

# Lake Forest Park

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



2022  
ANNUAL REPORT



## Mission

*Our mission is to develop and support a team of professionals who consistently seek and find innovative policing strategies to affirmatively promote, preserve, and deliver those quality services which enhance the security and safety of our community. To support this mission, we will work in strong partnership with the community.*

## Vision

*Our Vision is to ensure the City of Lake Forest Park is one of the safest cities in the Puget Sound Region achieved through the delivery of quality law enforcement services.*

## Values

*Our department values the sanctity of all life. We strive for the equal, equitable, and compassionate application of law enforcement services for all, and the universal acceptance of all people. We endeavor for the highest level of training and diversity for our police staff and maintain partnerships within our community and local governments to provide urgently needed resources for those in need.*

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# Message from Chief Harden



<https://www.safewise.com/blog/safest-cities-washington/>



<https://www.elitepersonalfinance.com/safest-places-washington/>

Dear Lake Forest Park Residents,

I am pleased to present you with the 2022 Lake Forest Park Police Department Annual Report. This report provides information on crime data, service efforts, accomplishments, crime trends, and budget information. There are 24.4 full-time employees assigned to the Lake Forest Park Police Department.

Over the past several years, it has been the vision of the Police Department "To ensure the City of Lake Forest Park is one of the safest cities in the Puget Sound Region achieved through the delivery of quality law enforcement services." In 2022, we accomplished this task through the hard work of our employees combined with the active engagement of the community of Lake Forest Park. For several years, our community has consistently ranked very high as one of the top "safest cities" in Washington state.

Lake Forest Park is a community that values safety and security for all its residents, and our local police department plays a vital role in achieving this goal. Through community policing initiatives and a commitment to building positive relationships with residents, the Lake Forest Park Police Department has created a welcoming and inclusive environment for all members of the community.

The department is known for its dedication to public service and its responsiveness to the needs of residents. Officers are highly trained and well-equipped to handle various situations, from emergency response to community outreach events. The department also strongly emphasizes community engagement, working closely with local organizations and schools to promote safety and build trust.

Overall, the Lake Forest Park Police Department is a model of effective and responsible policing, serving as a source of pride for the community. With a focus on community partnerships, transparency, and accountability, the department is helping to build a safer and stronger Lake Forest Park for all.

To learn more about the services that the Lake Forest Park Police Department provides, please visit our webpage at [www.cityoflp.com](http://www.cityoflp.com) or follow us on Twitter at [twitter.com/lfppd\\_police](https://twitter.com/lfppd_police) and Facebook at [facebook.com/LakeForestParkPD](https://facebook.com/LakeForestParkPD). I am proud of the men and women of the Lake Forest Park Police Department who are committed to keeping you and your family safe. It is an honor to serve as your police chief.

**Michael Harden**  
**Chief of Police**

# About the Annual Report

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The Annual Police Report contains information on the service efforts and accomplishments of the Lake Forest Park Police Department to support its vision, mission, and goals.

The goal of the report is to keep the City of Lake Forest Park residents, staff, administrators, and elected officials informed of the activities of the police department and criminal activity in the city. It highlights the good work of the men and women of the department while emphasizing the value they bring to the citizens daily.

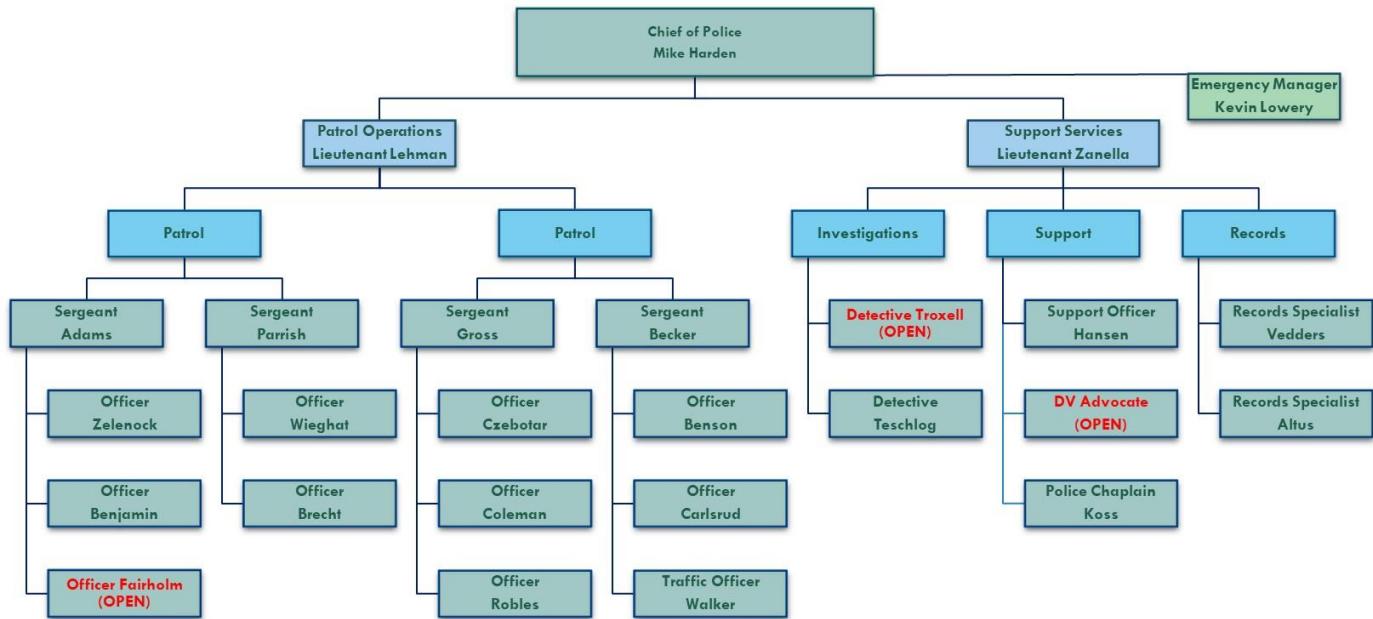
## Goals

To realize this mission, the City of Lake Forest Park Police Department has adopted the following goals and objectives:

1. Reduce crime and collision loss in our community.
2. Provide quality services and innovative policing strategies delivered through excellent customer service.
3. Provide appropriate resources to employees that foster a safe, ethical, innovative, knowledgeable, and healthy workforce.
4. Provide emergency management oversight for the Northshore Emergency Management Coalition.



# 2022 Organizational Chart



**Support Services Additional Duties:** Public Disclosure, Policy Manual, Auditing, Background Checks, Firearm Licensing, Fingerprinting, Equipment Maintenance and Purchasing, and Budgeting.

**Patrol Additional Duties:** Traffic, K9, Gangs, Graffiti, Training, and Narcotics

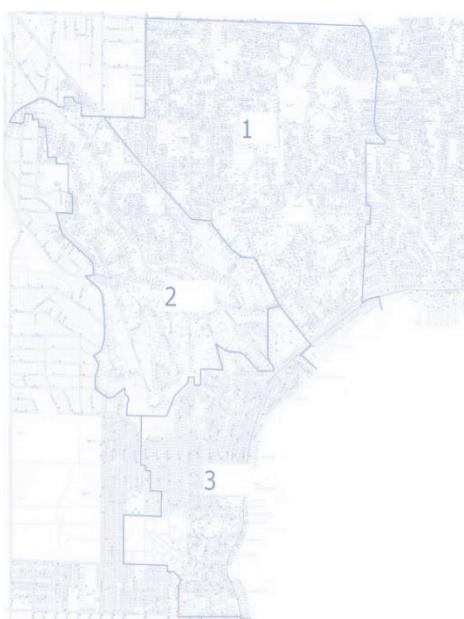
**\*Additional Notes:** In 2022, Officer Fairholm battled and won the fight against breast cancer. Upon returning to full duty, she decided to retire from patrol work. New hires Ofc. Benjamin, a lateral from Duvall PD, joined the team in 2022. At the end of 2022, Detective Troxell accepted the position of detective for Monroe PD, leaving two open positions at the start of 2023.

