender, religion, national origin, or political affiliation.

1. All applicants will be required to pass a background investigation conducted by the Internal Affairs Division.
2. Applicants must pass an oral review board which will consist of the Ranger Corps Coordinator and at least one other person as appointed by the Director of Training.

C. **TRAINING:** A Ranger must successfully complete introductory training before being allowed to accompany a Uniform Officer on patrol. This training must meet the approval of the Director of Training, and will include but not be limited to the following:

1. History of the Ranger Program;
2. HPD Written Directives, rules and regulations;
3. Personal appearance guidelines;
4. Communication procedures;
5. Traffic control techniques;
6. Disciplinary procedures;
7. Patrol procedures;
8. Chain of Command;
9. Departmental goals and organization;
10. Familiarization with police facilities;
11. Crime prevention and public relations techniques; and
12. HPD 10 Codes and Phonetic Alphabet

D. **CHAIN OF COMMAND:** The Ranger Corps will be under the command of the Ranger Corp Coordinator. The HPD Recruiter will be designated as the Ranger Corp Coordinator and will have the primary responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the program. The Ranger Corp will follow the Ranger Corp Coordinator Chain of Command in the Administrative Bureau.

7. PROCEDURES: DUTY REQUIREMENTS

- A. Rangers must comply with all departmental written directives, rules, and regulations.
- B. Rangers must attend all meetings scheduled by any member of the Ranger Corp Chain of Command.
- C. Rangers must work a minimum of 16 hours per month for the Department. The Ranger Program Time Sheet will be completed monthly by each Ranger and forwarded to the Ranger Corps Coordinator.
- D. Rangers under 18 may accompany Uniform Officers on routine patrol only on First and Second Shifts. Rangers over 18 may accompany Uniform Officers on routine patrol on any shift. Rangers may not accompany Uniform Officers who are working extra-duty jobs.
- E. Rangers must report to a Uniform Shift Supervisor prior to roll call to obtain an assignment with an Officer. The Ranger will obtain a Daily Ride Sheet from the Ranger Corps Coordinator at least 48 hours before riding on shift.
- F. Danger is an inherent part of the day-to-day operations of Uniformed Officers. Uniformed Officers will make all reasonable efforts to minimize those risks for the Ranger. In order to assist the Officer in the reduction of those risks, Rangers will:
 - 1. Observe the patrol functions;
 - 2. Obey all lawful orders and instructions of the Patrol Officer or shift Supervisor;
 - 3. Assist any Officer upon his/her direction.
- G. During traffic stops the Ranger is permitted to exit the police vehicle and remain behind his/her door. The Ranger is not to approach the stopped vehicle, retrieve or return a driver's license, etc; and
- H. If responding to a tactical operation, the Ranger will be assigned to an Officer at the outer perimeter of the tactical situation. The Ranger will not be used anywhere within the inner perimeter of a tactical situation.
- I. Rangers WILL NOT be dropped off at a public place due to the nature of the call to which an Officer is responding.
- J. Rangers will not be assigned to ride with Uniform Officers whose entire tour of duty is restricted to the Huntsville Housing Authority residential areas.
- K. Rangers will be required to work any of the following departmental functions as directed by any member of the Ranger Corp Chain of Command:
 - 1. Assist with traffic direction and crowd control at parades, run-a-thons, and other

community events as directed; and

2. Assist the department in community public relations, crime prevention, communications, etc.

- L. Rangers will not be assigned to duties requiring sworn officer status, as they are not commissioned officers and have no authority to enforce laws.

8. PROCEDURES: DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

- A. Any violation of City of Huntsville policies and procedures or departmental written directives or rules and regulations, or other authority to which Rangers may be held, will result in disciplinary action.
- B. Rangers will be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of, and as deemed necessary by, the Ranger Corp Chain of Command. Rangers are not city employees and have no inherent right to due process.

9. PROCEDURES: EVALUATIONS

- A. Rangers will have their GPA evaluated quarterly to ensure that a “C” average is maintained.
- B. At least annually, each Ranger will be evaluated as to his or her performance. These evaluations will be documented and will be retained in the Ranger’s file.

10. DUTY UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE: The Ranger uniform will clearly distinguish Ranger Corps members from uniformed sworn officers.

- A. When reporting for duty, Rangers will be clean and neatly groomed. The grooming standards for Rangers will be identical to the standard for officers in Written Directive 401.3- Uniform and Appearance Regulations.
- B. The Ranger duty shirt is a department issued polo embroidered with “Huntsville Police Ranger”. The Ranger duty pants are a department issued pair of BDU pants.
- C. Rangers will wear a utility belt equipped with a flashlight holder and portable radio holder. The utility belt will be attached to the trousers belt by four (4) keepers.
- D. Rangers will NOT carry any item, concealed or otherwise, that is a weapon or that could reasonably be perceived by the public as a weapon. Rangers will carry only the style flashlight approved by the Chief of Police.
- E. Shoes will be highly shined with the edges of the soles clean and polished.

F. Heavy or bulky objects will not be carried in the uniform.

G. Rangers will wear their issued bullet resistant protective vest when wearing the duty uniform.

11. FORMS: The following forms related to the Police Ranger Corps may be obtained through the Department's forms control system:

A. Parental permission to join form;

B. Ranger program time sheet; and

C. The daily ride sheet.