

City of Lake Forest Park

Police Department Annual Report



CHIEF C. STEPHEN SUTTON,
LAKE FOREST PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT
17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155
(206) 364-8216
www.cityofflp.com/police

2014

Contents

<u>Message from the Chief</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>About the Annual Report</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Organizational Chart</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Patrol Districts</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>Operations Division</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Operations Highlight</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>Calls for Service</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>Incidents</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>Criminal Activity</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>Property Crimes</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>Domestic Violence</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>Collisions</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>Tickets</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Traffic Safety Photo Enforcement</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Support Services Division</u>	<u>17</u>
<u>Investigations</u>	<u>18</u>
<u>Investigations - Highlights</u>	<u>19</u>
<u>Training</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>Community Policing / Outreach</u>	<u>21</u>
<u>Department Awards</u>	<u>23</u>

Chief of Police

Message from your Police Chief...



Chief C. Stephen Sutton

Dear Lake Forest Park Residents,

I am pleased to present you with the 2014 Lake Forest Park Police Department Annual Report. The report tracks crime data, service efforts & accomplishments, crime trends and budget information.

There are 22 full-time employees assigned to the Lake Forest Park Police Department. A majority of the officers are in the patrol division; additionally we have a traffic unit, criminal investigation detectives, canine unit, professional support staff, sergeants, a captain and police chief.

In 2014, the average response time to calls for service for Lake Forest Park Police was 2:18 minutes; the national standard is over five minutes. Our officers know how important it is to be responsive, arrive safely and handle the emergency call in a professional manner. The Lake Forest Park Police Department partners with the King County Sheriff's Office and the Coalition of Small Police Agencies (CSPA) for specialized services, homicide/robbery investigations, SWAT, K9, air support, bomb technicians, other services, and training.

In this report you will notice that property crimes have increased across the board. This is a statewide and national trend. The good news is that the Lake Forest Park Police Department has made property crime our focus and we are addressing the issue through an aggressive public information campaign, along with investigative strategies to bring the number down.

The Vision of the Police Department *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.* In 2014, two publications identified Lake Forest Park as being in the top 25 safest communities in the State of Washington:

(#17) <http://www.valuepenguin.com/2015-safest-places-washington-study>

(#24) <http://www.safewise.com/blog/50-safest-cities-washington/>

To learn more about the services that the Lake Forest Park Police Department provides, please visit our web-page at www.cityofffp.com or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/lfpdp_police.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please email me at ssutton@cityofffp.com or call directly 206-364-8216. I'm proud of the men and women of the Lake Forest Park Police Department who are committed to keeping you and your family safe. It's an honor to serve as your police chief.

C. Stephen Sutton
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 crime 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 on a daily basis.

The report has three sections; Operations, Support Services, and Employees.

The report is produced by the City of Lake Forest Park Police Department. Questions about the report can be directed to the Lake Forest Park Chief of Police.

Lake Forest Park Police Department Mission, Goals, & Core Values

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.

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 in our community. To support this mission, we will work in strong partnership with the community.

