



Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Law Enforcement Explorer Program



The Sheriff is dedicated to the education of young adults in regard to law enforcement awareness and community service. This education includes an exposure to state and local laws, the operations of each component within the LPSO, officer safety tactics, crime prevention measures, criminal apprehension, positive community interactions, and more. Employees of the LPSO volunteer and interact with Explorers as mentors and educate them through shadowing programs as well as training curriculums.

Qualifications

Age: Law Enforcement Exploring is open according to the following age restrictions:

- 14 years old and graduated from the 8th grade
- 15 years old regardless of grade level
- Must have not obtained 18 years of age or graduated from high school/GED program (whichever is later).
- Be a US citizen or legal permanent resident

Physical Requirements: Must be in good health and able to participate in activities safely. Every effort will be taken to ensure reasonable accommodations if available. The LPSO does not discriminate against anyone based on race, religion, color, gender identity, national origin, citizen status, ancestry, sexual orientation, marital status, political affiliation, or disability.

Residency: Must live within Lafayette Parish

Academic Standing: Must have and maintain a minimum of a 2.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) in high school or GED program while participating in the Explorer Post.

Letter of Recommendation: Applicants must obtain a letter of recommendation from a non-relative familiar with the applicant's behavior and work ethic. Examples include teachers, counselors, clergy, or current school resource officer.

Explorer Requirements

- Attend a minimum 65% of scheduled training events/Explorer meetings, as evaluated quarterly
- Participate a minimum of 50% of assignments/activities, as evaluated bi-annually
- Must conform with the LPSO Explorer's Post rules and regulations.

Next Steps

- Upon completion of this application, submit via email to lpsso_explorer@lafayettesheriff.com along with the letter of recommendation.
- Selected applicants will be contact with an invitation to attend an explorer Open House.
- For additional information, contact Staff Sergeant Joshua Folse at 337-236-3958 (Ext. 2029) or email lpsso_explorer@lafayettesheriff.com

Explorer Program Application

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Gender: _____ **Date of Birth:** _____ **Current Age:** _____

School: _____ **Grade:** _____ **GPA:** _____

Parent/Guardian: *(Fill out all applicable)*

Mother: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Father: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Other Emergency Contact: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

With whom do you reside: _____

Known Allergies/Pertinent Info: _____

Do you have a valid Louisiana driver license? If so, license number: _____

List all traffic violations you have received:

List all clubs and organizations you are presently a member of:

List two references (other than relatives)

1. Name: _____ Phone: _____

2. Name: _____ Phone: _____

If you have been detained by law enforcement for any reason? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, give date, time, and reason:

Questions:

1. Why do you want to become an explorer?

2. Where do you see yourself in the next ten years?

3. Do you know anyone in law enforcement? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, who, and how have they influenced you

4. Have you ever used drugs? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "yes", what and when:

5. Have you ever been suspended from school? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "yes", when and why:

The above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand this is only an application for entrance into the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office Explorer program and not a letter of appointment. I further consent and authorize the sheriff's office to conduct a background check, including but not limited to, a juvenile and criminal history records check. Any intentional false information shall result in immediate termination or dismissal from the program. I further consent to allow the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office to use digital photographs of participants in social media posts or news releases. This consent may be withdrawn at any time by written notification.

*if applicant is under 18 years of age a parent's signature is required below.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____



PARTICIPATION WAIVER AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office ("LPSO") is committed to conducting its programs and activities in a safe manner and holds the safety of participants in high regard. The Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office continually strives to reduce risk and insists that all participants follow safety rules and instructions that are designed to protect the participants' safety. However, participants and parents/guardians of minors registering for the Law Enforcement Explorer Program (the "Program") must recognize that there is an inherent risk of injury when choosing to participate in the Program.

You are solely responsible for determining if your minor child participant (hereinafter referred to as the "Participant") is physically fit and/or adequately skilled for the activities contemplated by the Program. It is always advisable, especially if the Participant is disabled in any way or recently suffered an illness, injury or impairment, to consult a physician before undertaking any physical activity.

WARNING OF RISK

The Program is intended to challenge and engage the physical, mental and emotional resources of each participant. Despite careful and proper preparation, instruction, medical advice, conditioning and equipment, there is still a risk of serious injury when participating in any activity during the Program. Understandably, not all hazards and dangers can be foreseen. Depending on the particular activity, participants understand certain risks, dangers and injuries due to inclement weather, slip and falls, poor skill level or conditioning, carelessness, horseplay, unsportsmanlike conduct, premises defects, inadequate or defective equipment, inadequate supervision, instructional officiating, and all other circumstances inherent to indoor and outdoor recreational activities exist. In this regard, it must be recognized that it is impossible for the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office to guarantee absolute safety.

PHOTO/VIDEO POLICY

LPSO takes photos and video of participants before, during and after activities conducted as part of the Program. By signing this form, you are giving permission to LPSO to use these photographs and/or video images of your child for media coverage, on the LPSO website, social media outlets, and/or for any other use deemed appropriate by the Sheriff and LPSO. All photos and video are the property of LPSO.

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS AND LIABILITY

Please read this form carefully and be aware that in signing up and participating in the Law Enforcement Explorer Program, you (as parent or guardian of the minor child) will be expressly assuming the risk and legal liability and waiving and releasing all claims for injuries, damages or loss which you or your minor child/ward



might sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with and associated with the Program, including transportation services and vehicle operations, when provided.