# Operations Division



## **Patrol Operations Division Commander**

### **Lieutenant Rhonda Lehman**



The Lake Forest Park Police Department's Operations Division consists of four patrol squads, the Traffic Unit, Crime Watch, and Block Watch. There are four patrol Sergeants, one for each squad. The patrol Sergeants also coordinate several ancillary duties, including ATS, Sector, Training, Narcotics investigations, Firearms, and Navigator coordination. Lieutenant Rhonda Lehman oversees the Operations Division and can be reached at [rlehman@cityoflfp.com](mailto:rlehman@cityoflfp.com) or 206-364-8216 x560.

In 2022, the officers and citizens of Lake Forest Park continued to grapple with the consequences and harm resulting from the implementation of police reform laws that were enacted in 2021. The enactment of these laws resulted in over 60 instances where drivers refused to comply with officers' attempts to stop them for a variety of violations or reasonable suspicion of involvement in criminal activity. Consequently, the city has experienced an uptick in vehicle damage and pursuits as suspects often resort to ramming patrol vehicles to escape.

Fortunately, in the latter part of the year, several amendments were made to these laws, which provided some measure of relief to victims of crime. Nonetheless, there remains a considerable amount of work to be done in this regard. Despite the challenges posed by these laws, our officers have exhibited a high level of professionalism, courage, passion, humility, and empathy while rendering services that conform to the standards set forth by the new laws.

Our officers will continue to fulfill our stated mission, "Our mission is to develop and support a team of professionals who consistently seek and find innovative policing strategies to affirmatively promote, preserve, and deliver those quality services which enhance the security and safety in our community." To support this mission, we will work in a strong partnership with the community.

**Lt. Rhonda Lehman  
Patrol Operations Division Commander**



# Calls for Service ~ Incidents

“Calls for Service” are received by dispatch and entered as many different call types. For 2022, there were 108 different call types that have been combined into these 15 broad categories.

- For example, the call type category of “*Burglary/Theft*” includes:

<i>Burglary</i>	<i>Forgery</i>	<i>Fraud</i>
<i>Identity Theft</i>	<i>Motor Vehicle Recovery</i>	<i>Motor Vehicle Theft</i>
<i>Possession of Stolen Property</i>	<i>Robbery</i>	<i>Theft</i>
<i>Vehicle Prowl</i>		

Type of Call	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	+/-	vs. Last Year
<i>911/Information</i>	171	224	195	206	152	-26%	↓
<i>Alarms</i>	319	368	235	218	242	11%	↑
<i>Assault/Fights/Harassment</i>	60	58	37	46	34	-26%	↓
<i>Burglary/Theft</i>	427	337	526	348	452	30%	↑
<i>Disturbance/Noise</i>	168	158	134	145	150	3%	↑
<i>Domestic</i>	48	52	33	43	46	7%	↑
<i>Investigations</i>	1619	1602	1331	1180	1336	13%	↑
<i>Juvenile</i>	39	38	29	21	28	33%	↑
<i>Liquor/Narcotics</i>	41	27	20	11	23	109%	↑
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	1729	1425	1106	1059	1022	-3%	↓
<i>Parking</i>	257	275	166	232	195	-16%	↓
<i>Property</i>	85	88	96	81	76	-6%	↓
<i>Public Service</i>	3055	2934	2633	2721	2566	-6%	↓
<i>Traffic</i>	3903	4596	2859	2726	3228	18%	↑
<i>Trespass</i>	51	58	36	39	58	49%	↑

\*\*Incidents include officer-initiated police

Call types are assigned by the dispatcher and may/may not reflect the true nature of the call or report type completed by the officer. For example, a traffic stop incident type could change to a DUI report based on the officer’s investigation.

Incidents labeled “Investigations” includes:

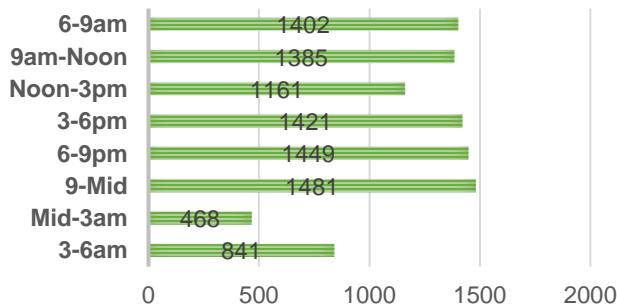
<i>Animal</i>	<i>Adult Protective Services</i>	<i>Area Check</i>
<i>Background Investigation</i>	<i>City Ordinance Violation</i>	<i>Child Protective Services</i>
<i>Death Investigations</i>	<i>Drill</i>	<i>Explosion</i>
<i>Exposing</i>	<i>Field Investigation Report</i>	<i>Graffiti</i>
<i>Illegal Dumping</i>	<i>K-9</i>	<i>Malicious Mischief</i>
<i>Missing</i>	<i>Order Violation</i>	<i>Ordinance Violation</i>
<i>Paper Violation</i>	<i>Peddling</i>	<i>Registered Sex Offender</i>
<i>Sex Offense/Other</i>	<i>Shooting</i>	<i>Subject Stop</i>
<i>Suicide</i>	<i>Threats</i>	<i>Suspicious Circumstances</i>

# Calls for Service ~ Incidents (con't)



Incidents	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>January</b>	906	986	1068	791	<b>754</b>
<b>February</b>	948	845	884	680	<b>605</b>
<b>March</b>	986	1114	713	920	<b>791</b>
<b>April</b>	997	831	623	874	<b>721</b>
<b>May</b>	1050	1168	924	908	<b>882</b>
<b>June</b>	1164	1045	799	801	<b>829</b>
<b>July</b>	1169	1166	814	780	<b>916</b>
<b>August</b>	1203	1127	821	719	<b>863</b>
<b>September</b>	814	1146	784	719	<b>902</b>
<b>October</b>	944	1111	742	647	<b>938</b>
<b>November</b>	870	863	599	571	<b>699</b>
<b>December</b>	926	838	665	672	<b>708</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,977</b>	<b>12,240</b>	<b>9,436</b>	<b>9,082</b>	<b>9,608</b>

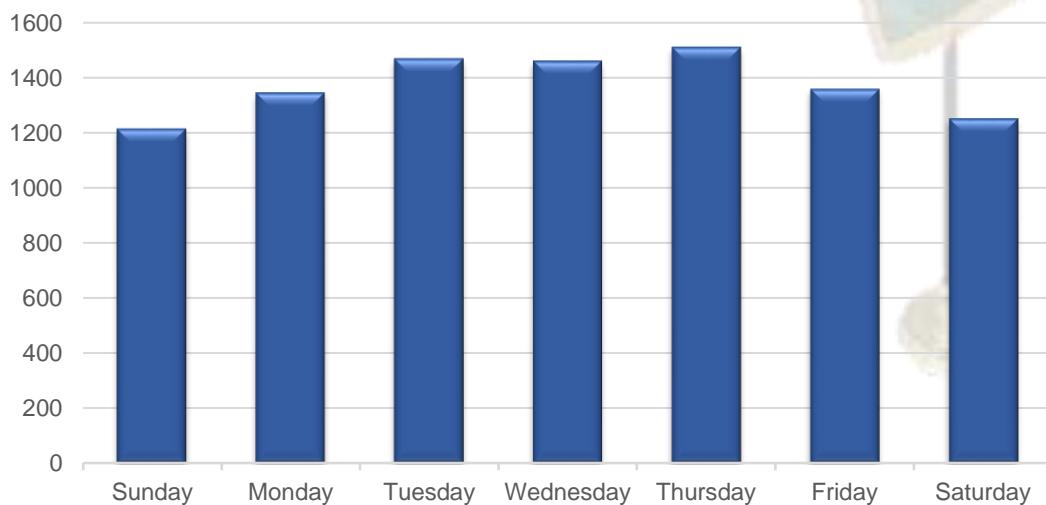
## 2022 CALL HOURS



Five-year average: 10,469



## 2022 CALL VOLUME - DAYS OF THE WEEK



# Criminal Activity

Overview	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	+/-	vs. Last Year
Incidents	11977	12240	9436	9082	<b>9608</b>	6%	↑
Case Reports	817	<b>762</b>	865	613	<b>809</b>	32%	↑
Arrests	255	231	216	146	<b>230</b>	58%	↑
Traffic Stops	3014	3731	2147	1837	<b>2477</b>	35%	↑
Traffic Infractions	1322	1935	1152	767	<b>976</b>	27%	↑
Criminal Traffic	133	178	127	152	<b>173</b>	14%	↑
Drug Arrests	80	58	47	14	<b>12</b>	-14%	↓
Domestic Incidents	48	52	33	62	<b>46</b>	-26%	↓
DUI Arrests	27	34	22	22	<b>28</b>	27%	↑
Fraud/Forgery/ID	50	51	184	30	<b>35</b>	17%	↑
Graffiti	12	17	20	16	<b>25</b>	56%	↑
Malicious Mischief	76	76	79	78	<b>99</b>	27%	↑
Vehicle Prowls	61	49	60	26	<b>36</b>	38%	↑