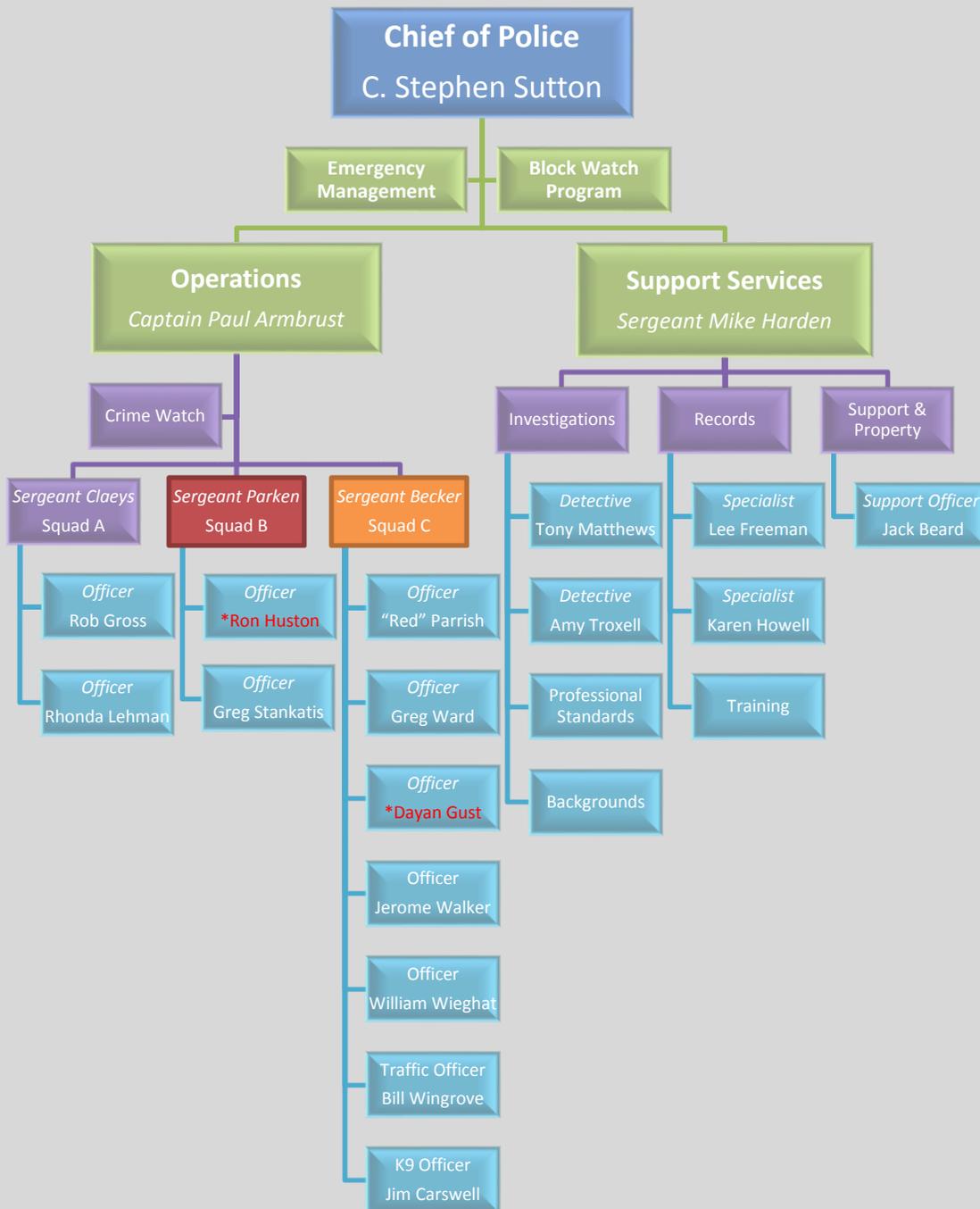
Goals

In order 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 diverse workforce
4. Provide emergency management oversight for City infrastructure and our community



