



Lytle Police Dept.

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Office (830) 709-0277 / 24 Hour Dispatch (830) 769-3434
Richey Priest, Chief of Police



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Quarterly Newsletter

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It's That Time Again -

New Laws Courtesy of our Friends in Austin

If you haven't heard about it Texas now has a statewide law against "texting & driving", it also includes sending or reading emails. Some cities had a law already prohibiting it along with the use of a handheld cell phone. So texting and driving is illegal now statewide, talking on your handheld cell phone is still okay unless you are in a city with an ordinance (Lytle doesn't have one) or in a school zone. If you drive much you can see it all the time, hopefully this can reduce collisions and save lives. This is the law that will impact most people. An interesting new law allows the carrying of knives and swords that prior to Sept. 1 was illegal. So you can now carry a sword or bowie knife in public places. Seems to me that carrying a sword around would be awkward. You can also hunt feral hogs from a hot air balloon, I don't know anybody that even has a hot air balloon. "David's Law" was passed and it addresses the cyberbullying of minors. With the increase in social media activity among our youth this was an important issue and I am glad the legislature took action. So that is just a quick look at a few new laws, this is not a complete review nor is it any type of legal advice. – Chief R. Priest

PROHIBITED

**TEXTING OR
ELECTRONIC
MESSAGING
WHILE
DRIVING**

UP TO \$200 FINE

**SIGN UP FOR
EMERGENCY
ALERTS ON
OUR WEBSITE**
www.lytle.tx.org
**Follow the Chief
on Twitter!**
@lytlepdchief

Did You Know?

**Solicitors (door to door sales) are required to
have permits issued by the city**



Thanks HEB Plus for serving lunch to area First Responders on Sept. 11 – Fajitas are always a hit!



24 Hour Dispatch

830-769-3434

Use this number to have an officer dispatched or to report a crime. We are dispatched by the Atascosa Co. Sheriff's Office in Jourdanton, TX. They have direct radio contact with on duty officers.

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT ON TUES OCT. 3RD

The community wide event will be held at the Gidley House Town Square, the City of Lytle in conjunction with the Lytle Vol. Fire Dept. will be sponsoring the event. It will run from 6 PM – 8 PM. We will be providing pizza, drinks and snacks so stop by for dinner on us. You can check out the PD and FD equipment and learn more about us. This will be a fun evening for people of all ages.

Message from Richard "Richey" Priest – Chief of Police

Sorry to bore everyone with a whole page of numbers! I really feel it is important to spotlight our staff and be transparent. It's my goal to provide well trained professional police officers to serve our community, we can have a nice facility and well equipped cars but that won't get the job done. It takes humans (and remember humans make mistakes!). As you can see from the table below our training far exceeds the state minimum of 40 hours every two years. We currently have 11 commissioned officers in our department, 8 are full-time and 3 are non-paid reserve officers. Sgt. Hanson, Ofc. Luis Diaz and I started at the PD as reserve officers then became full-time. Ofc. Joe Torres started as a reserve, jumped to full-time and then went back to reserve status. At times our reserves may serve as temporary part-time paid officers when we are short-handed. Currently 7 of our 11 officers are Master Peace Officers, the highest level of certification issued by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (www.tcole.texas.gov). You can see that our current staff has a combined total of 135 years of service to the Lytle PD. Not too bad for a small town agency. Besides our sworn staff we have dedicated civilian auxiliary volunteers and serving as our administrative assistant is Paola Rios (She keeps the office running). I am really blessed to work with such a great group of people that includes the other city employees, our elected officials and the community as a whole. I am proud that our police force is part of this community, did you know that 6 of our 11 officers live in the city limits? Two more live only minutes out of town. Please feel free to stop by the office, email me, or give me a call if you have any police issue you wish to discuss. I might not be able to solve all your problems or lend you money but at least I can listen— *Richey*

The Sworn Staff of the Lytle Police Dept.

A Look at the Service Records and Training of the Officers that Serve You

Name & Rank	Pay Status	Level of P.O. License	College Degree	Total Time With Lytle PD	Total Time as TX Peace Officer
Chief Richey Priest (18 yrs. as Chief)	F/T	Master	-----	20 yrs. 8 mo.	26 yrs. 6 mo.
Captain Frank Reyes	F/T	Master	-----	19 yrs. 3 mo.	20 yrs.
Cpl. Danny Robison	RES	Advanced	-----	17 yrs. 5 mo.	17 yrs. 5 mo.
Sgt. Mark Montgomery	RES	Master	Bachelor's	16 yrs. 5 mo.	16 yrs. 5 mo.
Lt. Matthew Dear	F/T	Master	-----	14 yrs. 11 mo.	16 yrs. 3 mo.
Ofc. Joe Torres	RES	Master	-----	13 yrs. 6 mo.	16 yrs. 10 mo.
Sgt. Gordon Hanson	F/T	Master	Bachelor's	13 yrs. 5 mo.	14 yrs. 5 mo.
Ofc. J.W. Petrash	F/T	Master	Bachelor's	7 yrs. 8 mo.	37 yrs. 2 mo.
Ofc. Jose Guzman	F/T	Intermediate	-----	6 yrs. 8 mo.	6 yrs. 8 mo.
Ofc. David Lopez	F/T	Basic	-----	4 yrs. 8 mo.	4 yrs. 8 mo.
Ofc. Luis Guzman	F/T	Basic	-----	9 months	9 months

Law Enforcement Continuing Education Hours Completed by LPD Officers For the 2 Year Cycle Ending 8/31/2017- Minimum Hours Required by State is 40

✓ Chief Priest	191 Hours	✓ Captain Reyes	128 Hours
✓ Cpl. Danny Robison	73 Hours	✓ Sgt. M. Montgomery	157 Hours
✓ Lt. Matthew Dear	141 Hours	✓ Ofc. Joe Torres	72 Hours
✓ Sgt. Gordon Hanson	130 Hours	✓ Ofc. J.W. Petrash	128 Hours
✓ Ofc. Jose Guzman	144 Hours	✓ Ofc. David Lopez	315 Hours
✓ Ofc. Luis Diaz – 1,025 Hours (includes his basic peace officer academy)			