



# Lytle Police



[www.lytletx.org/police](http://www.lytletx.org/police)

Office (830) 709-0277

24 Hour Dispatch (830) 769-3434

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Quarterly Newsletter

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## Contact Information

Physical Address: 15245 Hester St.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 750

Lytle, TX 78052

Office Number 830-709-0277

(Our office is not staffed 24 hours a day so please don't call this number if you need an officer)

**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.

## Straight from the Chief

In May we completed our newest 5 Year Plan. This is the second 5 year strategic plan and if it is as helpful and beneficial as the first one we will be on solid ground. It is very easy to become distracted and not spend the time focusing on projects that need attending to. Every day is so different, you never know what is going to happen or what you will be faced with. It is the best and the worst part of the job.

Around here we enjoy the summer months. The schools are out and there is a significant slowdown in all the traffic around town, though it is still not like the "good old days". We also can adjust the schedule since our daytime population is less while school is out of session.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any issues or concerns that is why I am here.

-Richey Priest, Chief

Follow me on twitter! @lytlepdchief

(Disclaimer: I'm not that exciting)

## I Don't Take My Own Advice Chief Richey Priest

I am always pushing people to sign up on the emergency contact list. *I realize I have contact numbers not on the list.*

I always tell everyone they should have serial numbers and descriptions of their personal items in case of a theft. I tell people this all the time. *I couldn't give you the serial number of any electronic items in my home.*

So I hope you would take some time and go to our website and sign up on our emergency contact list (or email us with your name, phone number and email address), once a disaster strikes it will be too late. Right after you do that take some time and jot down the serial numbers on items in your home that some thief may want to take off with. I'll promise to do the same.

On Tuesday June 2, the Atascosa County Attorney and some of her staff came over to our police station and provided a couple hours of training in the evening. They have an awesome staff and are great to work with. (They even brought snacks too!)



Pictured L-R Asst. Co. Attorney Dennis Arriaga, Investigator Jim Boyd, Asst. Co. Attorney Molly Solis and Atascosa Co. Attorney Lucinda Vickers.

## Spotlight on a Partner Agency

### ATASCOSA FAMILY CRISIS CENTER

The Atascosa Family Crisis Center is located in Pleasanton and provides a full array of services. They are a non-profit organization that helps victims of domestic / family violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking. They offer a 24 hour hotline, legal advocacy, crisis intervention, protective order assistance and other services when possible. They work hand in hand with victims and law enforcement. As a police department that responds to and investigate many types of these issues we truly value what they do on a daily basis. Contact them if you or someone you know needs help.

**24 HR Hotline  
830-281-2001**

**Visit their website:  
[www.atascosafamilycrisis.org](http://www.atascosafamilycrisis.org)**

## Railroad Safety & the Law



There always seems to be questions about the various state laws that pertain to railroad tracks. Maybe we can clear up a few areas and help people understand our actions. There are three offenses we see a lot of and routinely take enforcement action on:

1. Walking on or across tracks unless you are at a designated crossing. It is called trespass on railroad property. Signs warning of such are not required. A citation can be issued. Tracks aren't designed to be walked on, it is not safe.
2. Going around activated crossing arms.
3. Standing / Stopping on Railroad tracks, which includes an area within 15' from either side of the track

The tracks in Lytle are owned by Union Pacific Railroad, UP operates a police force that employs peace officers, and their primary focus is the safety and security of the rail system. To reach a UP Special Agent or report an emergency you can call **1-888-877-7267**

## City Council Approves Salary Increases for Peace Officers

The Lytle City Council approved an across the board salary increase for peace officers at the June 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. Due to a low turnover rate our salaries, especially those for patrol officers had become stagnant & needed an adjustment. Increases ranged from \$50 per week for supervisory staff to \$68 per week for the most junior patrol officer. This will allow us to at least stay competitive and will be a great help with retention and recruiting. We will be able to offer a starting pay, after completion of probation of around \$40,000. We won't be the highest paid or the lowest paid, but we will be able to offer a fair salary.

If you need an officer it is always best to call the dispatch number **830-769-3434**

Our office phone is only answered if someone happens to be at the station

## Equipment Spotlight



### The "TASER"

In 2008 we purchased our first TASERS (X26 Model). We still have all but one of them in service. They have been a very effective tool which have no doubt prevented substantial injury to officers and suspects alike. They are only an additional tool, they are not "magic". All of ours are equipped with video and audio recorders, so anytime it is in the "on or armed" position the camera starts rolling. We are fortunate that we have seldom had to use them. Officers are trained and recertified annually on this intermediate weapon.

## Staff Spotlight



*Sr. Officer Danny Robison was recognized for 15 years of service with LPD at the May 2015 Council Meeting*



*Sr. Officer Robison was promoted to Corporal at the same meeting.*

## We said goodbye



*Veteran LPD Corporal Daniel Gamez resigned to accept a position with the Atascosa Co. Sheriff's Office. Nice hat Daniel!*

*In July **Captain Reyes** will celebrated 17 Years with our department!*

*Congratulations to **Ofc. Jose Guzman** who received his **Intermediate Peace Officer Certification***