Organizational Chart

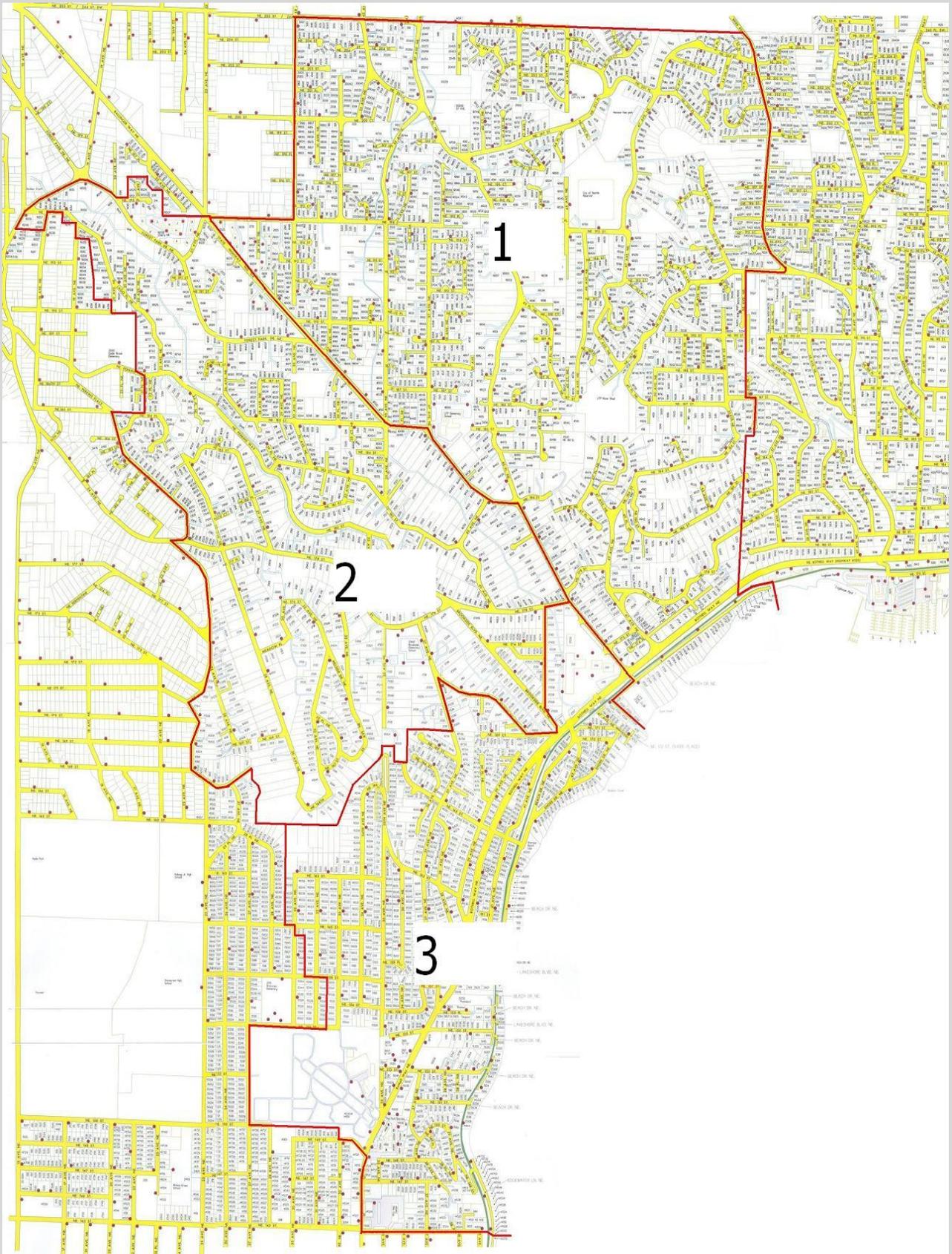


Patrol Additional Duties: Traffic, K9, Gangs, Graffiti, Equipment Maintenance and Purchase, Training, and Narcotics

Support Services Additional Duties: Public Disclosure, Policy Manual, Auditing, Background Checks, Firearm Licensing, Fingerprinting, and Budgeting

***Vacant Position (retired or transfer)**

City of Lake Forest Park Patrol Districts



Operations Division



Captain Paul Armbrust

The Operations Division provides professional police services to the citizens of Lake Forest Park 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Division consists of three squads in the Patrol Section, the K9 Unit, the Traffic Unit, Crime Watch, and Block Watch. Other functions include: Narcotics enforcement, Training, SWAT, and Gang/Graffiti investigations. Captain Paul Armbrust oversees the Operations Division and can be reached at parmbrust@ci.lake-forest-park.wa.us or 206-364-8216.

Highlights and Accomplishments

Although the Seattle Metro area experienced an increase in property crimes in 2014, Lake Forest Park remains one of the safest communities in the region. We continue to vigorously pursue the criminals who disrupt our community's sense of security.

After 18 months of planning, our full scale active shooter exercise came to a culmination in late September. This exercise included more than 200 law enforcement, fire department, school district and volunteer participants from more than 15 agencies. An entire day was spent actively training and building cooperation between police and fire elements in a regional multi-agency response environment.



The Lake Forest Park Police continue to promote community outreach.

Throughout the year we put the call out to our citizens and they responded by adding more than 25 additional active block-watch groups in the City. Once again this year, there were more than 20 National Night Out gatherings attended by uniformed officers. National Night Out is an extremely important program that links our community with crime prevention, emergency services and City Emergency Management Coordination.

The Police Department hosted a Community Forum in September, which was well attended. The Forum provided an overview of the department. We discussed current crime trends in the City, highlighted the active block-watch program, covered volunteer opportunities, and explained our renewed communication strategy to increase real-time information flow to the community. The most important part of the Forum was the feedback and questions from our citizens.

Operations Division

Critical Incident Response

On January 5, 2014, a horrific collision occurred on Bothell Way at the intersection of NE 170th Street. An intoxicated semi-truck driver slammed into the rear of a vehicle stopped at the light. The collision resulted in the occupant of the vehicle being trapped in her vehicle while it began to ignite. If it were not for the quick thinking of two citizens and arriving Lake Forest Police Officer Dayan Gust, this collision would have ended with a fatality. Officer Gust assisted our two citizens in pulling the victim from the vehicle, saving her life.



LFP Elementary School Picnic



Challenge for 2015

Every year has its challenges and 2014 was no exception. As we move into 2015 we look forward to building on our success but again, challenges exist. We are encouraged by the community support but the Police Department is facing difficult staffing issues. We are confident we will continue to fulfill the needs of our citizens while balancing the needs of our dedicated staff who serve each and every one of you.



