

Office of the Somerset  
Somerset County, Maryland

General Order: 01-17-03

Effective Date:

Revised Date:

Chapter 39

Explorer Program

1. Policy

- A. The intent of the Somerset County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 226 is to educate and involve youth in police operations and develop their interest in law enforcement. The explorers serve in a volunteer capacity and the program serves as indoctrination as well as a recruitment tool for the county.

2. Procedure

- A. Explorers are youth and adults who are between the ages of 14 and 21 and have an interest in law enforcement. Explorers must have successfully completed and passed an oral interview board, a background check, as well as a three (3) month probationary period prior to being able to participate in post functions.
- B. Explorers three (3) probationary period is satisfied by attending scheduled meetings.
- C. The Explorer Program is supervised by the Sheriff or his designee. The Explorer Advisor is a deputy assigned to the Patrol Division or a designated sworn deputy who is responsible for administration, recruitment and training of post members.
- D. Explorers learn through classroom training, competitions, volunteer assignments, community service functions, and by participating in the ride along program.
- E. Explorers can provide office assistance particularly in the areas of security, traffic control, alcohol enforcement operations and any other details approved by the Explorer Advisor and Special Teams Commander assigned to oversee the explorers.

- F. Requests for assistance from the Explorer Program shall be directed to the Explorer Advisor assigned to oversee the Explorers. Requests may be made in person, in writing, or left on the advisor's voice mail. Requests are subject to approval by the deputy assigned to oversee the explorers. When requesting Explorer assistance, the following information shall accompany the request.
    - 1) Location of the detail
    - 2) Object of the detail
    - 3) Days requested for the detail
    - 4) Times requested for the detail
    - 5) Duration of the detail
    - 6) Additional specific information that is available
    - 7) Contact information
  - G. Request for assistance are limited to the following:
    - 1) Local Non-Profit organizations
    - 2) Somerset County Government departments
    - 3) Charitable organizations
    - 4) Somerset County Board of Education
    - 5) Private businesses
  - H. Supervision is the responsibility of the requesting party, or a post advisor if one is available to oversee the detail.
3. Standards
- A. Explorers while on duty will be required to keep their hair in a neat and well-groomed manner.
  - B. The uniform must command respect as it identifies the Explorer as a representative of the Somerset County Sheriff's Office. The uniform must be worn with pride and in a way to bring credit to the Somerset County Sheriff's Office and should be kept in excellent condition.
  - C. The Explorer may only wear or use uniform equipment that has been approved by the Sheriff or his designee.
  - D. Explorers are required to maintain a 2.25 Grade Point Average.
  - E. Explorers are required to attend scheduled monthly meetings.
  - F. Explorers shall contact the Explorer Advisor if he/she is unable to attend the scheduled monthly meeting.
4. Rule
- A. While on a ride along, Explorers are under the direct supervision of the deputy he/she is riding with.
  - B. In the event of an emergency affecting an Explorer, SCSO supervisory personnel shall be notified immediately.

5. Revisions

Ronald W. Howard

Sheriff  
Somerset County