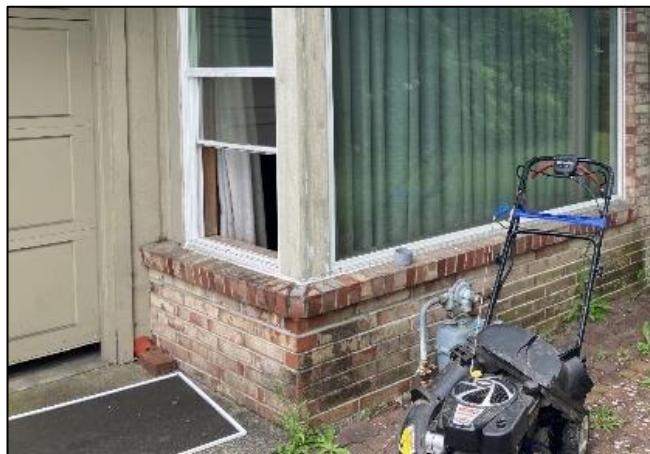
## ***PART I CRIMES are also referred to as "Index Crimes" (FBI)***

Cases	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	+/-	
<b><u>Violent Crime</u></b>							
Homicide	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>	0%	-
Rape	5	4	7	5	<b>4</b>	-20%	↓
Robbery	9	2	3	1	<b>3</b>	200%	↑
Assault	37	42	29	37	<b>39</b>	5%	↑
<b><u>Property Crime</u></b>							
Arson	3	0	2	0	<b>2</b>	200%	↑
Burglary	39	37	40	29	<b>32</b>	10%	↑
Vehicle Theft	14	14	16	23	<b>24</b>	4%	↑
Theft	215	174	197	137	<b>240</b>	75%	↑
Possession of Stolen Property	25	22	26	13	<b>10</b>	-23%	↓

# Property Crimes

For a more detailed view of “Property Crimes,” this graph shows a breakdown of the different types of property crimes reported to the police department.

Property Crimes	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	+/-	vs. Last Year
Burglary - 1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree	15	20	24	18	17	-6%	↓
Burglary – Residential	24	17	16	11	15	36%	↑
Burglary (Total)	39	37	40	29	32	10%	↑
Forgery and Fraud	19	19	13	14	12	-14%	↓
ID Theft	31	32	171	16	23	44%	↑
Malicious Mischief	76	76	79	78	99	27%	↑
MV Theft	14	14	16	23	24	4%	↑
Possession of Stolen Property	25	22	26	13	27	108%	↑
Theft	215	174	197	137	243	77%	↑
Vehicle Prowl	61	49	60	26	36	38%	↑



# Domestic Violence

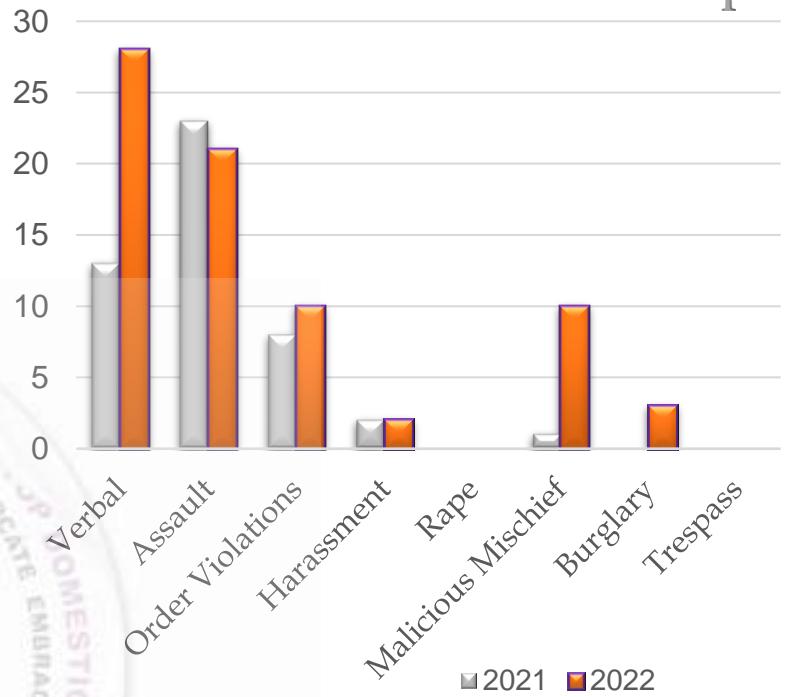
**Verbal Domestic** - Argument between persons with no physical contact (no crime).

**Assaults** - Argument between persons who get physical with each other (i.e., pushing, shoving, slapping, hitting with hands/feet, etc.)

**Court Order Violation** - Protection orders, harassment orders, no contact and restraining orders. These orders are issued by Courts for the protection of domestic violence victims or for subjects being harassed by known subjects.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Verbal – No Crime	39	30	25	13	28
Assault	20	30	20	23	21
Order Violations	10	16	8	8	10
Harassment	5	3	3	2	2
Rape	2	0	2	0	0
Malicious Mischief	5	8	4	1	10
Burglary	2	2	1	0	3
Trespass	0	1	0	0	0

## Domestic Violence Related Reports



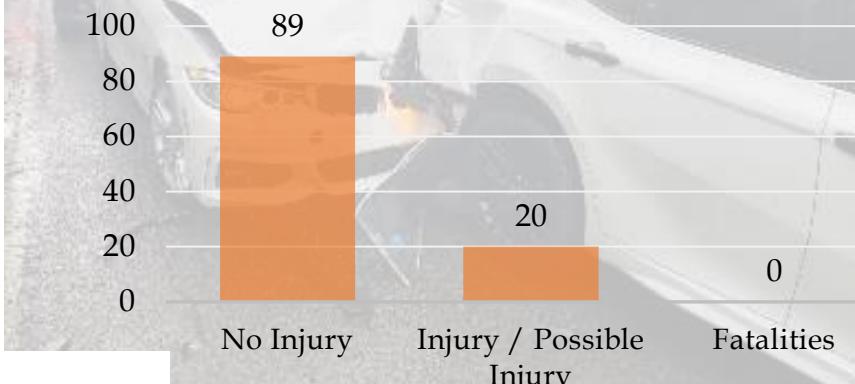
# Collisions

In 2022 there were **109** collisions.