Calls for Service

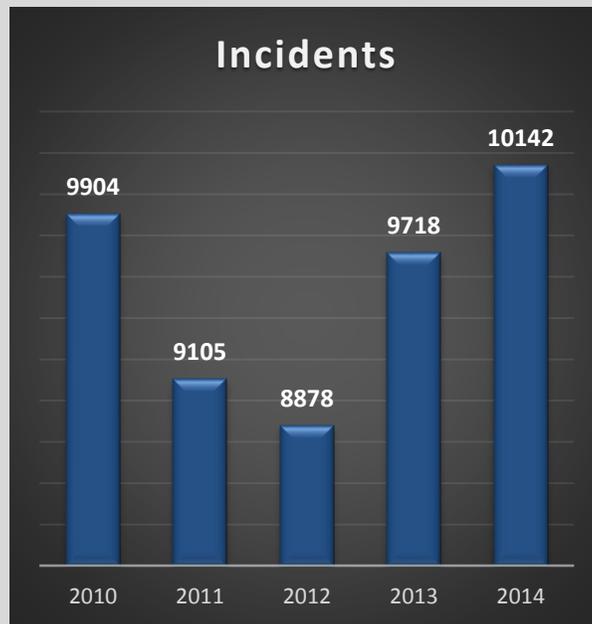
<i>Type of Call</i>	2012	2013	2014	+/-	
<i>Alarms</i>	285	310	366	18%	↑
<i>Assault / Fights / Harassment</i>	38	52	58	12%	↑
<i>Burglary / Theft</i>	373	370	462	25%	↑
<i>Disturbance / Noise</i>	159	155	208	34%	↑
<i>Domestic</i>	54	60	74	23%	↑
<i>Information / 911 Hang-up</i>	350	281	350	25%	↑
<i>Investigations</i>	1419	1365	1387	2%	↑
<i>Juvenile</i>	48	60	50	-17%	↓
<i>Liquor / Narcotics</i>	76	80	76	-5%	↓
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	1581	1518	1606	6%	↑
<i>Parking</i>	246	240	253	5%	↑
<i>Public Service</i>	1478	1900	1832	-4%	↓
<i>Robbery</i>	3	3	3	0%	---
<i>Traffic</i>	2035	2365	2709	15%	↑
<i>Trespass</i>	47	58	55	-5%	↓



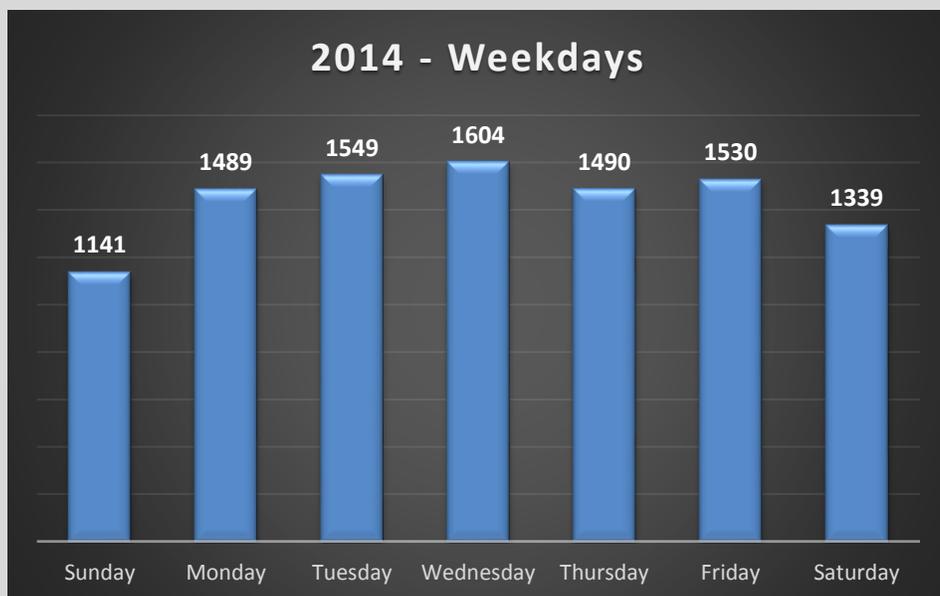
**Calls for Service are generated by a call into dispatch services.

Incidents

Incidents	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
January	953	906	603	820	881
February	777	813	564	745	703
March	783	919	627	842	989
April	787	797	620	807	864
May	957	842	993	927	773
June	992	726	856	857	681
July	950	807	905	720	875
August	750	736	897	759	968
September	876	630	794	798	954
October	804	674	750	833	786
November	611	580	702	761	797
December	664	675	567	849	871
TOTAL	9904	9105	8878	9718	10142



**Incidents include officer initiated police service



Criminal Activity

	2013	2014	+/-
Calls for Service	8817	9489	8% ↑
Case Reports	804	849	6% ↑
Arrests	282	242	-14% ↓
Traffic Stops	2523	2512	-0% ---
Traffic Infractions	1162	1157	-0% ---
Criminal Traffic	251	210	-16% ↓
Domestic	57	72	26% ↑
DUI	46	43	-7% ↓
Fraud/Forgery/ID	58	69	19% ↑
Graffiti	53	24	-55% ↓
Malicious Mischief	129	119	-8% ↓
Vehicle Prowls	35	46	32% ↑

