

Lake Forest Park

POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT



2023

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



Dear Residents of Lake Forest Park,

I'm delighted to share with you the 2023 Annual Report of the Lake Forest Park Police Department. This comprehensive document offers insights into crime data, service initiatives, achievements, crime patterns, and budgetary details. Currently, the department comprises 24.4 full-time employees dedicated to serving our community.

Having served as your Chief of Police for five years, it continues to be our mission at the Police Department to ensure Lake Forest Park stands out as one of the safest cities in the Puget Sound Region. This vision has been realized through the concerted efforts of our dedicated staff and the active involvement of Lake Forest Park's community members. It's gratifying to note that our community has consistently ranked among the top safest cities in Washington state for several years.

Lake Forest Park places a premium on safety and security for all its residents, and our local police department plays a pivotal role in realizing this aspiration. Through community policing strategies and a steadfast commitment to fostering positive relationships with residents, the Lake Forest Park Police Department has cultivated an environment that is welcoming and inclusive to all.

In recent years, our department has encountered staffing challenges, a situation not uncommon among police agencies in our region. Despite hurdles such as a limited applicant pool, inflationary pressures, the need to remain competitive in terms of wages and benefits, and the lengthy training required for police officers, our department has consistently delivered high-quality service.

Renowned for its dedication to public service and responsiveness to residents' needs, our officers are extensively trained and well-equipped to handle a variety of situations, ranging from emergency response to community outreach initiatives. We also place significant emphasis on community engagement, collaborating closely with local organizations and schools to enhance safety and foster trust.

Overall, the Lake Forest Park Police Department stands as a paragon of effective and accountable policing, instilling a sense of pride within the community. Through our commitment to fostering partnerships, transparency, and accountability, we are actively contributing to the creation of a safer and more resilient Lake Forest Park for all.

For more information about the services offered by the Lake Forest Park Police Department, please visit our webpage at www.cityofflp.gov or connect with us on Twitter at twitter.com/lfpdpd_police and Facebook at facebook.com/LakeForestParkPD. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated men and women of the Lake Forest Park Police Department, who work tirelessly to ensure the safety of you and your family. It's a privilege to serve as your police chief.

Michael Harden
Chief of Police

About the Annual Report

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:

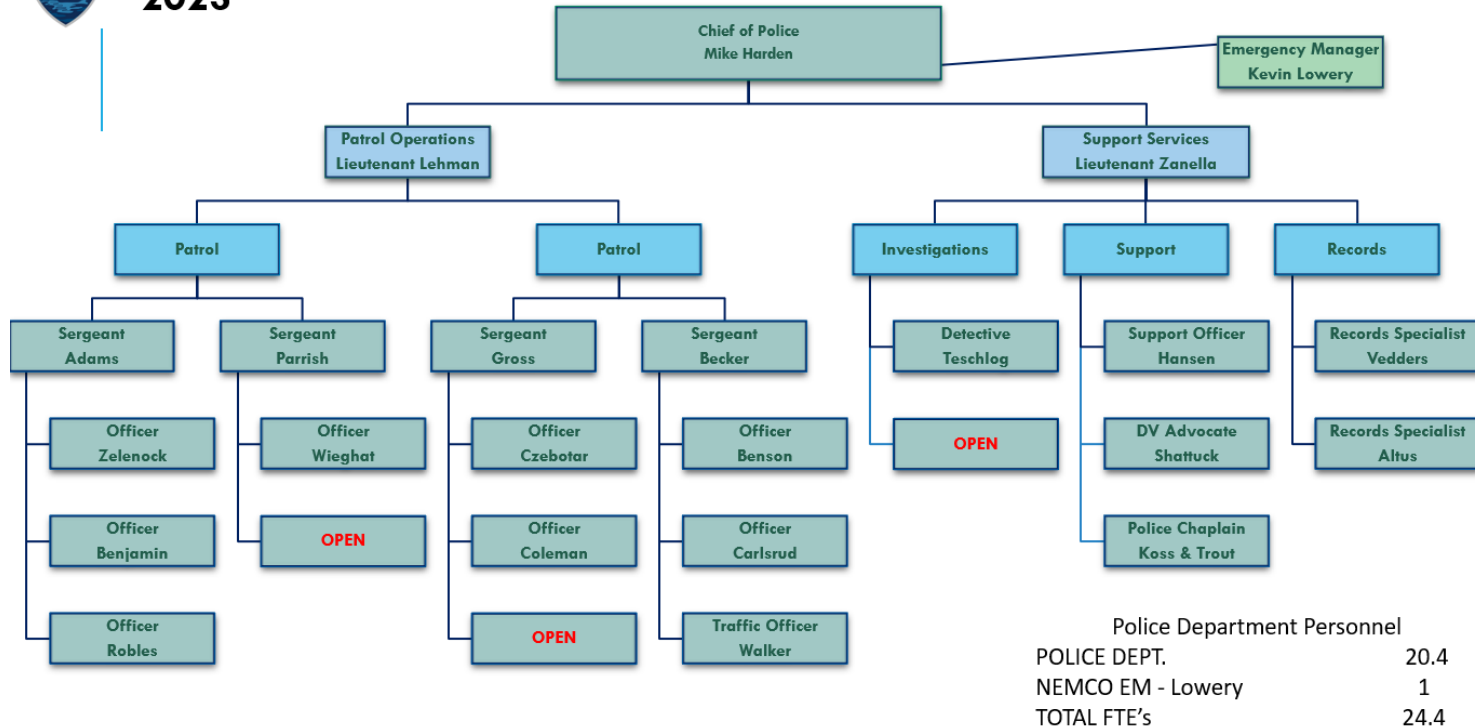
1. Reduce crime and collision loss in our community.
2. Provide quality services and innovative policing strategies delivered through excellent customer service.
3. Provide appropriate resources to employees that foster a safe, ethical, innovative, knowledgeable, and healthy workforce.
4. Provide emergency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



2023 Organizational Chart



2023



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:** Throughout much of 2023, we grappled with three vacant positions as we sought to fill them. Towards the close of the year, Officer Gouin, Alcean, and Montague joined our department to occupy these roles. Additionally, Officer Zelenock departed, creating another vacancy, which Officer Johnson filled at the onset of 2024.

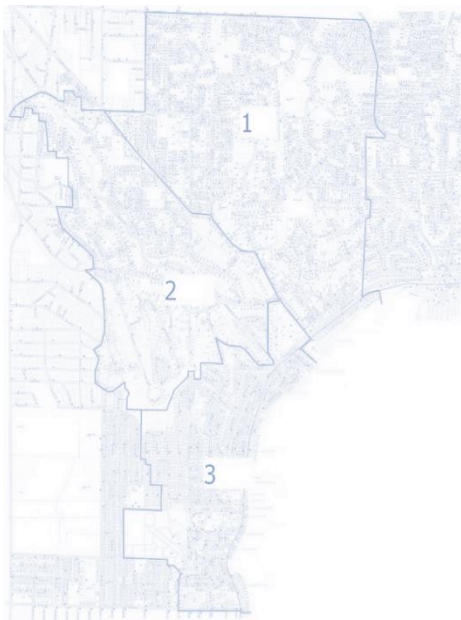
In 2023, the City Council sanctioned the addition of three Limited Term Employee positions, aimed at expediting the hiring process to address the delays of training and the forthcoming officer retirements.