I recognize and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury to participants in the activities in the Program, and I voluntarily agree to assume the full risk of any and all injuries, damages or loss, regardless of severity, that my minor child/ward or I may sustain as a result of said participation. I further agree to waive and relinquish all claims I or my minor child/ward may have (or accrue to me or my child/ward) as a result of participating in the Program against the Lafayette Parish Sheriff's Office, including its officials, agents, volunteers and employees.

I have read and fully understand the above important information, warning of risk, assumption of risk and waiver and release of all claims. If registering on-line or via fax, my on-line or facsimile signature shall substitute for and have the same legal effect as an original form signature.

Participant's Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Participant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____



LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING UNIT

THE CORE SAFETY RULES:

____ **1. Treat All Firearms as Loaded at All Time**

____ **2. Muzzle Discipline:** Always keep your muzzle pointed in the safest direction and never intentionally cross anything you are not prepared to shoot.

- A Safe Direction is one where NO injury and only minor property damage could occur if an unintentional round is fired.
- "Laser Rule" - Imagine your handgun has a laser beam extending from the muzzle and whatever it touches could be shot.

____ **3. Trigger Finger:** Always keep your trigger finger straight on the frame of the gun unless the muzzle is pointed at something you are prepared to shoot.

- The trigger finger is only placed into the trigger guard and on the trigger when coming on target just before firing. When not firing, place your trigger finger straight on the frame. If the trigger finger is held just outside the trigger guard, rather than on the frame, a Convulsive Hand Grip could cause the trigger finger to fire the gun.

____ **4. Be Sure of your Target, the Surroundings, and Beyond:** While targets on a square range are easily identifiable, threats on the street are often in close proximity or in front of innocent bystanders.

OTHER RANGE SAFETY RULES

____ **5.** It is everyone's responsibility to keep himself, and everyone else, safe. Safety must be a personal commitment by everyone at all times.

- Anytime you observe a potentially unsafe condition developing, it is your responsibility to correct the matter or immediately call **CEASE FIRE**.
- Upon hearing **CEASE FIRE**, immediately stop shooting, remain in position, repeat the **CEASE FIRE** command, and await further instructions.

____ **6. The Prime Directive:** Keep your handgun secured in the holster and your long gun slung at all times unless specifically directed otherwise. This applies to the range and classroom environment and not on the street.

____ **7. Eye and Ear Protection:** Eye and ear protection are required by those on the firing line and those anywhere on the range or in its immediate vicinity. Eye protection will be wrap-around or side panels, ear protection will be plugs and / or muffs.



8. Alcohol, Drugs, & Firearms Do Not Mix: Persons under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be allowed to participate in any shooting exercises. Even non-prescription drugs can impair the shooter's ability to safely handle or shoot a firearm.

- If you are taking any prescription or non-prescription drug or there is any physical condition/problem that should be noted, you must advise an instructor in private BEFORE going to the range.

9. No Bending Over on the Range: It presents the top of your head to fire, cuts down on your field of vision, and is a poor tactic. If you need something on the ground, you will notify an instructor. The instructor will advise when it is safe, begin the "down range" call, and observe you retrieve the item. You will keep your torso upright and squat or kneel to retrieve the item. If the item is nowhere near the firing line, you will always squat or kneel to retrieve items.

10. No Ammunition is allowed in the Cleaning Area: If a designated cleaning area is used, all firearms and magazines will be unloaded in the designated loading/unloading area, and checked to make sure they are clear of any ammunition before entering the cleaning area. Weapon muzzles will always be pointed in the safest direction.

11. Safe Actions: Various training actions (i.e. taking a step sideways after firing, moving to range cover, kneeling to reload) that are conducted on the range are acceptable provided they are safe.

12. Leaving the Firing Line: You must advise a Firearms Instructor if you are going to leave the line and the reason.

13. All Equipment on the Person: Come to the line with ALL the equipment you will need. Be as practical as you can be.

14. Report Injuries: Report any injuries, no matter how minor, to a Firearms Instructor as soon as practicable.

15. Weapon to be Unloaded with the Action Open before Handing or Receiving: The unloaded firearm's action must be open before handing it to anyone or receiving it from anyone. If the weapon is magazine fed, the magazine must also be removed.

NO Handling of weapons unless instructed by Staff!



PARTICIPATION WAIVER, RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT

I, _____, being the legal guardian or parent of _____ (“minor child”), hereby agree, on behalf of the minor child, that the minor child will follow and adhere to all of the Safety Rules and procedures of the Law Enforcement Unit of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office (LPSO) while utilizing or being present at the LPSO FIRING RANGE (hereinafter “FIRING RANGE”) located at 350 Michael Ann Drive, Lafayette, Louisiana. I further acknowledge that there are certain risks of serious physical injury to participants in firearms training, firearms practice, and the use of firearms, and I voluntarily agree to assume the full risk of any and all injuries, damages or loss, regardless of severity, that my minor child/ward or I may sustain as a result of same.

I, on behalf of the minor child, further agree to release the Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office, its officials, agents, employees, designees and appointees from any and all manner of action and actions, cause or causes of actions, suits, damages, judgments, and claims of any kind whatsoever, in law or equity, which may result or are in any way connected or related to injuries which I or my minor child may sustain while engaging in firearms training, firearms exercises, or for any activity which involves the use or discharge of a firearm.

I have read, understand and will follow the safety rules of the Law Enforcement Training Division of the Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office.

Participant’s Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Participant’s Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

LPSO Advisor (PLEASE PRINT): _____

LPSO Advisor Signature: _____ Date _____