

Assignment: *Everyday Public Administration*

Your Task: In your everyday activities take a picture of something you believe is related to public administration. Then, research the activity to provide context for the activity based on the prompts below.

Related learning objectives:

- *Describe the structure and function of government in society*
- *Distinguish between public and private enterprise*
- *Locate examples of public administration in your daily life*
- ***Demonstrate knowledge of functional areas in government***
- *Articulate the application of a professional public service perspective*

Post the picture and discussion related to these class topics:

1. Identify your activity - explain what it is you observed
2. Explain why you believe it is related to public administration - this should include using any class concepts we discussed to help define and categorize public administration. Why is the government involved in this activity- is it a public good? from the chart, "The World of Work and Careers" there are some questions to answer that make for a good discussion. What is the *public interest* involved? Why is it to all of our best interests to have the government involved?
3. Now, complete some research on your activity to identify and discuss the following:
  - What level of government manages this activity and which *specific* government ("local government" is not good enough)? Provide an organization chart for that government showing which department manages your activity. By name(s) who is currently in charge of that government department?
4. Discuss the activity in terms of *citizen involvement*. How can citizens participate in commenting on or shaping the development or ongoing maintenance of this activity? *Be specific*, perhaps analyze government websites related to the activity for citizen input; are there government meetings one could attend - again, be specific, when is the next meeting?
5. In terms of *equity*, do all citizens have *access* to this service or activity - old, young, disabled, etc.? If not, who does not have access, why?
6. Discuss the funding aspect of this activity. Either the size of the budget, the type of taxes that pay for it ("Taxes" is not enough) or some other aspect of the activity's budget. (Searching for items such as State of Florida budget or Seminole County budget may help)
7. Reflection: Think about where you live right now. Is the activity important to you now? Might it be in the future as you get older? What do you personally expect from the

public administrators who manage this activity? Discuss whether or not you would be able to communicate effectively how public administration is involved with this activity.

It is perfectly acceptable to email or otherwise contact officials involved with this activity to gain some information. The call or email should be cited per APA.