Operations Division



Patrol Operations Division Commander

Lieutenant Rhonda Lehman



The Operations Division of the Lake Forest Park Police Department comprises four patrol squads, the Traffic Unit, Crime Watch, and Block Watch. Each squad is overseen by one of the four patrol Sergeants, who also manage various additional responsibilities such as Traffic Cameras, Sector, Training, Narcotics investigations, Firearms, and Regional Crisis Responder coordination. Lieutenant Rhonda Lehman, who has been overseeing the Operations Division, is set to retire in 2024.

In 2023, the state legislature began addressing the effects of the police reforms implemented in 2021, which had led to predictable and unintended outcomes. Throughout the initial period of these reforms, citizens, businesses, and officers suffered from the consequences of increasingly emboldened criminal elements. Although some corrective measures were implemented to alleviate certain restrictions, the repercussions are ongoing for victims, citizens, and law enforcement until comprehensive changes take effect.

Despite these challenges, the officers of the Lake Forest Park Police Department have consistently demonstrated professionalism, dedication, empathy, and humility.

Despite severe staffing shortages, our officers have willingly taken on numerous hours of overtime, sacrificing vacations, regular time off, and family events.

We remain committed to our mission of developing and supporting a team of professionals dedicated to innovative policing strategies that enhance security and safety in our community. To achieve this mission, we are committed to fostering 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 2023, there were 174 different call types that have been combined into these 15 broad categories (Norcom added several more categories in the merge).

- 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 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | +/- | vs. Last Year |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------|
| Information / 911 | 224 | 195 | 206 | 152 | 131 | -14% | ↓ |
| Alarms | 368 | 235 | 218 | 242 | 189 | -22% | ↓ |
| Assault/Fights/Harassment | 58 | 37 | 46 | 34 | 23 | -32% | ↓ |
| Burglary/Theft | 337 | 526 | 348 | 452 | 263 | -42% | ↓ |
| Disturbance/Noise | 158 | 134 | 145 | 150 | 158 | 5% | ↑ |
| Domestic | 52 | 33 | 43 | 46 | 23 | -50% | ↓ |
| Investigations | 1602 | 1331 | 1180 | 1336 | 1269 | -5% | ↓ |
| Juvenile | 38 | 29 | 21 | 28 | 30 | 7% | ↑ |
| Liquor/Narcotics | 27 | 20 | 11 | 23 | 27 | 17% | ↑ |
| Miscellaneous | 1425 | 1106 | 1059 | 1022 | 1156 | 13% | ↑ |
| Parking | 275 | 166 | 232 | 195 | 173 | -11% | ↓ |
| Property | 88 | 96 | 81 | 76 | 56 | -26% | ↓ |
| Public Service | 2934 | 2633 | 2721 | 2566 | 2666 | 4% | ↑ |
| Traffic | 4596 | 2859 | 2726 | 3228 | 3209 | -1% | ↓ |
| Trespass | 58 | 36 | 39 | 58 | 56 | -3% | ↑ |

****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:

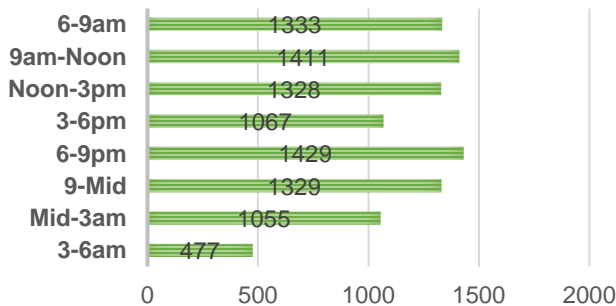
| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Animal</i> | <i>Adult Protective Services</i> | <i>Area Check</i> |
| <i>Background Investigation</i> | <i>City Ordinance Violation</i> | <i>Child Protective Services</i> |
| <i>Death 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)



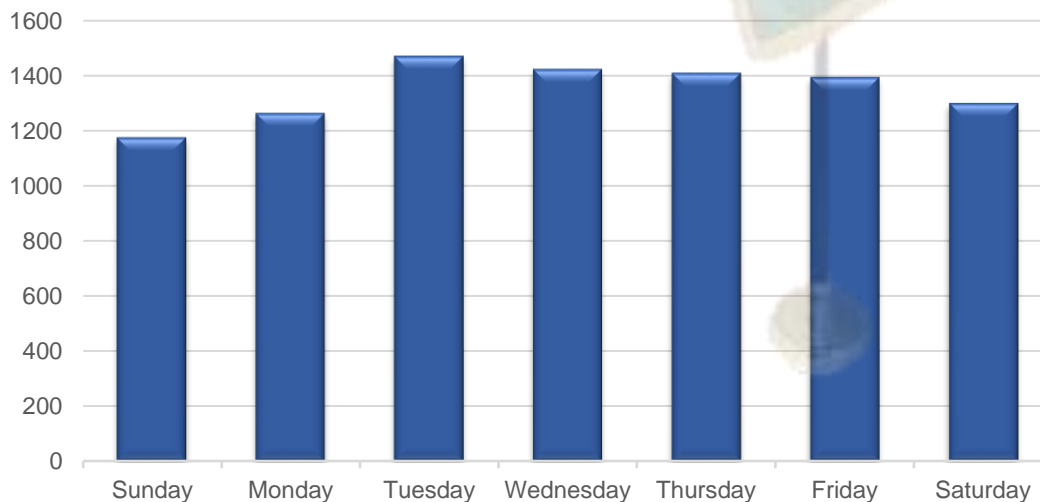
| Incidents | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>January</i> | 986 | 1068 | 791 | 754 | 913 |
| <i>February</i> | 845 | 884 | 680 | 605 | 710 |
| <i>March</i> | 1114 | 713 | 920 | 791 | 756 |
| <i>April</i> | 831 | 623 | 874 | 721 | 913 |
| <i>May</i> | 1168 | 924 | 908 | 882 | 881 |
| <i>June</i> | 1045 | 799 | 801 | 829 | 799 |
| <i>July</i> | 1166 | 814 | 780 | 916 | 826 |
| <i>August</i> | 1127 | 821 | 719 | 863 | 748 |
| <i>September</i> | 1146 | 784 | 719 | 902 | 657 |
| <i>October</i> | 1111 | 742 | 647 | 938 | 680 |
| <i>November</i> | 863 | 599 | 571 | 699 | 740 |
| <i>December</i> | 838 | 665 | 672 | 708 | 806 |
| TOTAL | 12,240 | 9,436 | 9,082 | 9,608 | 9,429 |

2023 CALL HOURS



Five-year average: 9,959

2023 CALL VOLUME - DAYS OF THE WEEK



Criminal Activity

| Overview | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | +/- | vs. Last Year |
|---------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------------------|
| Incidents | 12240 | 9436 | 9082 | 9608 | 9429 | -2% | ↓ |
| Case Reports | 762 | 865 | 613 | 809 | 740 | -9% | ↓ |
| Arrests | 231 | 216 | 146 | 230 | 201 | -13% | ↓ |
| Traffic Stops | 3731 | 2147 | 1837 | 2477 | 2593 | 5% | ↑ |
| Traffic Infractions | 1935 | 1152 | 767 | 976 | 907 | -7% | ↓ |
| Criminal Traffic | 178 | 127 | 152 | 173 | 212 | 23% | ↑ |
| Drug Arrests | 58 | 47 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 8% | ↑ |
| Domestic Incidents | 98 | 69 | 62 | 80 | 54 | -33% | ↓ |
| DUI Arrests | 34 | 22 | 22 | 28 | 19 | -32% | ↓ |
| Fraud/Forgery/ID | 51 | 184 | 30 | 35 | 44 | 26% | ↑ |
| Graffiti | 17 | 20 | 16 | 25 | 25 | 0% | -- |
| Malicious Mischief | 76 | 79 | 62 | 99 | 93 | -6% | ↓ |
| Vehicle Prowls | 49 | 60 | 26 | 36 | 55 | 53% | ↑ |

