

Gadsden County Sheriff's Office

Citizens on Patrol Interest Form

Name: _____ Date: _____
Mailing Address: _____ Phone: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
The best time to contact me is: Day _____ Time: _____

Please return to the main office located at: **Gadsden County Sheriff's Office**
339 East Jefferson Street
Quincy, Florida 32351

QUALIFICATIONS

- ◆ At least 19 years of age
- ◆ Current U.S. Citizen
- ◆ Good moral character
- ◆ Pass background check
- ◆ Valid driver's license

REQUIREMENTS

- ◆ Volunteer a minimum of 4 hours per month
- ◆ Wear approved uniform
- ◆ Attend monthly meetings

CONTACT US:

Gadsden County Sheriff's Office

Kysha L. Fedd
P.O. Box 1709
Quincy, FL 32353
Phone (850) 627-9233
Fax (850) 875-8881

Gadsden County Sheriff's Office

Citizens on Patrol (COP)



COMMITTED TO SERVE
THE COMMUNITY

WHAT IS CITIZENS ON PATROL?

The Citizens on Patrol (COP) program is a volunteer division of Gadsden County Sheriff's Office (GCSO) organized to reduce crime by alerting the Sheriff's Office of potential or actual criminal behavior. The program is comprised of neighborhoods that have decided to ensure safety of their community forming a partnership with GCSO. Volunteers wear uniforms and drive specially marked vehicles that proudly display to any potential criminal that they are resources for law enforcement within that community.

The Citizens on Patrol program is an effective approach to residential safety, awareness and involvement. By the visibility in specially marked vehicles and personal identifications, the COP serves as a strong deterrent against unlawful actions of potential criminals. The considerable reduction in crime rates has been attributed to the presence of the motorized Citizens on Patrol on the streets of participating neighborhoods.



***** COP is sponsored by the Sheriff's Office in an effort to partner with communities to assist with safety and quality of life issues.**

CITIZENS ON PATROL TRAINING

Training is structured to ensure that each new COP member understands and appreciates the value of all aspects of police work and those aspects that directly affect their role. Part of the training is held in the classroom as well as in the field with qualified deputies.

CITIZENS ACADEMY – a once a week two to three hour familiarization session over a 7 week period that exposes new “recruits” to the various aspects of police work including ethics and administration, radio communications, patrol procedures, crime prevention, introduction to law, police dispatch and other pertinent subjects. This program is open to all Gadsden County residents even if they are not interested in becoming a Citizen on Patrol.

RIDE ALONG WITH A DEPUTY – at least two rides (minimum two hours) with a Deputy Sheriff to become familiar with how an officer patrols the community and respond to specific situations.

DRIVER AWARENESS – individuals are given opportunity to become knowledgeable with traffic safety, defensive driving and what to look out for in special situations.

CPR & FIRST AID – you can become certified in CPR or simply take the course to learn what to do in the event of an emergency.

TRAFFIC CONTROL – how to assess and secure an accident scene and provide emergency assistance until officers, EMS and/or fire department personnel arrive.

CITIZENS ON PATROL DUTIES

Each Citizen on Patrol vehicle is equipped with a two-way radio, portable radio, or a cellular phone to assist COP volunteers in alerting deputies of any problems they might notice while patrolling their neighborhoods.

A Citizen on Patrol is to only patrol a designated area and observe suspicious occurrences, people or objects, check vacant homes, contact the elderly and ill citizens upon request. If a situation arises, the COP reports it via provided communication devices or a landline to dispatch of the Gadsden County Sheriff's Office.

Specific duties are to:

- ◆ Perform routine checks of houses and businesses, when requested.
- ◆ Perform checks of elderly or ill individuals, when requested.
- ◆ Contact Sheriff's Office upon observation of any suspicious activity, vehicle or person.
- ◆ Patrol designated areas in a diligent and professional manner.
- ◆ Prepare information reports when necessary.
- ◆ Be courteous and professional in the performance of duties and assigned tasks.
- ◆ Assist during emergency natural disasters (ex. tropical storms).
- ◆ Assist with community events.