The 5-year average of collisions:  
**116.**

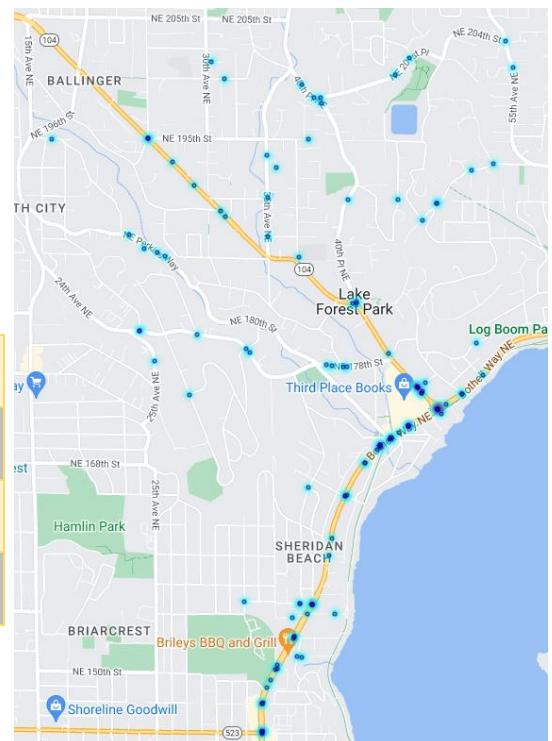
Last year's 5-year average for collisions was **129.**

## INJURY REPORT - 2022



Collisions	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No Injury	92	121	69	79	<b>89</b>
Injury/Possible Injury	36	28	20	25	<b>20</b>
Fatalities	1	1	0	1	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>109</b>

Collision Info	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Hit and Run	19	30	13	20	<b>21</b>
Bicycle Involved	5	0	0	1	<b>2</b>
Pedestrian Involved	6	3	3	1	<b>0</b>
DUI Related	4	8	9	11	<b>10</b>



Heat map of 2022 Collisions in the City of LFP

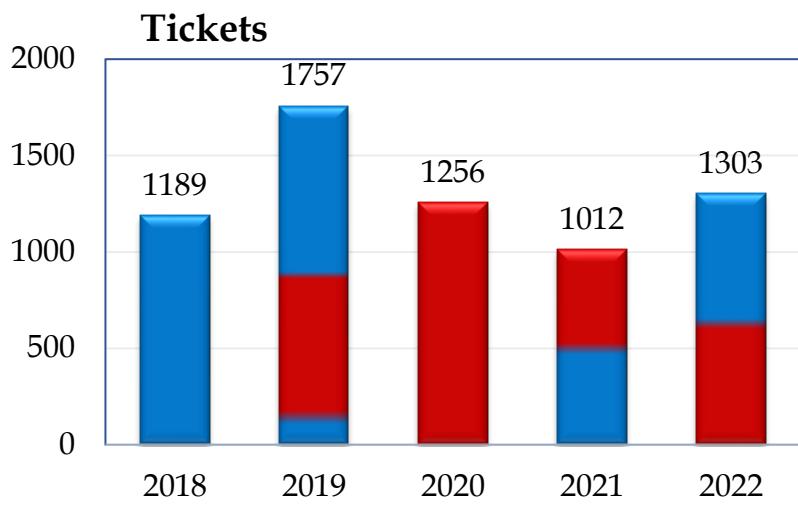
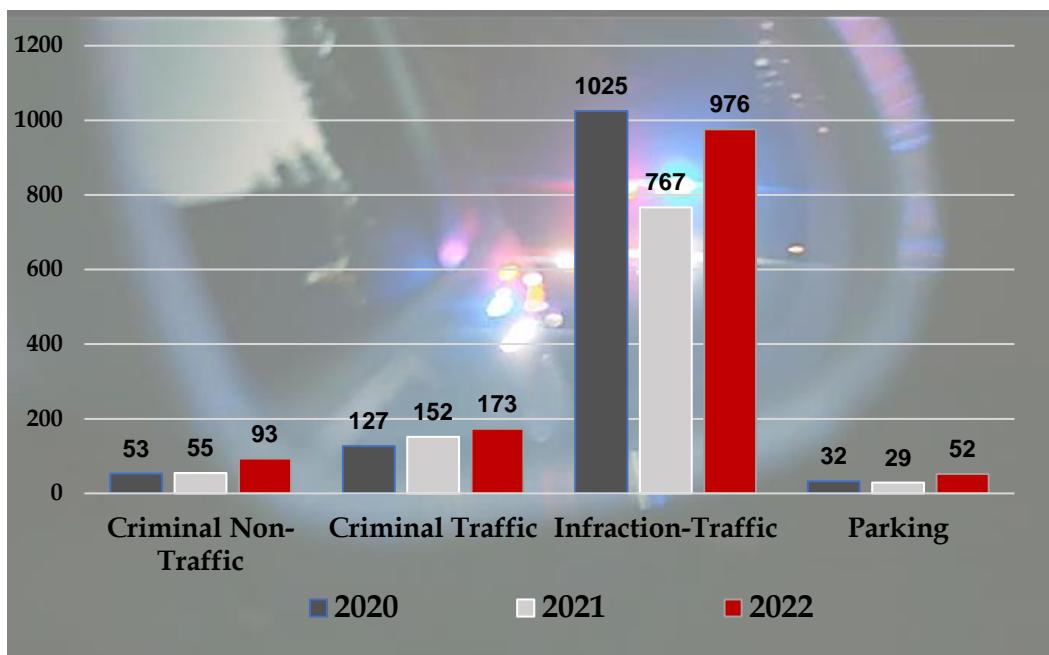


# Tickets Issued

Due to continued staffing shortages, the dedicated Traffic Officer was assigned to general patrol in May 2021.

For 2022, the traffic officer continued to be assigned to a patrol crew from January to May.

From May to December, the traffic officer was scheduled strictly on the traffic unit and supplemented patrol when necessary.



Red indicates the Traffic Officer was working the Traffic Unit detail.

Blue indicates the Traffic Officer was working General Patrol due to staffing.



# Traffic Safety Photo Enforcement

Traffic safety camera systems are safety measures designed to reduce speeding and collisions while at the same time providing a force multiplier for the police units. Since beginning in 2009, the goal of our program has been pedestrian safety in our school zones and collision reduction on SR 522 (Bothell Way).

The City currently operates three red-light camera locations. These include SR 522 at SR 104, SR 522 at NE 170<sup>th</sup> Street, and SR 522 at NE 165<sup>th</sup> Street. Additionally, the City operates four school zone camera locations, which include LFP Elementary School (35<sup>th</sup> Ave NE), LFP Elementary School (40<sup>th</sup> PL NE), Brookside Elementary School (NE 178<sup>th</sup> St), and Brookside Elementary School (37<sup>th</sup> Ave NE).

In 2019, the City upgraded the system technology and easy to read signs. The redesign and upgrade of the school zone locations enabled the cameras to capture the flashing beacon in the violation video package. This redesign elevated the City program to a best-practice design. The upgrade ensured the City has the industry's latest technology: a next-generation, non-invasive 3-D tracking radar that measures the distance, angle, and speed of up to 32 vehicles per approach.

**Stop for the  
RED LIGHT**



SR522 / SR104	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	VS. LAST YEAR
						VS. LAST YEAR
COLLISIONS	14	17	9	19	10	↓
CITATIONS	N/A	3,521	2,453	3,053	3,274	↑
SR522 / NE 165 <sup>TH</sup> ST	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	VS. LAST YEAR
COLLISIONS	6	10	7	4	2	↓
CITATIONS	2,575	2,129	1,738	2,507	3,018	↑
SR522 / NE 170 <sup>TH</sup> ST	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	VS. LAST YEAR
COLLISIONS	11	15	8	6	7	↑
CITATIONS	1,910	1,763	1,668	1,988	2,423	↑

# Traffic Safety Photo Enforcement (con't)



**Slow down for  
PEDESTRAINS**

In 2021, schools opened in March with a “cohort” schedule due to the pandemic. This type of schedule required the school zone cameras to operate all day during the school session. This increase in traffic and school children, coupled with the effects of the pandemic, caused a large increase in violations and citations for this school year. **In 2022, traffic citations returned to previous trends.**

<b>LFP ELEMENTARY</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>COLLISIONS</b>	0	0	0	1	2
<b>CITATIONS</b>	5,229	4,220	1,213	9,621	5,442
<b>BROOKSIDE ELEMENTARY</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>COLLISIONS</b>	0	2	1	1	0
<b>CITATIONS</b>	3,896	3,633	1,590	13,394	7,543



# Specialty Units



Traffic Officer J. Walker

## Traffic Unit

The Traffic Officer utilizes a low-profile patrol vehicle to conduct targeted traffic enforcement around the city. He typically works with other patrol officers focusing on the Department's Traffic Safety Plan and other problem areas identified through Traffic Calming Projects and Citizen Complaints.

In 2022, Officer Walker issued 342 citations. Unfortunately, Ofc. Walker was not able to work a full year in the traffic unit, as he had to rotate back into patrol duties because of staffing issues.