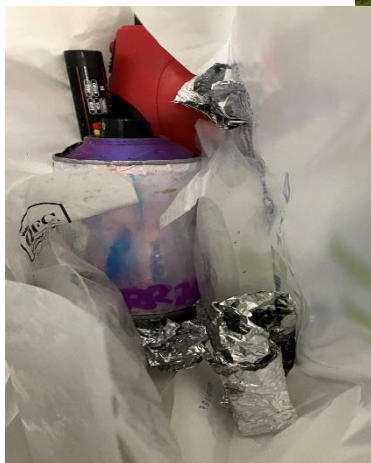
PART I CRIMES are also referred to as "Index Crimes" (FBI)

| Cases | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | +/- | |
|-------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|---|
| Violent Crime | | | | | | | |
| Homicide | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 200% | ↑ |
| Rape | 4 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 0% | ↓ |
| Robbery | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 67% | ↑ |
| Assault | 42 | 29 | 37 | 39 | 22 | -44% | ↓ |
| Property Crime | | | | | | | |
| Arson | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | -200% | ↓ |
| Burglary | 37 | 40 | 29 | 32 | 30 | -6% | ↓ |
| Vehicle Theft | 14 | 16 | 23 | 24 | 35 | 46% | ↑ |
| Theft | 174 | 197 | 137 | 240 | 229 | -5% | ↓ |
| Possession of Stolen Property | 22 | 26 | 13 | 10 | 18 | -33% | ↓ |

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 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | +/- | vs. Last Year |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|---------------|
| Burglary – 1 st & 2 nd Degree | 20 | 24 | 18 | 17 | 10 | -41% | ↓ |
| Burglary – Residential | 17 | 16 | 11 | 15 | 20 | 33% | ↑ |
| Burglary (Total) | 37 | 40 | 29 | 32 | 30 | -6% | ↓ |
| Forgery and Fraud | 19 | 13 | 14 | 12 | 16 | 33% | ↑ |
| ID Theft | 32 | 171 | 16 | 23 | 28 | 22% | ↑ |
| Malicious Mischief | 76 | 79 | 78 | 99 | 93 | -6% | ↓ |
| MV Theft | 14 | 16 | 23 | 24 | 35 | 46% | ↑ |
| Possession of Stolen Property | 22 | 26 | 13 | 27 | 18 | -33% | ↓ |
| Theft | 174 | 197 | 137 | 243 | 229 | -5% | ↓ |
| Vehicle Prowl | 49 | 60 | 26 | 36 | 55 | 53% | ↑ |



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.)

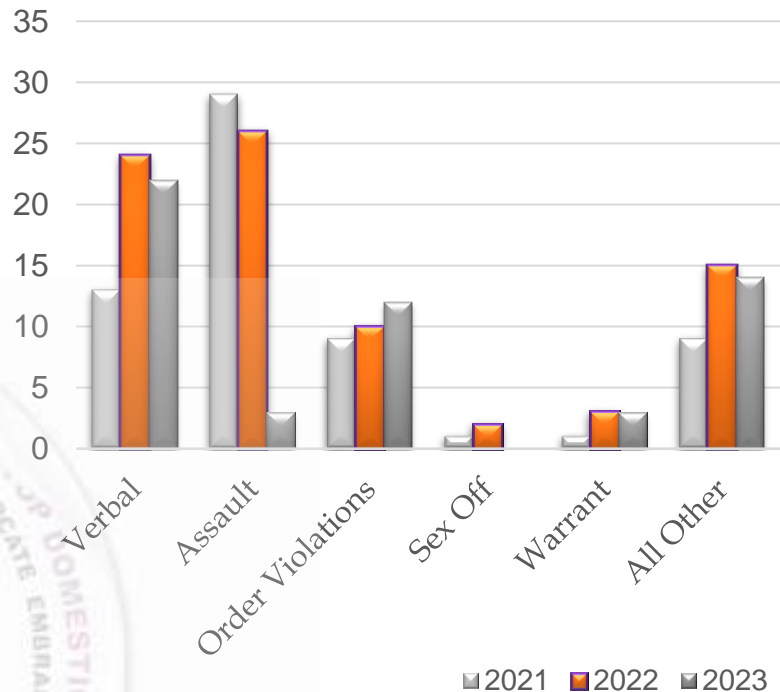
Court Order Violation - Protection orders, harassment orders, no contact and restraining orders. These orders are issued by Courts for the protection of domestic violence victims or for subjects being harassed by known subjects.

***All other related Incidents**

APS (Adult Protective Services)
Arson
Behavioral Health
Burglary - Residential
CPS (Child Protective Services)
Criminal Mistreatment
Disturbance
Harassment
Hit and Run
Identity Theft
Informational Report
Juvenile Incident
Malicious Mischief
Mental Hold
PSP
Theft
Threats
Trespass
Trespass Warning
VUCSA (Drug Related)

| Domestic Incidents | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | | |
|--------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|----|
| Verbal - No Crime | 30 | 23 | 13 | 24 | 22 | -8% | ↓ |
| Assault | 35 | 24 | 29 | 26 | 3 | -88% | ↓ |
| Order Violations | 16 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 12 | 20% | ↑ |
| Sex Offense | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | -100% | ↓ |
| Warrant | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0% | -- |
| *All Other | 12 | 7 | 9 | 15 | 14 | -7% | ↓ |
| | 98 | 69 | 62 | 80 | 54 | -33% | ↓ |

Domestic Violence Related Incidents



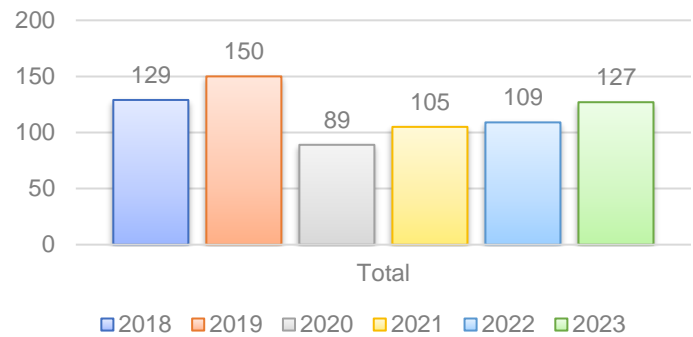
Collisions

In 2023 there were **127** collisions.

The 5-year average of collisions:
116.

