

Introduction for Prospective Road Guards

The Patriot Guard Riders (PGR) of Arizona has a Road Guard (includes Tail Gunners) program, which is governed by the State Statutes, and our Senior Road Guard Committee (SRGC), together with our Arizona PGR Road Guard Guidelines.

Once you have attended a number of Missions to include Escorted Missions, where you can observe and experience our Road Guard Escorts and what the Road Guards do, and we have the opportunity get to know you, if you still want to proceed with training to be a Road Guard, you need to let a Senior Road Guard know, and we can start the Road Guard Training process.

The training process begins with a meeting between you the “Trainee” and a Senior Road Guard assigned as a Mentor, plus a member of the Senior Road Guard Committee when available. At the meeting the Mentor will review our training process with you and provide a copy our Arizona PGR Road Guard Guidelines, which includes the State Statutes pertaining to us, as well as a copy of the Mentor Program and Trainee Comment Notebook. The requirements to become a Road Guard require quite a bit of time and dedication, as well as a personal expense, to include: Red & Blue Lights, Siren, Vest & Patches, and Whistle. Also recommended are Glow-Gloves and CB Radio.

The training period can be up to six months or more. Prior to starting the “Shadow” part of training, you will be required to run as “Lead Bike” (does not apply to Non-Bike Tail Gunners), which requires you to fly an Honor Flag, and ride with a Tail Gunner. During training, and after certification as a Road Guard, you must attend the Road Guard meetings, classroom sessions, advanced rider training, and post-mission debriefings. Once you start the Shadow part of the training, you should have reflective high visibility safety (lime green) vest which is to be worn on escorts while you are “shadowing”.

Once your Mentor believes you are ready to be certified, they will take your notebook (with comments) to the Senior Road Guards with his recommendation; the Senior Road Guards will then make a recommendation to the Senior Road Guard Committee, which will make the final decision on whether you are ready to be certified. A member of the Committee will let you know of the Committee’s decision.

Once you have been approved by the Senior Road Guard Committee, you have to outfit your bike with lights, sirens, etc. Your vest also has to have "Military Escort" on at least the back - and you may want to have Military Escort somehow put on your bike, if you have room to do so. Road Guards can suggest and provide you with information on where to obtain the necessary Road Guard equipment, which depending upon what you get, you could be looking at anywhere from \$1,000 or more, however, it can be tax deductible. We strongly suggest that you do not outfit your bike until you have been advised by a member of the Senior Road Guard Committee that you are ready to be certified.

Once you and your bike are outfitted, contact the Senior Road Guard Committee, and they will coordinate with the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) for an appointment for your Certification meeting. The MCSO inspection/certification includes: Visual inspection of vehicle, verify it fits state laws (emergency lighting/siren/placards/Escort Vest), they will make photocopies of driver’s license, registration, and insurance. The MCSO certification and Funeral Escort Permit is valid statewide.

PGR does not provide any liability insurance; your participation with the PGR you accept and acknowledge personal responsibility and liability for any injury or damage caused by you.