**In the future, the department would like to see an additional traffic position added. We want to bring back the motorcycle traffic unit to patrol.**

**In 2022, through a grant and large donation from the Northsound Police Foundation, all patrol vehicles received new speed radar systems and 3 portable speed lidars. This was over \$25,000 in equipment through the grant and donations.**



# Specialty Units (con't)

## SWAT/HNT

The Lake Forest Park Police Department is a member agency of the North Sound Metro SWAT Team (NSM). North Sound Metro SWAT is a regional Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team that is composed of two distinct elements: the SWAT (tactical) team, and the Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT). The team is comprised of officers from the following municipal jurisdictions: Bothell, Edmonds, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park, Lynnwood, Mill Creek, Monroe, Mountlake Terrace, Mukilteo, and Redmond.

The team services a population base of well over a quarter million residents. Current approved staffing for tactical operators is 36, plus three team commanders. HNT is allotted 13 officers.

LFPPD Detective A. Troxell is a member of the Hostage Negotiations Team and Ofc. Coleman was selected as a SWAT Operator.



SWAT Officer . G. Coleman



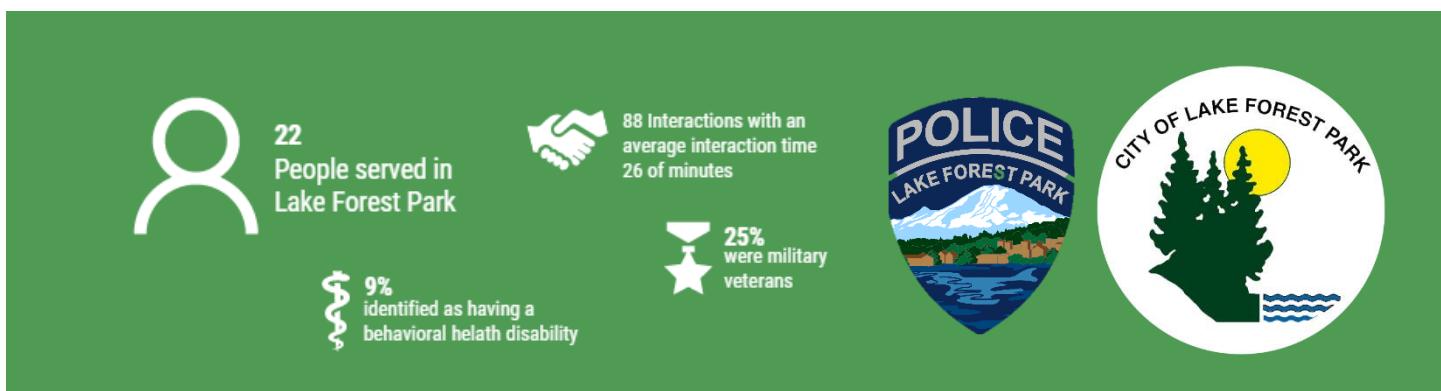
## Major Crime Task Force (CSPA)

Lake Forest Park Police is part of the Coalition of Small Police Agencies, CSPA. The participating cities are Algona, Black Diamond, Carnation, Clyde Hill, Duvall, Enumclaw, Issaquah, Lake Forest Park, Medina, Mercer Island, Normandy Park, Pacific, and Snoqualmie. These cities have entered a partnership of resource sharing that has been applauded and recognized throughout the State. The Major Crimes Task Force (MCTF) has over 15 detectives from these agencies, with Lake Forest Park contributing two officers and one detective. The partnership and utilization of the MCTF are a crucial resource to the City and PD.

# North Sound RADAR

The North Sound RADAR Navigator Program embeds Mental Health Professional Navigators in the field with law enforcement officers to address the needs of community members in crisis and connect them to the community of care. RADAR Navigators respond to in-progress calls to provide crisis de-escalation and support and follow up after law enforcement contact. When an officer or deputy in North King County encounters someone with a behavioral health or basic need, they refer to a Navigator for a follow-up assessment and referral. Often, this looks like a social worker reaching out to someone within a few days of their contact with the police to help connect them to basic needs or mental health resources in the community. The RADAR Navigator Program serves the city of Lake Forest Park, as well as neighboring Shoreline, Kenmore, Bothell, and Kirkland.

During 2022, Mental Health Professional Navigators met with 22 individuals in Lake Forest Park, some multiple times, during a total of 88 encounters. The average length of an encounter was 31 minutes, which represents quick check-ins as well as hours-long encounters where the Navigator stays with a person until they are de-escalated, able to accept help, and linked to the next step in the community of care. **Of the individuals served by the RADAR Navigator Program in Lake Forest Park during 2022 for whom data was available, 25% were veterans, and 9% identified as having a behavioral health disability. 93% of individuals**



identified as White, and 7% identified as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC).

RADAR Navigators responded to a wide variety of calls with Lake Forest Park officers during 2022, with increased coverage from previous years as our team grows. Several themes emerged in Lake Forest Park this year- we saw larger numbers of people displaying signs of a behavioral health crisis in public spaces and older adults in need of a higher level of support in their homes.

**In 2022 the RADAR Navigator Program was funded by grants from the King County MIDD Behavioral Health Tax Levy and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. In 2023 the RADAR Navigator Program will become a Regional Crisis Response (RCR) Agency, and with funding from the City of Lake Forest Park and the other partner cities will offer robust coverage seven days a week.**



# North Sound RADAR (con't)

## North Sound RADAR Navigator Program 2022 Annual Report



568  
People  
Served



54%  
Connected  
to Services

The North Sound RADAR Navigator Program serves the cities of Bothell, Kenmore, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park and Shoreline, providing crisis de-escalation, outreach, and referral to services. Navigators focus on moving people into community-based and long-term systems of care to reduce reliance on the crisis and criminal legal systems and improve peoples lives. The program is funded by King County's MIDD Behavioral Health Tax Levy and the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. More information at [www.RADARNavigatorProgram.org](http://www.RADARNavigatorProgram.org).

### Outcomes from past services

Evaluators at King County Department of Community and Human Services provided us with system outcome data for people who were touched by the Navigator Program.

67% reduction in jail bookings



60% reduction in crisis services events



4% reduction in Emergency Department admissions



14% increase Medicaid-funded behavioral health services

### 2022 by the numbers

In 2022, the Navigators served 568 people during a total of 1,548 encounters. Encounters can range from a quick phone check-in to multi-hour crisis de-escalations.

Of those individuals served...



21% were living homeless



680 referrals to community-based services



13% of individuals for whom data was available identified as veterans



### What's next for RADAR?

#### Regional Crisis Response (RCR) Agency

In 2023, RADAR will merge with Kirkland's Community Responder program to form a new entity to provide community mobile crisis response services to all five RADAR cities.

RCR will have ten Mental Health Professional Responders to enhance public health, safety, and emergency response services, including crisis response awareness, support, and resource referral for community members experiencing behavioral health issues across the region.

RCR will be jointly governed and funded by the five cities, in addition to bedrock funding from the county and the state.



# North Sound RADAR (con't)

## RADAR Stories

In February, officers were initially dispatched to an address in the north end of the city for a welfare check of an 80-year-old citizen. The citizen was reported by neighbors to be injured and acting confused, but she refused further aid assistance even though her injury appeared infected. A Navigator and a CIT trained patrol officer teamed up and returned to the house to contact the elderly citizen. Through their contact and work, the citizen was transported to the hospital with an infection so serious that she was days away from dying. The initial CIT trained contact officers realized how serious the situation was and communicated with the department's RADAR coordinator, who facilitated a follow-up contact team with another CIT trained officer and a Navigator. This was accomplished within 18 hours from contact to additional follow-up, saving the citizen's life.