Last year's 5-year average for collisions was **116.**

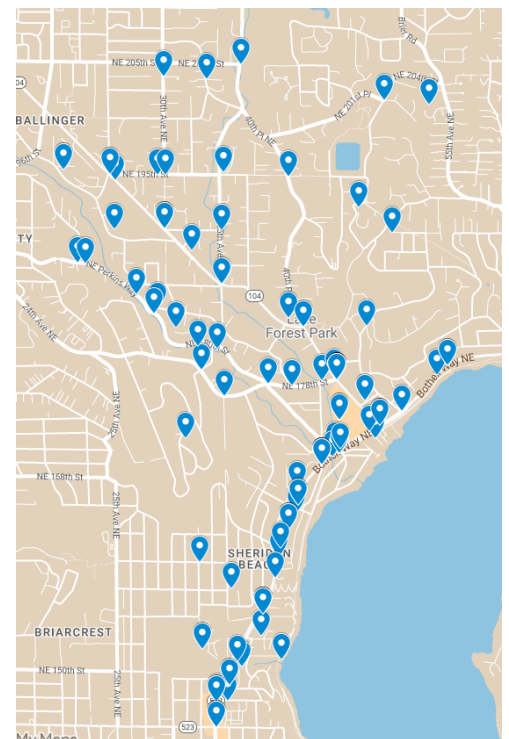
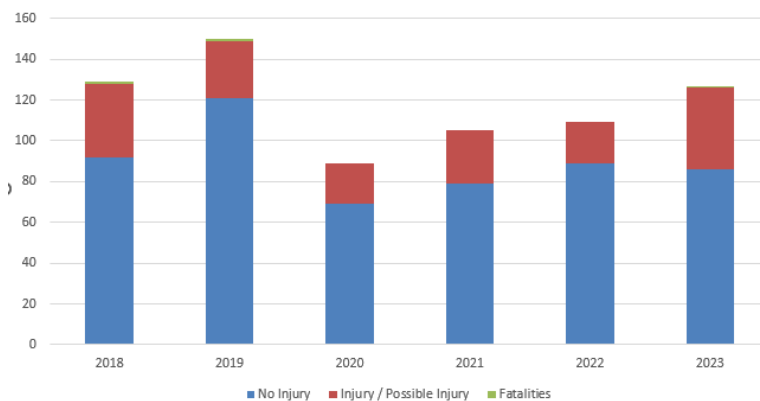
Collision Reports



Collision Info

| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----------|
| <i>Hit and Run</i> | 30 | 13 | 20 | 21 | 27 |
| <i>Bicycle Involved</i> | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| <i>Pedestrian Involved</i> | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| <i>DUI Related</i> | 8 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 12 |

Collision Injury Report



**Pin Map of 2023
Collisions in the City of LFP**

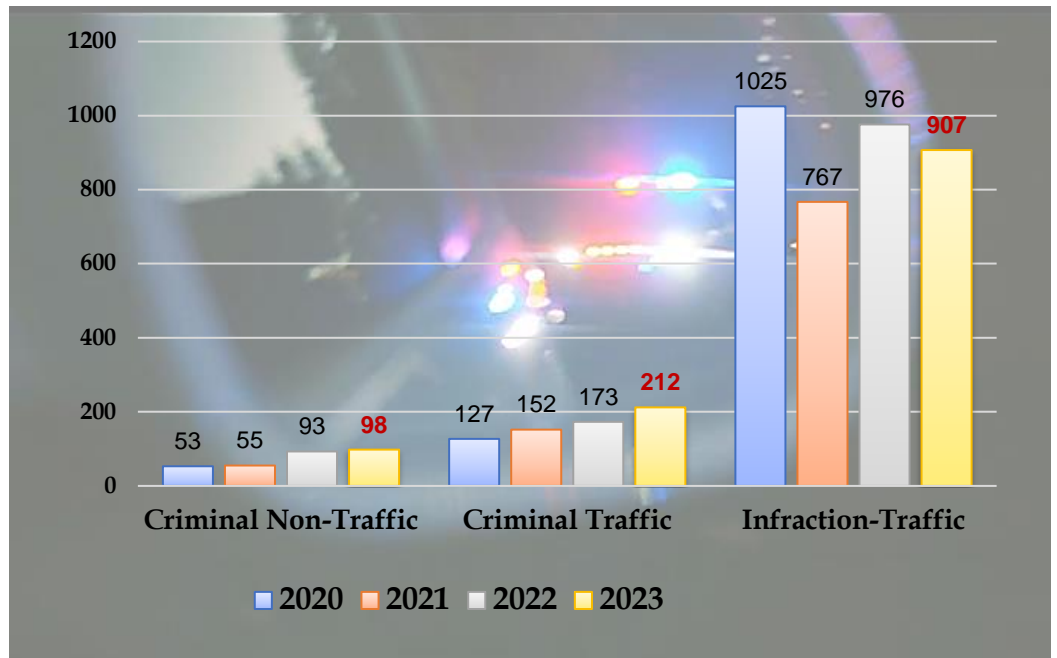


Tickets Issued

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

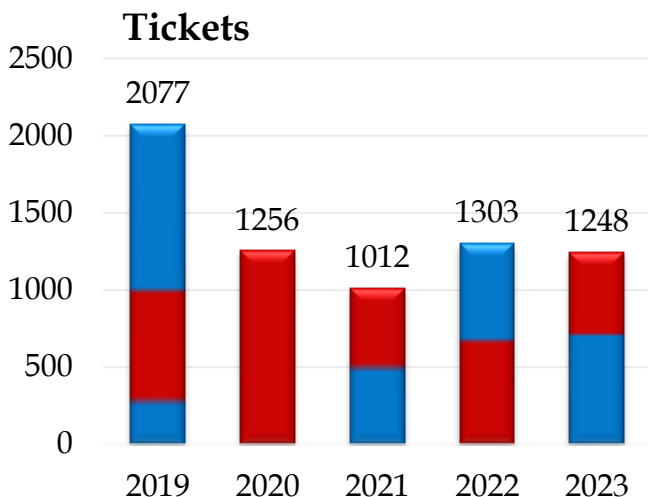
For 2022, the traffic officer continued to be assigned to a patrol crew from January to May. From May to December, the traffic officer was scheduled strictly on the traffic unit and supplemented patrol when necessary.

As you can see in the graph below, in May of 2023, the traffic officer moved back to a squad for coverage and was unable to do traffic unit duties.



| Type of Tickets* | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Correction Notice | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Criminal Non-Traffic | 55 | 93 | 98 |
| Criminal Traffic | 152 | 173 | 212 |
| Infraction-Non-Traffic | 8 | 8 | 11 |
| Infraction-Traffic | 767 | 976 | 907 |
| Parking | 29 | 52 | 19 |
| Drug Warnings | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 1012 | 1303 | 1248 |

*An issued ticket may have several different violations.



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 170th Street, and SR522 at NE 165th Street. Additionally, the City operates four school zone camera locations, which include LFP Elementary School (35th Ave NE), (40th PL NE), and Brookside Elementary School (NE 178th St), (37th 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**



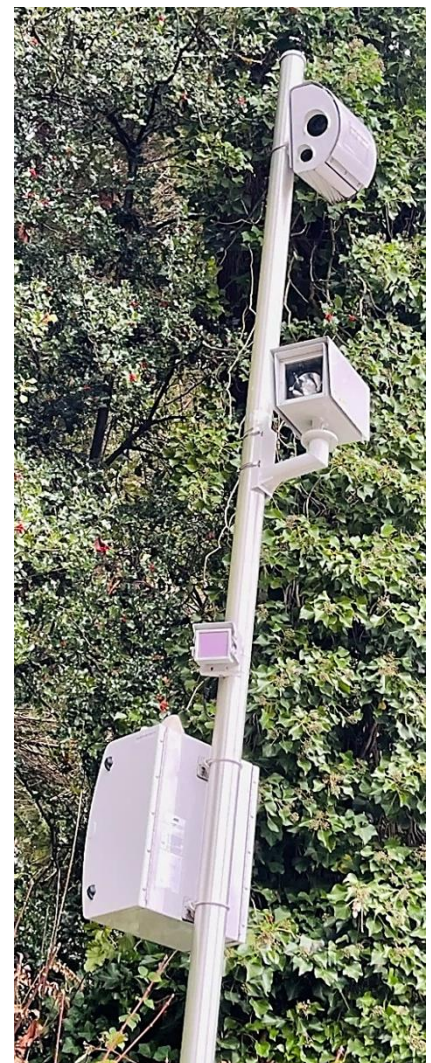
| SR522 / SR104 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | VS. LAST YEAR |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| COLLISIONS | 17 | 9 | 19 | 10 | 6 | ↓ |
| CITATIONS | 3,521 | 2,453 | 3,053 | 3,274 | 3,246 | ↓ |
| SR522 / NE 165TH ST | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | VS. LAST YEAR |
| COLLISIONS | 10 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 | ↑ |
| CITATIONS | 2,129 | 1,738 | 2,507 | 3,018 | 3,282 | ↑ |
| SR522 / NE 170TH ST | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | VS. LAST YEAR |
| COLLISIONS | 15 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 16 | ↑ |
| CITATIONS | 1,763 | 1,668 | 1,988 | 2,423 | 2,168 | ↑ |

