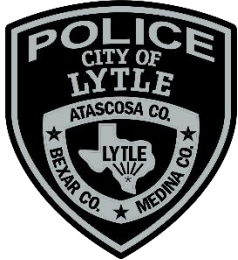


Lytle Police Dept.

Quarterly Newsletter – Vol. 11, Issue 2, April 1, 2023

lytlepolice@lytle.tx.org / www.lytle.tx.org/police

Richard "Richey" Priest - Chief of Police & Fire Marshal



Contact Us:

15245 Hester St. (Physical) / P.O. Box 750 (Mailing), Lytle, TX 78052

Office (830) 709-0277

24 Hour Dispatch (830) 769-3434 Option #1

If you need a Police Officer it is always best to call the 24 Hour Dispatch #, you will reach the Atascosa Co. Sheriff's Dispatch. They have direct radio contact with our on-duty officers.

NEW OFFICERS ON THE WAY: If all goes well, we will have two new officers soon. We closed applications on March 21 and hope to have the positions filled in May. These are the two positions that were vacated when Capt. Reyes retired and Lt. Dear transferred to city hall. We look forward to being fully staffed!

At approx. 3:30 AM on Thursday March 3, Officers responded to a fire at Willy's Auto in the 15000 Blk. of Main St. The building was fully engulfed and the fire was being fed by heavy winds. On March 8 at approx. 6:15 PM officers responded to the 15300 of Main St. for a fire at Lynda's Island Apartments. One apt. was fully engulfed. Thanks to a quick response by Lytle Fire, and mutual aid from Natalia Fire, Bexar Co. ESD #5, and Devine Fire these fires were stopped and didn't spread to nearby structures. Both fires were investigated by our department, Bexar Co. Fire Marshal assisted with the fire at Willy's. The cause of the fires was not suspicious in nature.



**Two Fires on
Main St. in a
Seven Day Period
Kept our First
Responders Busy**



Message from the Chief - I could write a small book on everything going on in Lytle. We have TXDOT working on widening the access roads or service roads depending on what you call them. TXDOT has already started on the new turn lane in front of city hall, those coming from the south will soon be able to make their way up to the H.E.B. area a lot easier. From the police standpoint, we sure will be happy when these projects are over. On the business side, it looks like the big Stripes C-Store is set to open in late April and site work has already started on the truck stop at FM 3175 @ IH-35. I know everyone is looking forward to the International House of Pancakes that will be located there, who doesn't love pancakes. We don't have any major crime trends to report, most concerns or complaints I receive involve the increase in vehicular traffic. I appreciate all those who take the time to contact us and let us know what is going on, you know more about the street you live on than we do. Please don't hesitate to contact us when you see something that needs attention, it may be all over social media.... but no one ever let us know. Two recent fires on Main St. have showcased how our community and area public safety agencies come together when the need arises. The next newsletter will include crime stats from 2022. I can be reached by email at richard.priest@lytle.tx.org and our office phone is 830-709-0277, I'm in and out of the office but if you leave a message I will get back to you. You can also stop by our office and maybe catch me there. Ring the bell and if someone is in the office we will come to the door, if it looks like you are bringing food, we will normally step it up a bit. - Richey

Recent Training Completed by Our Officers



Officers S. Pena & A. Lopez attend Police Instructors School

During the week of February 27 – March 3, 2023. Ofc. Sergio Pena and Ofc. Anthony Lopez attended a 40-hour Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Instructor school. This is a required class before we can send officers to be certified to teach in specialized areas such as; TASER, Baton and Firearms. The retirement of Capt. Frank Reyes and the transfer of Lt. Dear to city hall has left us without two full-time instructors. With the addition of these two officers, we will be able to remain on track with our training needs.

Chief of Police Attends Mandatory Training



During the week of Jan. 23 -27, 2023, Chief Richard Priest attended a 40-hour training course in Huntsville. The legislatively mandated course is required once in each two-year training cycle. There were 56 chiefs in attendance for this session. The size of departments varied greatly, with chiefs from Laredo, Dallas, and Fort Worth alongside chiefs from departments as small as two officers. Many topics were covered, with a heavy emphasis on officer health and wellness as well as an active shooter update.

The city tests the Tornado Warning Sirens on the First Wednesday of Every Month @ Noon

Upcoming Test Are Schedule for

April 5, 2023

May 3, 2023

June 7, 2023

Have you signed up for our new mass notification system?

Our CivicReady / AlertSense system is now up and running:

Even if you are receiving emails and you have already provided us information, please go to our website, and sign up for our new alert system. This is the only way we can be sure you are in the system.

Visit the following link!

<https://public.alertsense.com/signup/?regionID=1618>

Additional Options and Information for Staying Informed on Social Media

While the City of Lytle does not have an official Facebook page, Mayor Ruben Gonzalez has a Facebook page facebook.com/mayorgonzltx and does a good job of keeping residents updated on informational issues and emergency situations.

Chief Richey Priest maintains a Twitter page [@lytlepdchief](https://twitter.com/lytlepdchief) and post informative information on both routine and emergency situations.

We ask that you keep in mind that activity on social media can move very quickly, and often inquiries about incidents occur before the police department has even been dispatched or made aware of a situation. We are a small municipality and all of us, including the mayor, may be directly involved in an emergency and at times will be limited to what information we can safely release.

If you google Lytle Police Dept. our office number (830-709-0277) is usually the first number to appear. THIS NUMBER SHOULD NOT BE USED IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF A POLICE OFFICER TO RESPOND. Please call our 24-hour dispatch 830-769-3434 Option #1 It will be answered by the Atascosa Co. Sheriff's Office.