In October, officers were requested by King County Designated Crisis Responders (DCRs) to an address in LFP to assist them with taking a young man with substantial behavioral health issues into protective custody. The 24-year-old man was diagnosed with bipolar disorder, was known to abuse serious narcotics like LSD and was not properly treating his Type 1 diabetes. Combined, this led to dangerous behaviors, psychotic episodes, and rages that would involve weapons and endanger the young man's father, whom he lived with. The responding PD officers were all 40-hour Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) and had positive histories of successfully using de-escalation techniques. Officers and the DCRs successfully contacted the young man, who was in a serious state of paranoia and psychosis. When the young man moved out to an outdoor balcony on the second floor of his home while wearing nothing more than a tee shirt, officers utilized their CIT and de-escalation skills and training to prevent the young man from jumping off the balcony, safely securing him and helping him get on the gurney so that he could be safely transported to a hospital. The DCRs were very grateful for the officers' work, and the skills that the officers had from training and practical use made for a safe and successful detention.



# Support Services



## Support Services Division Commander

### Lieutenant Diego Zanella



The Lake Forest Park Police Support Services Division supports the department's operations and manages its administrative components. The Support Services Division includes the Records Unit, the Investigations Unit, and the Police Support Officer. It is led by the Support Services Lieutenant, who reports directly to the Chief of Police. This division manages recruiting, training, professional standards, prisoners' transports, court security, property & evidence, community events, etc.

#### **Records Unit:**

The Records Unit is an integral part of the daily operations of the police department. Our two Records Specialists are non-sworn personnel whose responsibilities include but are not limited to, the logging and tracking of all officer generated reports, the issuance of concealed firearms permits, the processing of a wide variety of records, logs, court documents, and other sensitive paperwork. Additionally, they provide timely, reliable, and accurate information in response to inquiries from the public and outside agencies. In 2022, our most experienced records specialist retired. Although her departure created some challenges, the Records Unit kept providing excellent service to the public and the police department. In the Summer of 2022, the Lake Forest Park Police Department was able to select and hire a new records specialist.

#### **Police Support Officer (PSO):**

The police department employs a full-time specially commissioned officer whose responsibilities include, but are not limited to, maintaining the Property & Evidence Unit, transporting prisoners, providing court security services, fingerprinting, and assisting the department with a multitude of administrative duties. Additionally, our police support officer assists the department in organizing various community events like "Shop With a Cop," "Safety Day for Kids," etc.

#### **Investigations Unit:**

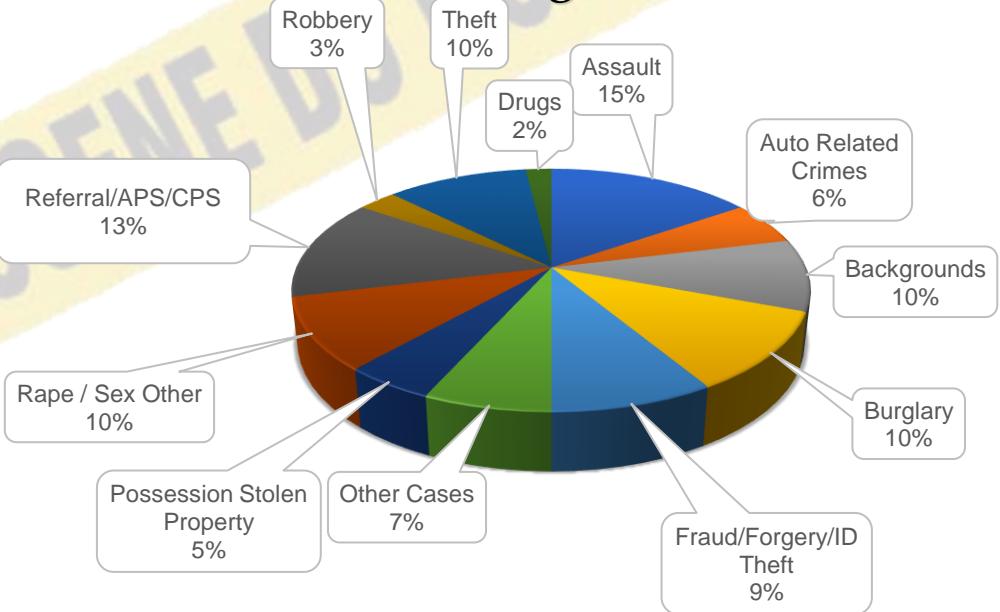
The Investigations Unit consists of two full-time detectives. These highly trained officers conduct secondary investigations for felony crimes and juvenile cases. Examples include aggravated assaults, robberies, sexual assaults, identity thefts, high-value property crimes, etc. Additionally, they investigate Child Protective Services and Adult Protective Services referrals, and coordinate the registered sex offender's notification and monitoring program. In the Fall of 2022, one of the detectives left the department. Currently, we expect that the position will be filled before the end of the year.

**Lt. Diego Zanella**  
**Support Services Division Commander**

# Assigned Investigations



## 2022 - Cases Assigned to Detectives



Assigned Investigations	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	vs. Last Year
Assault	6	6	8	5	<b>16</b>	↑
Auto Related Crimes	5	4	2	5	<b>6</b>	↑
Backgrounds	6	7	2	8	<b>10</b>	↑
Burglary	13	16	19	8	<b>11</b>	↑
Fraud/Forgery/ID Theft	13	12	13	5	<b>9</b>	↑
Other Cases	26	24	25	10	<b>7</b>	↓
PSP	5	8	5	5	<b>5</b>	-
Rape / Sex Other	7	3	10	9	<b>10</b>	↑
Referral/APS/CPS	26	32	15	19	<b>14</b>	↓
Robbery	7	0	2	1	<b>3</b>	↑
Theft	19	17	7	8	<b>11</b>	↑
VUCSA (Drugs)	23	20	16	5	<b>2</b>	↓
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>104</b>	↑

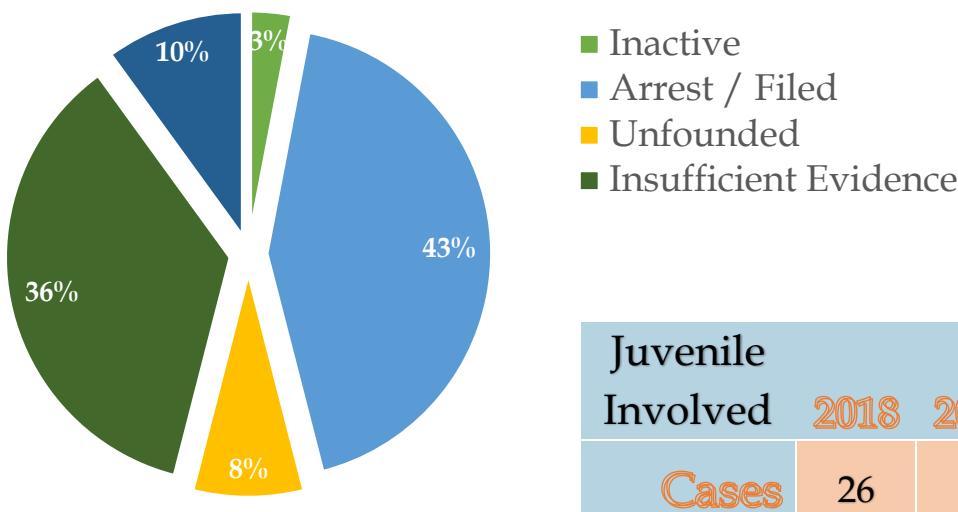
# Completed Investigations

## Completed Investigations

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	vs. Last Year
<i>Assault</i>	6	6	5	4	<b>13</b>	↑
<i>Auto Related Crimes</i>	8	3	1	0	<b>9</b>	↑
<i>Backgrounds</i>	5	7	2	6	<b>10</b>	↑
<i>Burglary</i>	12	14	18	12	<b>10</b>	↓
<i>Fraud/Forgery/ID Theft</i>	10	16	15	4	<b>12</b>	↑
<i>Other Cases</i>	23	23	23	10	<b>10</b>	--
<i>PSP</i>	6	2	8	3	<b>3</b>	--
<i>Rape / Sex Other</i>	5	5	6	7	<b>12</b>	↑
<i>Referral/APS/CPS</i>	24	31	20	18	<b>16</b>	↓
<i>Robbery</i>	4	3	1	2	<b>3</b>	↑
<i>Theft</i>	18	21	10	7	<b>10</b>	↑
<i>VUCSA (Drugs)</i>	20	23	16	9	<b>2</b>	↓
<b>Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>110</b>	↑