Traffic Safety Photo Enforcement (con't)



Slow down for **PEDESTRIANS**

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 and 2023, traffic citations returned to a normal forecasted level.**



| LFP | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| ELEMENTARY | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| COLLISIONS | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| CITATIONS | 4,220 | 1,213 | 9,621 | 5,442 | 6,076 |
| BROOKSIDE | | | | | |
| ELEMENTARY | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
| COLLISIONS | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| CITATIONS | 3,633 | 1,590 | 13,394 | 7,543 | 8,663 |

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 2023, Officer Walker issued 233 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.



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.

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.

Officer George Coleman is attached as LFPPD's SWAT Operator on the team.



SWAT Officer G. Coleman



Officer Jason Czebotar

The SWAT team also incorporates highly trained officers as Crisis Negotiators. These officers use special training and verbal tactics to "talk" violent persons experiencing behavioral health crises into surrendering to law enforcement.

In 2023, LFPPD Officer Jason Czebotar was selected to be a member of the Hostage Negotiations Team.

Regional Crisis Response (RCR)

Established in 2023, by an inter-local agreement between the North King County cities of Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell and Kirkland, the Regional Crisis Response (RCR) Agency provides behavioral health first response services via the public safety system. RCR Crisis Responders deploy to people in crisis in our community who call 911, to improve outcomes and reduce reliance on the crisis system by connecting people to the community of care.

During 2023, Mental Health Professional Navigators met with 39 individuals in Lake Forest Park, (some multiple times), during a total of 221 encounters. Encounters could range from a multi-hour crisis de-escalation to a short follow-up check in to ensure that someone has been effectively connected to care.



39
People served in
Lake Forest Park



221 encounters ranging
from multi-hour crisis to
short follow-up check in



26% were seniors/older
adults



RCR Crisis Responders responded to a wide variety of calls with Lake Forest Park officers during 2023, with increased coverage from previous years as the new team grew. 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 formally became the Regional Crisis Response (RCR) Agency, with funding from the City of Lake Forest Park and the other partner cities offering robust coverage seven days a week.



Regional Crisis Response (con't)

In 2023, the cities of Bothell, Kenmore, Kirkland, Lake Forest Park and Shoreline signed an Interlocal Agreement to create the Regional Crisis Response (RCR) Agency, consolidating and expanding the scope of the successful RADAR Navigator and Kirkland Community Responder Programs.

RCR Crisis Responders deploy to people in behavioral health crisis via the public safety 911 system, alongside police officers and firefighters, to provide de-escalation, assessment and referral to follow up services.



Regional Crisis Response Agency 2023 Annual Report



883
Individuals in
Crisis Served



2,696
Service
Encounters



10
Full-Time Crisis Responders
Working Across Five Cities

Demographic Data for Individuals Served by RCR

32% Homeless or Unhoused

RCR has seen growing numbers of individuals living unhoused over previous years of data from predecessor programs.



8% Military

Military status is self-identified and includes both active duty servicemembers and veterans.



30% BIPOC, 70% White

The breakdown of individuals served closely matches the demographic profile of the North King County Community.



3% Primary Language other than English

Members of our team speak multiple languages, and utilize the Language Line to serve people in crisis who do not speak English.



47% have a Behavioral Health Condition

Although the percentage is likely higher, 47% of people served self-identified as having a mental health challenge, a substance use issue, or both.



RCR Agency Executive Director Brook Buettner



Regional Crisis Response (con't)

RCR Stories

Commonly in Lake Forest Park Police will become aware of an older adult who is no longer able to care for themselves in their home or in the community. Police officers know to bring RCR Crisis Responders in to support in these situations, and Crisis Responders work directly with the individual, or with family members to ascertain or obtain healthcare benefits, find appropriate covered care, and connect the individual to a long-term care team or supported living setting.

Crisis Responders worked for weeks with Lake Forest Park Police Officers to build rapport with an older woman who was living homeless and spending time at the Lake Forest Park Town Center. The team was able to establish a relationship with the woman, reach out to family in another state, and facilitate the daughter coming to pick up her elderly mother and take her home for care. As one Crisis Responder put it, "One fewer community member sleeping outside this winter!" Her daughter later reported that she had settled in, was not trying to leave, and was helping take care of a new puppy the family had gotten.

In another case, Crisis Responders worked extensively with the family of a young person who had become assaultive and was facing charges. Crisis Responders provided education to the family, referrals to mental health services, and support to work with a DV Advocate around the charges the young person was facing. The Crisis Responders often fill this role of a link between various systems for people experiencing confusing and overwhelming situations.

In another example, RCR Crisis Responders worked across city lines with an individual who resides in Shoreline but is frequently found intoxicated at the Lake Forest Park Town Center. RCR team members coordinated with the Shoreline Fire Mobile Integrated Health team as well as both police departments and treatment providers in the community, to provide resources for this individual and his spouse.

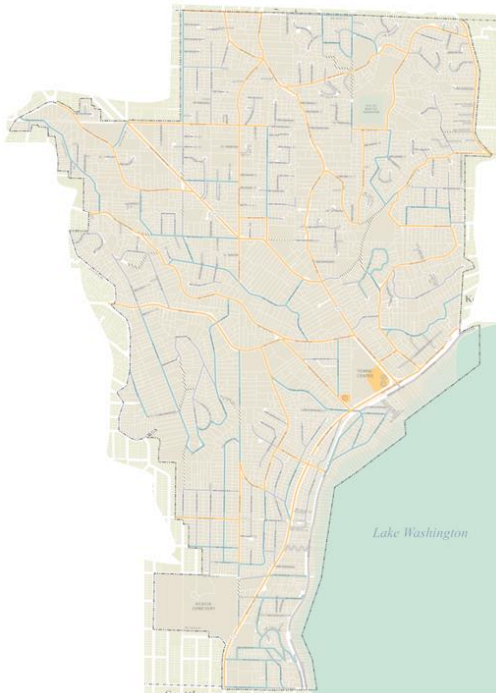


Support Services



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, warrants, and other sensitive paperwork. Additionally, they provide timely, reliable, and accurate information in response to inquiries from the public and outside agencies. 2023 presented two major challenges for the Unit: the transition from Bothell Dispatch to the Northeast King County Regional Public Safety Communication Agency NORCOM and the WSP ACCESS Audit. Both challenges were successfully completed demonstrating, once again, the high level of professionalism and competence of our dedicated Records Specialists.

