POLICE EXPLORERS

1048 POLICE EXPLORERS

1048.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Explorers work under direct supervision and perform a variety of routine and progressively advanced tasks in an apprenticeship program in preparation for a career in law enforcement.

1048.2 EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Explorers are expected to maintain a good grade point average as determined through communications with the Program Coordinator or designee and the Explorer's parents or guardians.

1048.3 PROGRAM COORDINATOR

The Chief of Police will designate a sworn member as the program coordinator. The program coordinator will be responsible for tracking the educational and job performance of Explorers as well as making their individual assignments throughout the Department. The program coordinator will also monitor the training provided for all Explorers and review all decisions affecting job assignments, school attendance and performance.

1048.3.1 PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

The program coordinator may select individual members to serve as assistants with the Explorer Program. These members can serve as mentors for each Explorer. Assistants may lead scheduled meetings and training sessions involving the Explorers. Multiple Explorers may be assigned to each program assistant. Any issues that may be a concern should be referred back to the program coordinator.

1048.4 ORIENTATION AND TRAINING

Newly appointed Explorers will receive an orientation of the organization and facilities. Explorer's work should be consistent with the Department's vision and community policing philosophy. On-the-job training will be conducted in compliance with standards outlined by the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). Training sessions will be scheduled as needed to train Explorers for as many assignments as possible. All training will focus on improving job performance, as well as preparation to become police officers.

1048.5 RIDE-ALONG PROCEDURES

All Explorers are authorized to participate in the Ride-Along Program as approved by the immediate supervisor and the appropriate Watch Commander. Applicable waivers must be signed in advance of the ride-along. Explorers shall not wear their Explorer uniform while participating in a ride-along and shall comply with guidelines set forth in policy 410 RIDE-ALONG OBSERVER PROGRAM regarding suitable attire.
1048.6 POLICE EXPLORER UNIFORM REGULATIONS

Columbia Police Department Police Explorers are representatives of the Columbia Police Department and the City of Columbia. As such all police Explorers will be required to conform to uniform regulations specific to their program and those provided in policy 1046. Specific uniform items and equipment regulations are as follows:

a. Department issued Explorer Polo shirt;

b. Department issued Explorer T-shirt (to be worn under Polo shirt or alone as a special event or for training attire);

c. Department issued pants;

d. Department issued hat (for outdoor use or inclement weather);

e. Department issued Hi-Visibility Traffic Vest;

f. Black belt (owned by Explorer) as approved by the Program Coordinator or designee;

g. Black boots or shoes (owned by Explorer) as approved by the Program Coordinator or designee; and

h. Other items as needed based on operational needs and approved by the Program Coordinator or designee.