## 2022 - Completed Investigations



Juvenile Involved		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
		26	12	14	10	14
Cases	26	12	14	10	14	

# Training

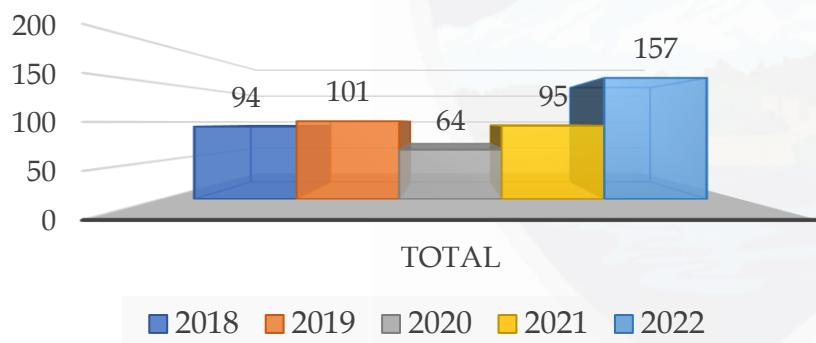
LFPPD administers a training program that provides for its personnel's professional growth and continued development. By doing so, the Police Department ensures its personnel possesses the knowledge and skills necessary to provide a professional level of service that meets the community's needs. Personnel train with the intent to offer a compassionate application of law enforcement services valuing the sanctity of all life.



# Training (con't)



Average Training Hours per FTE



# Police Reform

On February 25, 2021, the Washington Supreme Court declared Simple Drug Possession (RCW 69.50.4013) unconstitutional. On May 13, 2021, Governor Inslee signed amendments to SB 5476 (RCW 69.50.4013) into law, referred to as Blake's Bill. Officers now must offer treatment and services in lieu of jail on the subject's first and second violation, among other provisions.

On July 25, 2021, over a dozen police reform bills signed into law by Governor Jay Inslee regarding law enforcement officers in Washington state took effect. The bills covered everything from background checks, use-of-force rules, data collection, and the creation of a new state agency to review deadly use-of-force. Lake Forest Park officers received training on **all** new police reform bills. The training presentation was then given to the city councilmembers, the mayor, and then presented at a city council meeting with citizen comments after.

While there are several changes to the laws, the Lake Forest Park Police Department policy already reflects a few key points in the new reform bills, including the duty to intervene and de-escalation training. LFPPD officers will remain dedicated to providing the exceptional services we have always provided and will continue to provide training to give each officer the tools necessary to continue to provide that exceptional service.

Some of the key bills for 2021:

- HB 1054 — Tactics**
- HB 1310 — Use of Force**
- SB 5051 — Decertification**
- SB 5066 — Duty to Intervene**
- HB 1267 — Office of Independent Investigation**
- HB 1089 — Audits of Investigations**
- HB 1320 — Protection Orders**
- SB 5055 — Grievance Arbitration Panels**
- SB 5259 — Law Enforcement Data Collection**
- SB 5476 — State v Blake**

**In 2022, several laws underwent updates to address unintended consequences resulting from their 2021 versions, particularly those concerning the use of force. Law enforcement officers received initial and subsequent training on these laws. As of 2023, these laws are still being reviewed to strike a balance between reform, law enforcement, and community safety.**



# State Accreditation

The Lake Forest Park Police Department continues to follow the state accreditation standards set by the Washington State Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs. **Of the 250+ Police Departments in the State, only 59 have this Accreditation. Out of the 35 cities in King County, LFPPD is one of only 11 accredited city agencies. The next accreditation audit will occur in 2024.**

In 2020, the Lake Forest Park PD went through the re-accreditation process and successfully passed with no identified issues. This is no small task, given the stringent requirements of accreditation and the necessity to show compliance with 137 standards for the entire four-year period. The purpose of law enforcement agency accreditation is to professionalize the law enforcement industry by providing a review process for agencies to be certified as operating under industry best practices and standards.

## Benefits of Accreditation Include:

- To increase public confidence in the agency
- To increase credibility
- To provide a systemized agency self-assessment
- To broaden perspectives
- To intensify administrative and operational effectiveness
- To ensure recruitment, selection, and promotion processes are fair and equitable
- To strengthen understanding of agency policies and procedures by agency personnel
- To improve agency morale and pride
- To decrease susceptibility to litigation and costly civil court settlements
- To potentially reduce liability insurance costs
- To provide state and local recognition of professional competence



## Accreditation Standards:

The purpose of the WASPC Accreditation Program is to recognize agencies operating under industry best practices and standards. There are 137 accreditation standards covering major law enforcement areas:

1. Goals and Objectives
2. Role and Authority
3. Use of Force
4. Management, Staffing, Organization, and Utilization of Personnel
5. Records Management
6. Information Technology
7. Unusual Occurrences
8. Health and Safety
9. Fiscal Management
10. Recruitment and Selection
11. Training
12. Performance Evaluation
13. Code of Conduct
14. Internal Affairs
15. Patrol Function
16. Investigative Function
17. Evidence and Property Control Function
18. Prisoner Security



Washington Association of  
**SHERIFFS &  
POLICE CHIEFS**

# Behind the Badge



My name is Scott Benjamin. I have been a Police Officer for the City of Lake Forest Park for a little over a year. I lateraled from the City of Duvall, where I worked as an Officer for 4 years. I got into Law Enforcement as my second career after serving in the United States Navy for 26 years. I was already studying Criminal Justice in college. I was looking for my next path, a way to continue to serve. I did a ride-along with a friend of mine, and I was hooked. I joined LFPPD because we have a great team, a family environment, and great support from the community. Glad to be here! Thank you.

My name is Juan Robles, I was born and raised in San Juan, Puerto Rico. While I do miss my Puerto Rican roots and heritage, I do love the beautiful PNW. Prior to being hired by the City of Lake Forest Park Police Department, I worked at Seattle Children's Hospital for 15yrs. My scope of work heavily focused on acute behavioral health, De-escalation tactics, specifically in Non-Violent Crisis Intervention, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, and FEMA Certified Emergency Response Trainer for Mass Casualty Incidents.

On July 22, 2018, one of my closest friends from College, Kent Police Officer Diego Moreno, was killed in the line of duty while deploying spike strips during a vehicle pursuit. Diego had often tried to encourage me to make the leap but leaving my career to pursue something inherently more dangerous never made sense. Having suffered the loss of my dear friend changed my perspective on Law Enforcement as a career. Hearing amazing stories about Diego from citizens as well as his colleagues during his ceremony and seeing the camaraderie between his brothers and sisters in blue was deeply impactful. I knew that very day that the best way I could honor my friend was to do so by continuing his work. After extensive research, I was drawn to LFPPD for many reasons, primarily because the department values building strong partnerships with the community through its quality of service. I am looking forward to using my talents and experience to serve and to protect this community and will vow to advocate for those in need with the support of my LFPPD family.



# New Hires



## Records Specialist Kelsey Altus

Our new Records Specialist, Kelsey, joined the department in August 2022, bringing with her a diverse background that includes working for Disney (be sure to ask her about that job!), an accounting firm, and a doggie care facility. Kelsey has easily adapted to her role at the front desk and in records management and is often the first point of contact for visitors to the police department.

*Begin your career in Law Enforcement with the  
Lake Forest Park Police Department*

**Career Information**  
Base Salary \$5,424 - \$6,778 monthly  
Full coverage health insurance  
Increases with education levels  
Increases with longevity  
(City match 401(k))



## Officer Scott Benjamin

In January 2022, Officer Scott Benjamin became a member of our department, having previously served as a patrol officer at the Duvall Police Department. Officer Benjamin pursued a career in law enforcement as his second profession after proudly serving in the United States Navy for 26 years (see his message on page 29).

# New Hires (con't)



## Chaplain Andy Koss

Chaplain Andy Koss joined us in July 2022. Prior to this, he served as a Chaplain for Northshore Fire Department, now known as Shoreline Fire. He graduated from the Chaplain Academy in 2017 and has worked with Northshore Fire ever since. Chaplain Koss is a local resident who served as a Navy pilot for 20 years before retiring and transitioning to work as a FedEx airline pilot.