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 generally consists of two full-time detectives. These highly trained officers conduct secondary investigations for felony crimes and juvenile cases. Additionally, they investigate Child Protective & Adult Protective Services referrals, and coordinate and monitor the registered sex offender's notification program. Unfortunately, in 2022, one of the detectives left the department, so the remaining investigator worked "solo" for the entire year. Currently, we expect that the second detective position will be filled on March 2024.

Lt. Diego Zanella
Support Services Division Commander

Records Unit

Records Specialists are primarily responsible for managing daily records tasks, including reviewing cases and forwarding them as necessary, tracking and reviewing traffic accident reports, and processing and auditing various types of tickets. Additionally, the Records department manages the majority of public records requests received by the police department and oversees the purging and archiving of older cases. The unit also attends regional records group meetings, with one specialist dedicated to handling all TAC responsibilities, such as audits and ensuring the yearly training for police staff is up to date, as well as conducting monthly validations. Furthermore, Records manages specific types of fingerprinting and licensing duties.



In 2023, records took in over 111 pounds of medication shipped for destruction.

The Drug Take Back Program aims to provide a safe means of disposal for prescription medications as well as educate the community about the potential for abuse of medications. The Lake Forest Park Police Department is proud to support this program and has its own disposal center located at their office. Police officers do not have access to the drug box and citizens will need to speak to records personnel if they have questions about the program.



The Records Unit manages Concealed Pistol Licenses (CPLs) and firearm transfers. In April 2023, the unit had to adapt to new regulations following the ban on assault firearms sales, requiring them to learn which firearms to deny and implement a new method for checking mental health histories for all transfers and CPLs.

Excitingly, in February 2024, the Records Unit welcomed the introduction of the Secure Automated Firearms (SAFE) system, which will streamline processes. All firearm transfers will now be handled by the Washington State Patrol, bringing efficiency to the procedure.

In 2023, there were 219 firearm transfers and 126 new or renewed concealed pistol licenses processed.

Additionally, the Records Unit dedicated approximately **90 hours to completing 376 public records requests** and background checks for employment. They also oversee licenses issued for Déjà vu, with **106 licensees issued in 2023** between renewals and new applications.

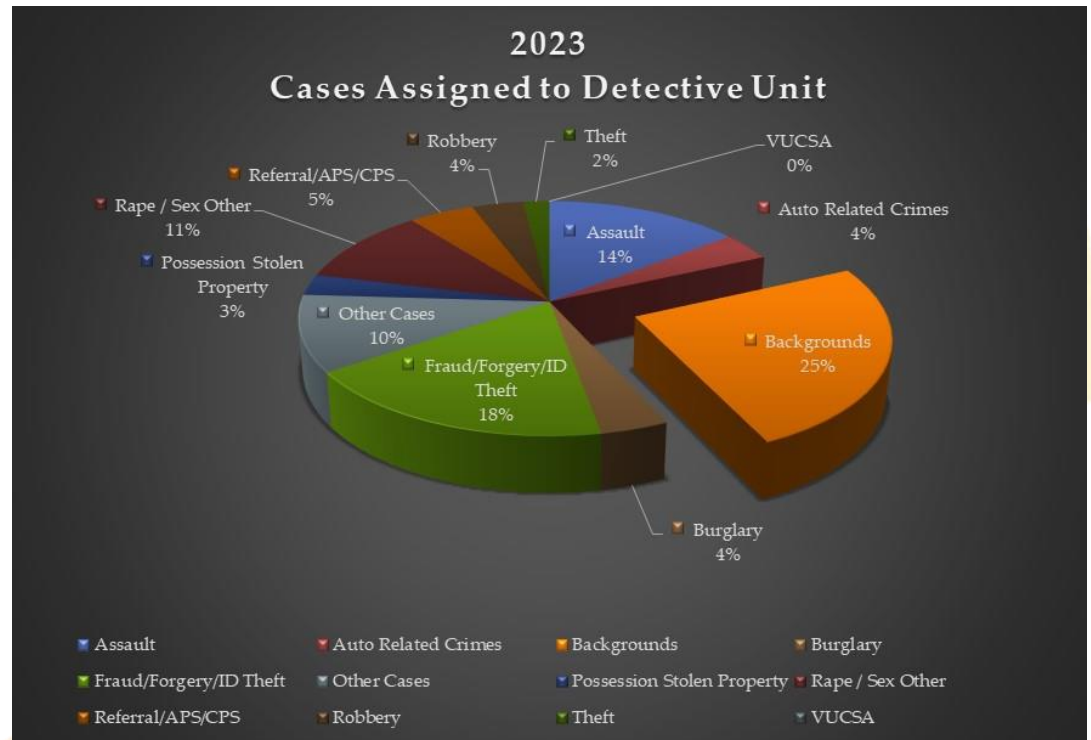
In 2023, significant milestones were achieved by the Records Unit. Early in the year, they successfully passed the Washington State Patrol ACCESS Audit. Towards the end of 2023, a major project commenced with the NORCOM Transition from Bothell Police Dispatch, marking another notable accomplishment.

Assigned Investigations



Pictured:
Detective Teschlog

Because of staffing shortages in 2023, our investigation unit operated with only one detective, whereas the standard requirement calls for a minimum of two full-time detectives.



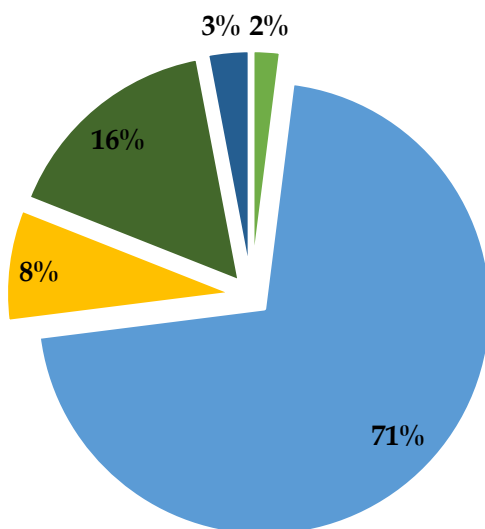
| Assigned Investigations | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | vs. Last Year |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|---------------------|
| Assault | 6 | 8 | 5 | 16 | 15 | ↓ |
| Auto Related Crimes | 4 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 4 | ↓ |
| Backgrounds | 7 | 2 | 8 | 10 | 26 | ↑ |
| Burglary | 16 | 19 | 8 | 11 | 4 | ↓ |
| Fraud/Forgery/ID Theft | 12 | 13 | 5 | 9 | 19 | ↑ |
| Other Cases | 24 | 25 | 10 | 7 | 11 | ↑ |
| PSP | 8 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | ↓ |
| Rape / Sex Other | 3 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 11 | ↑ |
| Referral/APS/CPS | 32 | 15 | 19 | 14 | 5 | ↓ |
| Robbery | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | ↑ |
| Theft | 17 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 2 | ↓ |
| VUCSA (Drugs) | 20 | 16 | 5 | 2 | 0 | ↓ |
| Total | 149 | 124 | 88 | 104 | 104 | - |