PART I CRIMES are also referred to as “Index Crimes” (FBI – UCR)

Cases	2013	2014	+/-
Violent Crime			
<i>Homicide</i>	1*	0	0% ---
<i>Rape</i>	2	1	-100% ↓
<i>Robbery</i>	2	3	50% ↑
<i>Assault</i>	40	46	15% ↑
Property Crime			
<i>Arson</i>	1	0	100% ↓
<i>Burglary</i>	82	97	18% ↑
<i>Vehicle Theft</i>	8	41	413% ↑
<i>Theft</i>	141	202	43% ↑
<i>PSP</i> (Possession of Stolen Property)	11	23	109% ↑

**The listed Homicide in 2013 was reported as a manslaughter case, later investigated and closed unfounded.

Property Crimes

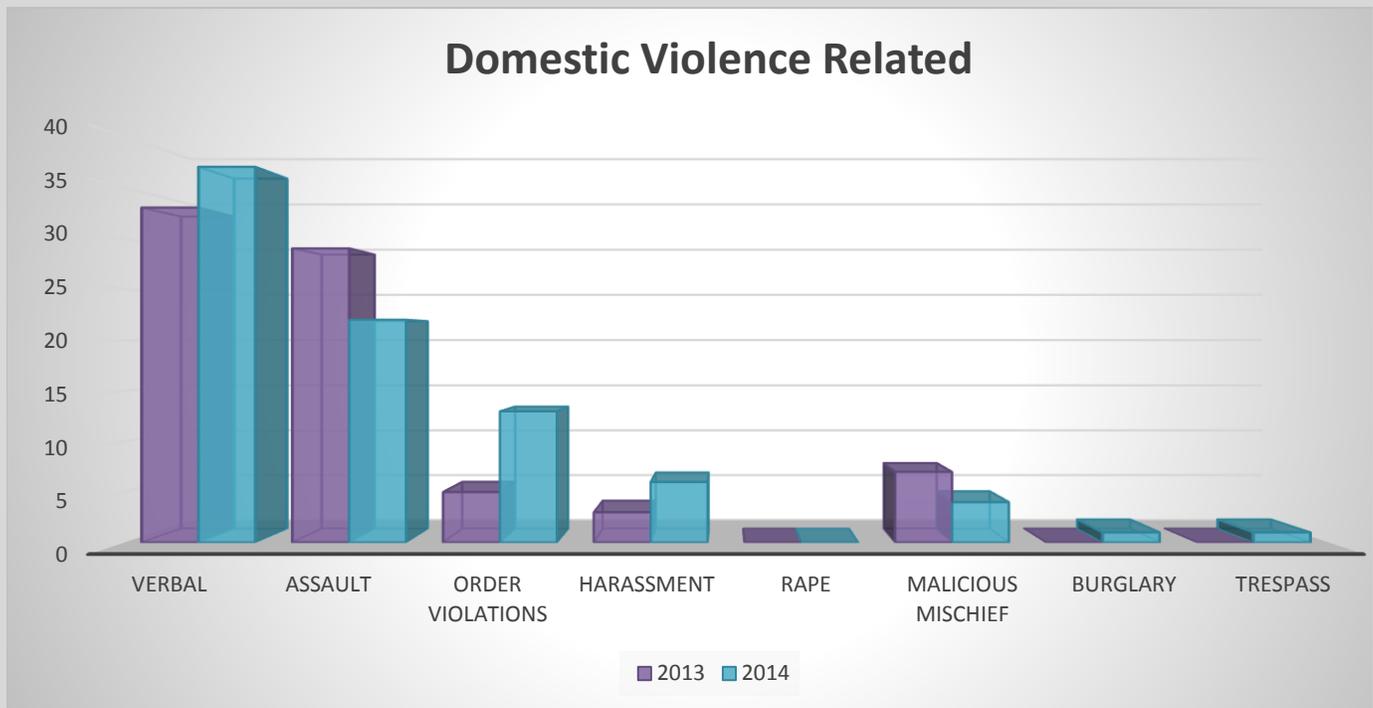
For a more detailed view of “Property Crimes” this graph shows a breakdown of the different types of property crimes reported to the police department.

