

# Citizen Observation Policies

- 1) No Civilian Observer shall be armed with any dangerous weapons, incendiary device or dangerous articles, as defined by NDCC, even if allowed to carry such by an issued and approved Concealed Weapons Permit.
- 2) Civilian Observers will be required to dress in a “business casual” fashion. Articles of clothing that are in disrepair, unclean or that exhibit offensive writings, signs, or logos will be not allowed.
- 3) It is the Civilian Observer’s responsibility to dress appropriately for any expected weather condition(s).
- 4) Civilian Observers are limited to observing law enforcement functions only and will not interfere with, or participate in an officer’s official duties except as may be required under emergency circumstances.
- 5) Officers may request a re-assignment or discontinuance of any Civilian Observation through the On-Duty Supervisor.
- 6) Civilian Observers will not normally be allowed to participate for more than 5 hours in any continuous six month period. Government officials, City of Grand Forks employees, police interns, police auxiliaries, police chaplains, immediate family members or employee initiated observation requests are exempt.
- 7) Civilian Observers may be asked at any time to temporarily leave the patrol vehicle or the scene of an ongoing incident for safety reasons. Under similar conditions, juvenile riders will be returned to police related facilities, home, school, or taken to the nearest point of safety as time allows. Parents will be advised of juvenile observations that are prematurely ended by the officer, supervisor, or juvenile.
- 8) Civilian Observers are required to relay any relevant information either observed or from prior knowledge of an ongoing incident or situation to the nearest available officer for safety purposes.
- 9) Civilian Observers are prohibited from handling or operating any police equipment unless instructed to do so by a sworn GFPD Officer.
- 10) Civilian Observers may be required to appear in court at a later time, or be asked to give a taped or written statement, as a witness to any event or arrest that occurred during their observations.
- 11) Civilian Observers may not accompany an officer in a patrol environment if they have any physical limitation that may possibly impede the safe operation of police equipment, or put the officer or civilian at significant risk of injury.
- 12) No Civilian Observer shall be allowed to participate if they currently have a cold, flu, upper respiratory condition or any other potentially contagious illness or disease.
- 13) No Civilian Observer shall be allowed to participate if they are currently under the influence of any prescribed or un-prescribed medication, illegal narcotic drug or alcoholic beverage.
- 14) Smoking is not allowed in any city vehicle and seatbelt use is required of all Civilian Observers.

I hereby agree to the above policies. Furthermore, I understand that due to this observation I may become aware of information that is privileged/private, or information that is restricted from public release. I may be held liable in a criminal or civil proceeding for the unlawful release of such information without the express permission of the Grand Forks Police Department and/or prohibited from future observations.

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Signature of Requestor

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Date