Completed Investigations

| Completed Investigations | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | vs. Last Year |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| Assault | 6 | 5 | 4 | 13 | 14 | ↑ |
| Auto Related Crimes | 3 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 5 | ↓ |
| Backgrounds | 7 | 2 | 6 | 10 | 25 | ↑ |
| Burglary | 14 | 18 | 12 | 10 | 3 | ↓ |
| Fraud/Forgery/ID Theft | 16 | 15 | 4 | 12 | 12 | -- |
| Other Cases | 23 | 23 | 10 | 10 | 8 | ↓ |
| PSP | 2 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 3 | -- |
| Rape / Sex Other | 5 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 4 | ↓ |
| Referral/APS/CPS | 31 | 20 | 18 | 16 | 7 | ↓ |
| Robbery | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | ↓ |
| Theft | 21 | 10 | 7 | 10 | 0 | ↓ |
| VUCSA (Drugs) | 23 | 16 | 9 | 2 | 1 | ↓ |
| Total | 154 | 125 | 82 | 110 | 84 | ↓ |



2023 - Completed Investigations



- Inactive
- Arrest / Filed
- Unfounded
- Insufficient Evidence

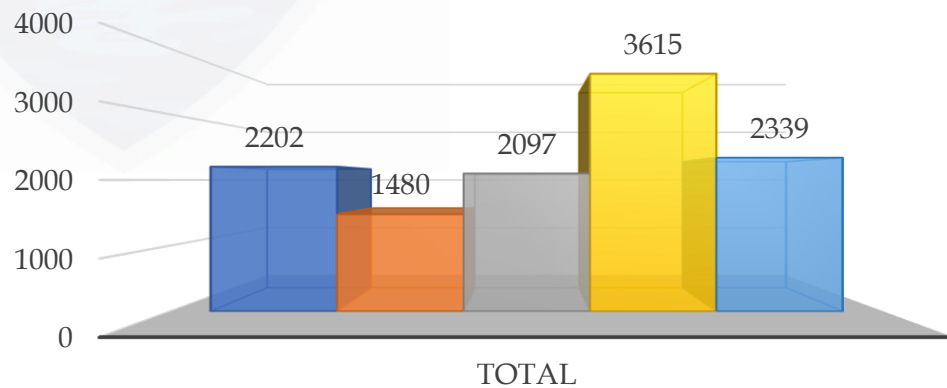
| Juvenile Involved | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cases | 12 | 14 | 10 | 14 | 15 |

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.



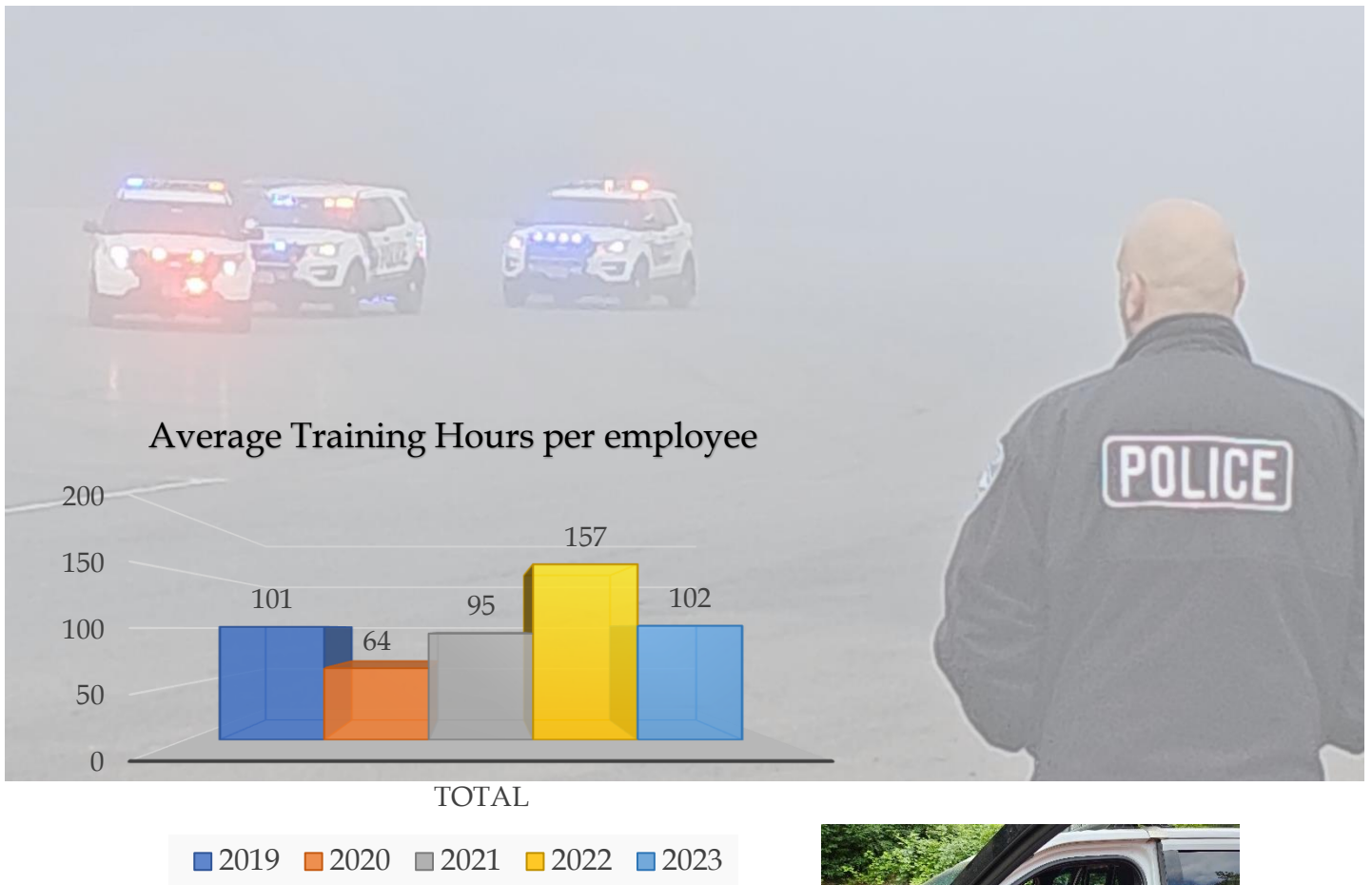
Training Hours



■ 2019 ■ 2020 ■ 2021 ■ 2022 ■ 2023



Training (con't)



NORCOM



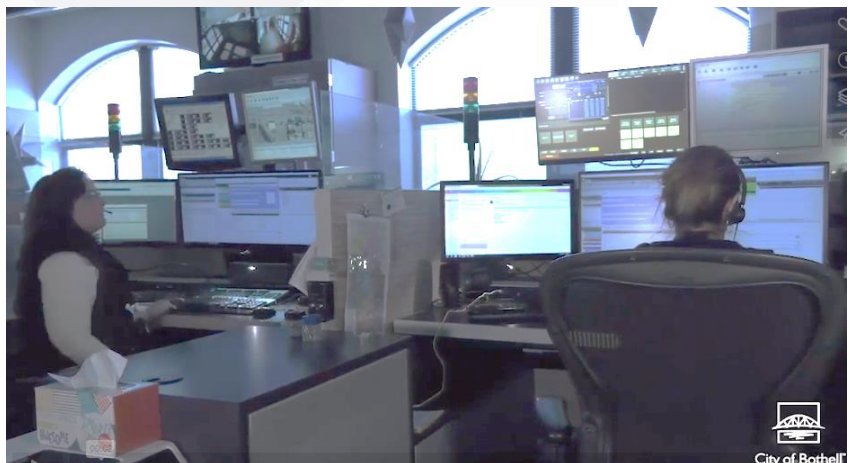
On June 20th, 2023, the City of Bothell made the decision to discontinue its dispatch services to Lake Forest Park, effective October 31st, 2023. Subsequently, Bothell entered into an agreement with NORCOM. Following this, on August 11th, 2023, the NORCOM Governing Board voted to approve the City of Lake Forest Park and its Police Department to become part of NORCOM.

