

LYTLE CITY POLICE



Quarterly Newsletter – Vol. 12, Issue 4, Oct. 1, 2024

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

Richard “Richey” Priest - Chief of Police & Fire Marshal



Message from the Chief of Police –

October 1st brings in the new “budget” year. The city’s new budget allows us to continue to meet the needs of the community and offers considerable advancements. We are fortunate that our city supports us and that we are in a position financially where these improvements are possible. The approved budget allows for an additional full-time Peace Officer position. This will put our authorized strength at 11, which includes the Chief. When I took over as the Chief in Oct. of 1999 there was a total of 6 positions. While this position will be a great addition, it is just a start as these subdivisions are exploding and the population will increase in the next 3-5 years. The approved budget also allows for us to start a drone program and add electric bicycles. Both items will allow us to better patrol and respond to emergencies.

Oct. 18th will mark my “official” 25-year mark as serving as your Chief of Police! Twenty-five years as a small-town Chief of Police has been a real adventure. Hopefully, I have a few good years left. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the services or the Lytle Police Department, I encourage you reach out to us.

Please report suspicious activity and look out for your neighbors.

– Richey richard.priest@lytle.tx.org

8 Officers Attended the 16 Hour Newly Mandated Active Shooter Training (ALERT)

In response to the tragedy in Uvalde, the State of Texas passed Senate Bill 1852, which went into effect Sept. 1, 2023. The law mandates that each Peace Officer attend a minimum of 16 hours of ALERT active shooter training (<https://alertrt.org>). In July, eight of our officers were able to rotate into classes that were held in Medina Co. Chief Priest, Capt. Dear, Sgt. D. Lopez, Ofc. A. Lopez, Cpl. D. Robison, Ofc. J. Cortez, Ofc. L. Diaz, and Ofc. R. Garcia have all completed required training. Additional officers will be scheduled to attend soon.

It is a very hands-on class, with very little lecture. They kept us on the go and when the class ended you were ready for a rest.

Contact Us:

15245 Hester St. (Physical)
P.O. Box 750 (Mailing),
Lytle, TX 78052
Office (830) 709-0277
**24 Hour Dispatch
Non Emergency #
(830) 769-3434**

Option #1

If you need a Police Officer, call the 24-hour Dispatch number. You will reach the Atascosa Co. Sheriff’s Dispatch, which has direct radio contact with our on-duty officers.



Special Events – Call Us!

We always look forward to connecting with the community. Please let us know if you have a special event and would like us to attend. Schools, Church events, clubs, etc. We will even bring some free goodies!

October is Fire Prevention Month

Fire Prevention Month is a great time to spotlight the need for fire extinguishers at your home. Recently, our Officers and Deputy Fire Marshals responded to a residential fire in our city. An alert homeowner was prepared and quickly accessed his fire extinguisher and was able to stop a fire that could conceivably been very destructive. Do you have fire extinguishers located around your home? We often focus on smoke detectors, don’t forget about the extinguishers!



UPDATE ON L.P.D. ACTIVITY & OTHER NEWS



Mayor Ruben Gonzalez, Ofc. Frank Reyes and Chief Richey Priest at Frank's Swearing in on August 8, 2024.

Lytle P.D. Adds One New Officer and a Seasoned Officer Rejoins our Force

On July 15th, Mayor Pro-Tem David Emery swore in Ofc. Samantha Mendez. She joins our force as a Reserve. She recently graduated from the San Antonio College Law Enforcement Academy. Hopefully, she will transfer to a full-time position soon. Ofc. Frank Reyes rejoined after retiring from our agency in Dec. of 2022. He had been working at the Atascosa Sheriff's Office as a Courthouse Bailiff. He is glad to be back protecting & serving our community.



Mayor Pro-Tem David Emery swears in Ofc. Samantha Mendez. (July 15th, 2024)

Ofc. Anthony R. Lopez Receives his Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate



On August 8, 2024, Ofc. Anthony R. Lopez was awarded his Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate. He was able to reach this goal in only 4 years because of a joint effort of our agency's goal for a high level of training and his personal commitment to this goal. We are fortunate to have officers like Anthony Lopez who are part of our team of dedicated professionals. We congratulate him for this milestone in his career.



Ofc. Anthony Lopez

Have you signed up for the mass notification system?

Civic Ready / Alert Sense System

Even if you are receiving emails and 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 assure you are in the system. Visit the following link: <https://public.alertsense.com/signup/?regionID=1618>



Two Officers Attended a 40 Hour Command Staff Leadership Training Course in Waco

During the week of June 24-28, Capt. Matthew Dear and Sgt. David Lopez attended a weeklong Police Leadership course in Waco. The training was conducted by the Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management Institute of Texas lemitonline.org. The class mirrors the training that is mandated for each Texas Police Chief.



View Our Monthly Reports! If you want to see a detailed report of our monthly activity, visit our website, and browse the activity for the past 300 months!

https://www.lytle.org/Arc_hive.aspx?AMID=52

Every Call We Respond to Is Listed in Our Weekly Reports!

You can find them at www.lytle.org/police Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Current Weekly Report." You can also find past weekly reports dating back to 2009!

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

Upcoming Test Are Schedule for
Wednesday Oct. 2, 2024

Wednesday Nov. 6, 2024

Wednesday Dec. 3, 2024