<i>Property Crimes</i>	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	+/-	
<i>Burglary – Commercial</i>	3	5	2	11	4	-9%	↓
<i>Burglary – Residential</i>	44	80	88	71	93	31%	↑
<i>Forgery and Fraud</i>	24	32	26	16	20	25%	↑
<i>ID Theft</i>	33	22	30	42	49	17%	↑
<i>Malicious Mischief</i>	116	206	163	129	119	-8%	↓
<i>MV Theft</i>	8	15	8	8	41	413%	↑
<i>Possession of Stolen Property</i>	5	15	12	11	23	109%	↑
<i>Theft</i>	220	210	177	141	202	43%	↑
<i>Vehicle Prowl</i>	92	89	54	35	46	31%	↑



Domestic Violence

<i>Domestic Violence</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>
<i>Verbal – No Crime</i>	33	26	32	33	37
<i>Assault</i>	23	30	27	29	22
<i>Order Violations</i>	8	11	8	5	13
<i>Harassment</i>	4	4	4	3	6
<i>Rape</i>	2	0	1	0	0
<i>Malicious Mischief</i>	8	9	8	7	4
<i>Burglary</i>	1	3	1	0	1
<i>Trespass</i>	2	1	1	0	1

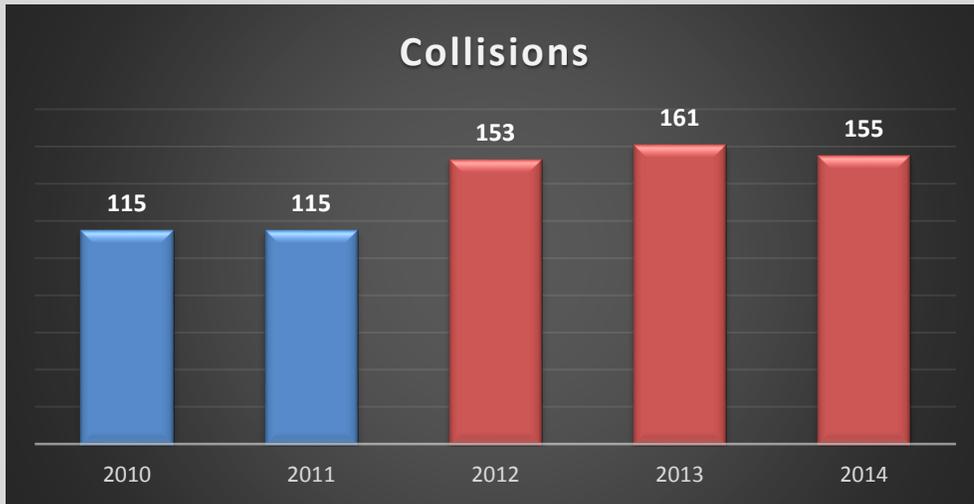


Verbal Domestic - Argument between persons with no physical contact.

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.

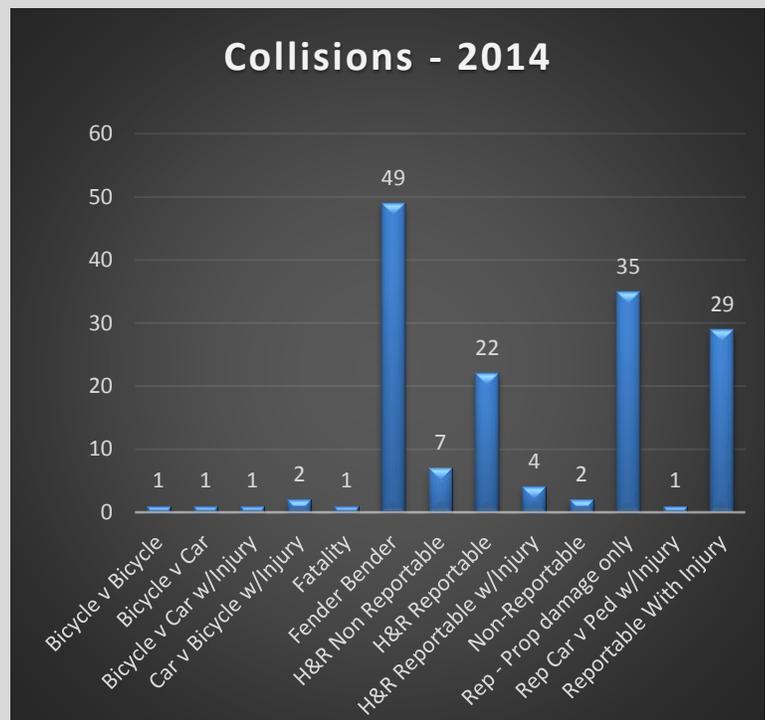
Collisions



**Highway 520 tolling in effect

(Dec 2011)

Types of Collisions	2014
Bicycle v Bicycle	1
Bicycle v Car	1
Bicycle v Car w/Injury	1
Car v Bicycle w/Injury	2
Fatality	1
Fender Bender	49
H&R Non Reportable	7
H&R Reportable	22
H&R Reportable w/Injury	4
Non-Reportable	2
Prop damage only	35
Car v Ped w/Injury	1
Reportable With Injury	29
Total	155