On November 1st, 2023, the Lake Forest Park Police Department officially began operations with NORCOM. We are grateful to have retained the same communication airwaves as Bothell Police, fostering a seamless partnership in supporting and backing up each other's officers.

NORCOM serves as a regional dispatch center, managing over 350,000 calls for 8 police agencies and 13 Fire/EMS agencies, including our own Shoreline (Northshore) Fire/EMS. With over 60 telecommunicators, NORCOM operates around the clock and is overseen by a Governing Board, of which Lake Forest Park Police is a principal member.

The transition process, completed within a four-month period, involved significant milestones and collaboration. Key stakeholders, including IT teams from Lake Forest Park and Bothell, played crucial roles. Despite the challenges of adapting to new systems and protocols, our police staff performed admirably, and the transition proceeded smoothly with minimal disruptions.

While we bid farewell to our Bothell Dispatchers and close that chapter, we look forward to forging new relationships with our NORCOM dispatch services.



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 147 accreditation standards covering major law enforcement areas including:

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 Maurice "Red" Parrish and I have been a police officer for over twenty-eight years. I have been a member of the Lake Forest Park Police Department for twenty-five years after lateraling from another King County police agency. I currently serve as a patrol and training sergeant, and I am one of the Public Information Officers (PIO) for the department. I am a Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) officer and, throughout my career, I served as a Field Training Officer (FTO), firearms instructor and department armorer, OC instructor, and Less Lethal Shotgun instructor. I have been happily married for over thirty years and I have two adult

children. I am a proud veteran with the US Air Force and the Washington Air National Guard. When I am off duty, I enjoy working on my older home and refurbishing vintage axes and crosscut saws.

My name is Jason Czebotar and I have been a police officer for nineteen years – the last five with the City of Lake Forest Park as patrol officer. I am currently assigned to the Investigation Unit as a detective. I am a Hostage Negotiator with the North Sound Metro SWAT, and a detective on both the Major Crime Task Force and the Independent Force Investigation Team-King County. Additionally, I am a defensive tactics instructor, Taser instructor, and patrol tactics instructor. I started my law enforcement career with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Police. I was with WDFW for approximately twelve



years, and that is where I really learned how to investigate crimes. I have been also a TAC officer at the Police Academy, training new police officers statewide. Lake Forest Park has been a good fit for me, and my favorite part of the job is helping its citizens and make a difference in somebody's life. In my off time, I enjoy getting out into the Pacific Northwest woods to climb, hike, snowshoe, and trail run.

New Hires



Officer Samantha Gouin

In May 2023, Officer Samantha Gouin became a member of our department. She is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, where she held numerous key roles, and she also held supervisory positions within the private security sector. Samantha completed an Associates Degree at North Seattle College and received a certification at the National Personal Training Institute. Samantha is happily married and loves physical activities like lifting weights, hiking, running, biking, and paddle boarding.

Officer Frankie Montague

In September 2023, Officer Montague became a member of our department. He brings a wealth of experience having previously served as patrol officer with both Kirkland and Brier Police Departments. Frankie loves working out, listening to country music, and spending quality time with friends and family.



Officer Hubermann Alcean



In September 2023, Officer Alcean became a member of our department. Before embarking on his career in law enforcement, Hubermann worked as an Emergency Room Technician for several years. Currently, Hubermann serves in the Washington State Army National Guard as a Military Police officer. Hubermann is a devoted family man, happily married and proud father of five children.

New Hires (con't)

Domestic Violence Advocate Nancy Shattuck



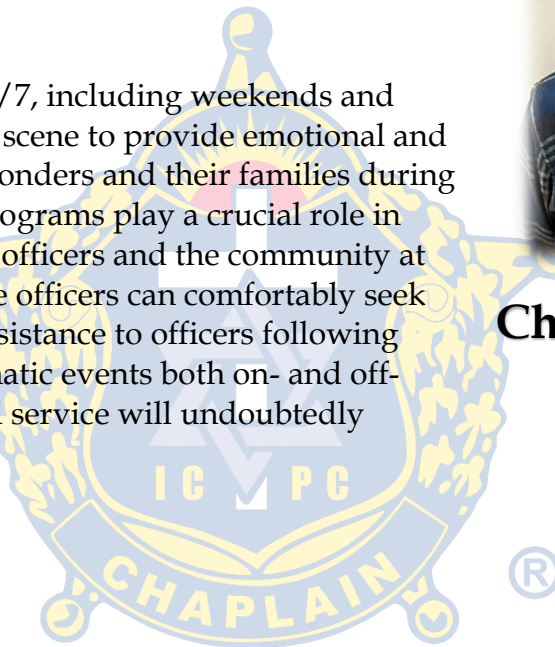
In January 2023, DV Advocate Nancy Shattuck became a member of our department. Nancy's job is to assist victims of crime through the legal process, offer them safety plans, and provide them with education and resource referrals. Nancy, who is bilingual and completed a Bachelor's degree at WSU, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience having previously worked with several police departments in our region. Nancy's former coworkers described her as a well-organized, professional, knowledgeable DV advocate who provides excellent customer service to the DV victims, and keeps an excellent relationship with all the stakeholders (prosecutors, judges, police officers, etc.).

Chaplain Eric Trout joined us in February 2023. Prior to this, he served as a Chaplain for King County Sheriff's Office, where he served as a support system for law enforcement officers and citizens in times of crisis. When he is not busy helping others, Eric enjoys outdoor activities and spending time with family and friends.

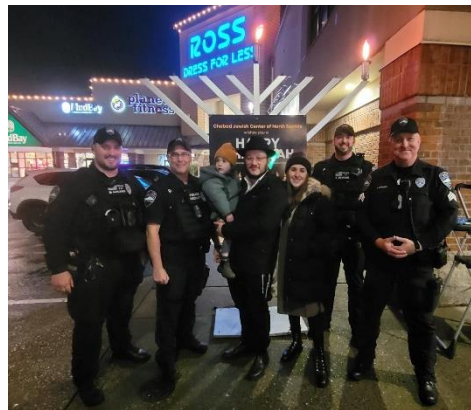
Police Chaplains are available 24/7, including weekends and holidays, and are brought on the scene to provide emotional and spiritual support to our first responders and their families during challenging times. Chaplaincy programs play a crucial role in supporting the well-being of our officers and the 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 Trout's continued service will undoubtedly benefit our staff and community.



Chaplain Eric Trout



Community



Community (con't)



**POLAR
PLUNGE**

Special
Olympics
Pennsylvania
TORCH RUN
Supporting the
Paralympic Team



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 June 2023, 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

9th Annual Holiday Hero's Shop with a Cop 2023 Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Lake Forest Park



Shop with a Cop 2023



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

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://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

Crime Watch is a program staffed by volunteers who check homes of residents who are out of town. Lake Forest Park Police Department sponsors this free service. Each volunteer is assigned a partner, both of whom will go out together in a city vehicle to check the houses of those residents who have submitted the Vacation House Check Form. Being a Crime Watch volunteer not only benefits our community, but also the individuals who volunteer. It is a way to become more acquainted with your neighbors, as well as an opportunity to learn how to navigate the complicated road system in Lake Forest Park.