Police Chaplains are available 24/7, including weekends and holidays, and are brought on the scene to provide emotional and spiritual support to our first responders and their families during challenging times. Chaplaincy programs play a crucial role in supporting the well-being of our officers and the community at large. They foster a culture where officers can comfortably seek help and support and provide assistance to officers following critical incidents and other traumatic events both on- and off-duty. Chaplain Koss's continued service will undoubtedly benefit our staff and community.



## Kevin Lowery Emergency Manager

NEMCo welcomed Kevin Lowery as its new Emergency Manager in May 2022. With almost two decades of experience as a dedicated public servant, Kevin is motivated by a desire to make a positive and enduring impact on the communities he serves. His public service journey began as a volunteer firefighter while pursuing his undergraduate studies at Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Kevin later pursued a career in local law enforcement and subsequently joined the United States Coast Guard, where he most recently served as the Assistant Operations Officer aboard the USCGC HEALY, the Coast Guard's sole oceanographic research vessel. Recognizing the importance of education and personal growth, Kevin holds a Master of Administrative Science and a master's degree in emergency management. Before moving to Washington State, Kevin continued to serve his hometown of Cranbury, New Jersey, as a volunteer with the Cranbury Township Fire Department, Board of Recreation, and as the Chairman of the Municipal Alliance Committee on Drug Abuse and Alcoholism. In his free time, Kevin enjoys outdoor activities and is a devoted father to his two children, Skye and Orion.

# Retirements



Lee Freeman, a valued member of the Lake Forest Park Police Department, was celebrated on March 6 for her 30 years of dedicated service to both our department and the city. Work anniversary celebrations like this recognize an employee's value, knowledge, and accomplishments.

Lee started her career with us as a dispatcher on March 6, 1992, when the Lake Forest Park Police Department had only five full-time patrol officers and a few reserve officers. The city was smaller then, and 911 calls were less frequent. Lee's responsibilities included answering 911 calls, dispatching officers, and completing necessary paperwork. In 2001, Lee transitioned from dispatch to a full-time police records specialist. Her role became more complex, but Lee thrived in processing police records, performing various clerical and administrative tasks, assisting officers and police managers with administrative duties, and helping the public. We are grateful for Lee's unwavering commitment to our department and community and thank her for her service.

Lee's committed service to the Lake Forest Park community ended in September 2022 as she retired. We are grateful for her contributions and dedication and extend our heartfelt thanks to Lee for her service.



**Lee Freeman**  
**Records Specialist**

# Separations

## *Detective Amy Troxell*



**Detective (Officer) Amy Troxell** resigned from her position at the police department in November 2022 and was subsequently hired by the Monroe Police Department as a detective. Amy had dedicated over 15 years of service to the department, serving as a police detective for over 8 of those years. Throughout her career, Amy had demonstrated a strong commitment to serving the citizens of the city. She was an integral part of the police guild and generously volunteered her time for various programs such as Shop with a Cop, National Night Out, and Special Olympics fundraisers. Additionally, Amy was known for her excellent presentations on topics like internet safety, and her vast knowledge and expertise made her a valued peer to fellow officers. Amy's contributions will be greatly missed.

## *Officer Maegan Fairholm*

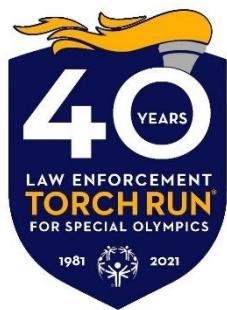
**In September 2022, Officer Maegan Fairholm resigned from her role as a police officer in the department where she had served for over five years. In 2021, she faced a difficult battle with breast cancer, but ultimately recovered and obtained medical clearance. However, she ultimately decided to leave the law enforcement field and move to Oklahoma to be closer to her family. Throughout her tenure as an officer, Maegan made important contributions to promoting health and wellness among PD staff and played a vital role as a team member in the RADAR Navigator program.**



# Community



# Community (con't)



## *Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics*



## *Polar Plunge for Special Olympics*

# National Night Out



## *National Night Out*



Always a fun night for our community, National Night Out is a one-night event, beginning at 6 pm to 9 pm, when over 30 neighborhood parties come outside and meet their neighbors. Officers and Firemen come by the parties to join in the fun and talk about neighborhood issues.

National Night Out is an annual campaign to foster police-community partnerships and promote camaraderie among neighbors, ultimately creating safer and more compassionate neighborhoods. This initiative strengthens the bond between law enforcement and community members and rekindles a true sense of community. Additionally, National Night Out offers an excellent opportunity to facilitate positive interactions between police and neighbors.

On the first Tuesday of August, National Night Out is observed by millions of neighbors in thousands of communities across all fifty states. During this event, neighborhoods organize block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts, and other community events, including safety demonstrations, seminars, youth activities, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits, and much more.

# Safety Day



## Safety Day for Kids!

In July 2022, the Lake Forest Park Police Department organized a "Safety Day for Kids" event, an expanded version of the Bike Rodeo held in 2021. The event featured a bicycle obstacle course designed to teach children about stop signs, crosswalks, approaching corners, and being considerate towards other bikes and groups of people. Representatives from King County Search & Rescue and Lake Forest Park Police Officers talked about outdoor and water safety. At the same time, bicycle helmets and life jackets were given away to children and adults with disabilities.

The event was joined by the Northshore Fire Department, a Police K9 unit, and the King County Marine Patrol Unit with their rescue boat. The NEMCo Emergency Management group was also present to discuss preparedness. Free "safety bags" were distributed to the children in attendance. The event was held in the parking lot behind the Lake Forest Park Police Department and was filled with fun activities.



# Shop with a Cop

8<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Hero's Shop with a Cop 2022  
Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lake Forest Park



# North Sound Police Foundation



The **North Sound Police Foundation** is a non-profit organization that supports law enforcement agencies in Lake Forest Park and Mill Creek. The foundation's mission is to enhance public safety and build community partnerships by providing resources and support to law enforcement agencies.

The North Sound Police Foundation raises funds through donations, grants, and community events, using these funds to support programs and initiatives not covered by government budgets. These initiatives include equipment and technology upgrades, training and education programs, community outreach and engagement, and support for officers and their families in times of need.

Overall, the North Sound Police Foundation plays a vital role in supporting the work of law enforcement agencies in the North Sound region and building stronger relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve.



# Social Media

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Our organization's social media presence remains robust on multiple platforms, such as Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. However, our largest and continuously growing following is on Nextdoor.com. Our police department's posts have been successful in reaching out to thousands of citizens, with hundreds of thousands of views. To improve our communication with the community, we have established the Community Partners Emergency Communication System. This system is aimed at keeping community members informed about emergent issues like natural hazards or police activities. Additionally, we have produced informative videos that can be found on our YouTube channel.



<https://www.facebook.com/LakeForestParkPD>



[https://twitter.com/lfppd\\_police](https://twitter.com/lfppd_police)



<https://nextdoor.com/agency-detail/wa/lake-forest-park/lake-forest-park-police-department/>



<https://www.instagram.com/lakeforestparkpd/>



<https://www.youtube.com/@lakeforestparkpd>

## Lake Forest Park Community Partners Emergency Notification System

When an event occurs within the City or in neighboring jurisdictions that our community needs to know about, providing current and accurate information to the public is of great importance. The Police Department has created this system to notify residents, businesses, service providers, and other partners when an event occurs in the City that will be of interest to them. The system is web-based and utilizes cellular phone text notifications. Ask for "Code Red" for more information.

## Block-Watch

Our Block-Watch program encourages neighbors to get to know each other and work together to prevent crime; it involves citizens being trained to recognize and report suspicious activity in their neighborhoods. Citizens and police work together against crime, and citizens work with each other during emergencies. Get with your neighbors if you are interested in Block-Watch or are unsure if your neighborhood participates.

## Crime Watch

The Crime Watch suspension due to COVID was lifted in July 2021. Volunteer members were ready to begin house checks once it was safe to do so. We are grateful to have this program back with dedicated volunteers to assist in the safety of our community.