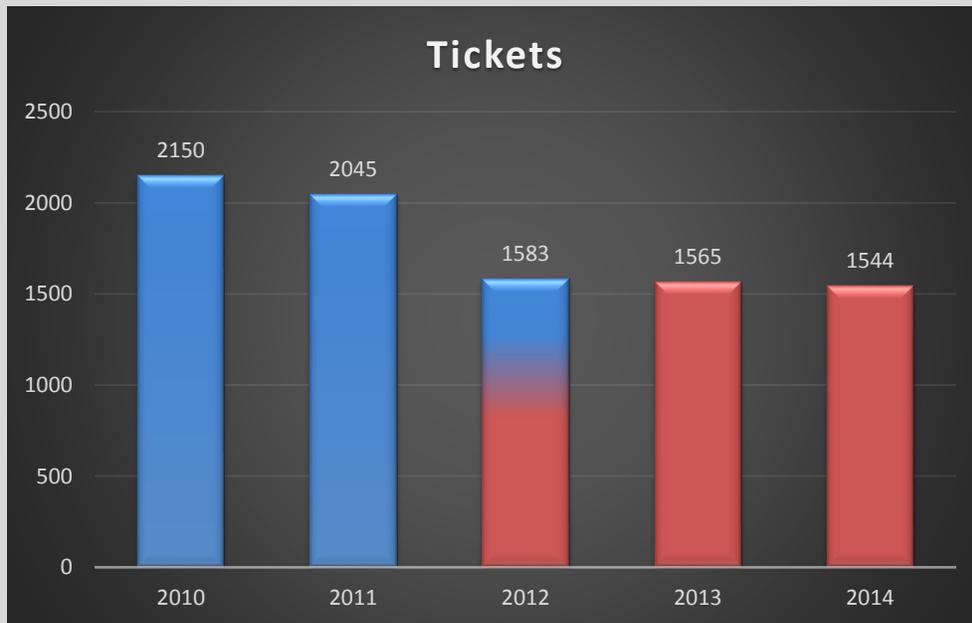
Top 3 locations in **2014** for reported collisions:

1. 17000 BOTHELL WAY NE
2. 17100 BOTHELL WAY NE
3. BOTHELL WAY NE /165th ST

Top 3 locations for Collisions in the last **5 years**:

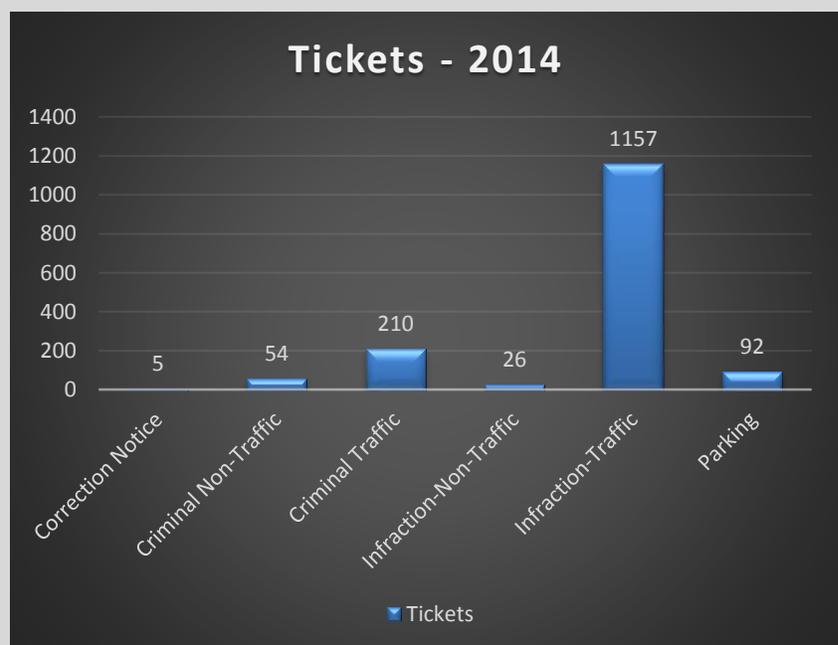
1. 17000 BOTHELL WAY NE
2. 17400 BALLINGER WAY NE
3. 17100 BOTHELL WAY NE

Tickets Issued



**Mid 2012 through 2013 - Traffic and K9 reassigned to general patrol due to staffing.

Type of Tickets	
<i>Correction Notice</i>	5
<i>Criminal Non-Traffic</i>	54
<i>Criminal Traffic</i>	210
<i>Infraction-Non-Traffic</i>	26
<i>Infraction-Traffic</i>	1157
<i>Parking</i>	92
Total	1544



Traffic Safety Photo Enforcement

Traffic safety camera systems are a safety measure designed to reduce and prevent speeding and collisions, while at the same time providing a force-multiplier for the police force. The goal of our program, since beginning in 2009, has been pedestrian safety in our school zones, and collision reduction on SR 522 (Bothell Way).

The City currently operates one red-light camera location at SR 522 and NE 165th Street. Additionally, the City operates three school zone camera locations; LFP Elementary School (35th Ave NE), LFP Elementary School (40th PL NE), and Brookside Elementary School (NE 178th St).

School Zone Camera Performance

Camera Location	2011	2012	2013	2014
LFP Elementary School (35 th Ave NE)	2,982	3,739	3,561	3,706
LFP Elementary School (40 th PL NE)	517	520	435	1,183
Brookside Elementary School (NE 178 th St)	1,464	2,200	1,826	2,433



Red Light Camera Performance

Bothell Way NE NE 165 th St	2011	2012	2013	2014
Collisions	4	4	2	10
Infractions	819	1,029	913	4,544

Citizen Survey

The Lake Forest Park Police Department conducted a survey of its citizens on the current traffic safety photo enforcement program here in the City. We reviewed traffic safety related data in our community and studied areas where traffic incidences were increasing. We considered opportunities for mitigating safety related issues and were eager to hear from the community on one mitigation strategy that has been cost effective at producing positive results; traffic safety cameras. We learned a great deal from your responses and, aligned with our commitment to provide excellent customer service to our community, we will share them with you here. The survey revealed that overall our citizens thought the system was of value and should be continued. They identified several items that should be addressed, such as a time adjustment in school zones, and better signage in each school zone. A copy of the survey results have been posted on our website.

Program Enhancements

In 2015, two additional traffic safety cameras will be installed. First, a red-light camera at the intersection of Bothell Way and NE 170th; this location is extremely dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists, and is the number two collision location in the City. Second, on 37th Ave NE in front of Brookside Elementary. Issues at this location are, vehicles often park in the roadway over the dedicated walkway (there is no sidewalk for students) and vehicles are often speeding down the hill.

Support Services Division



Sergeant Mike Harden

The Support Services Division assists in the daily operation of police support services. The division strives for quality customer support through the delivery of services that enhance the overall mission of the Department. The Division consists of the Investigations Unit, the Records Unit, and the Evidence/Property Unit. Sgt. Mike Harden oversees the Support Services Division.

Support Services Officer

The police department employs a full-time specialty commissioned officer to maintain the Property/Evidence Unit, Prisoner Transport, and Court Security services. The Support Services Officer also assists with building security and employee training, including emergency preparedness and first aid. He is also one of the firearms training instructors for the department.

Records Unit

Annually, the Records Unit personnel enter more than 4,000 police reports into the Law Enforcement Records Management System. The Records Unit is responsible for a wide variety of tasks that include:

- Accurately processing, maintaining and disseminating police records that include confidential and sensitive data.
- Completing case referrals to the City of Lake Forest Park Prosecutor's Office and the King County Prosecuting Attorney's Office for consideration of filing.
- Background checks, concealed pistol permits, entertainer licensing, among other services.
- Maintains the drug take-back program, which enables citizens to destroy unwanted and leftover drugs.

Investigations Unit

The Investigations Unit consists of two full-time detectives. Each detective is trained on a wide variety of criminal activity and works an average of 75 cases a month. Generally, felony and juvenile cases are forwarded to detectives for further follow-up and filing.

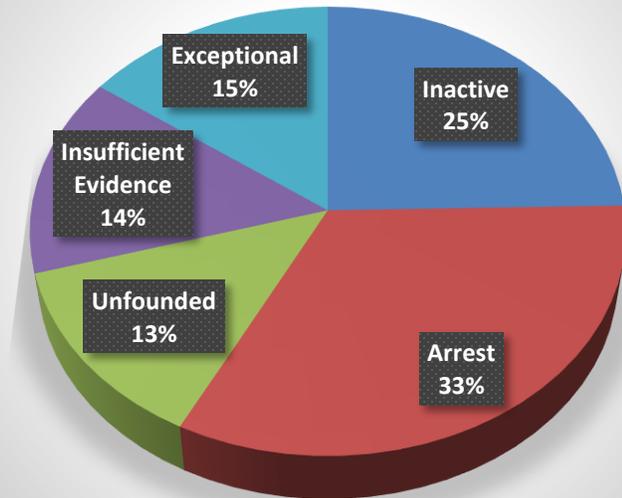
Detective Matthews developed a website called CanUID.me. This website has detectives from all over the state uploading photographs of subjects they are trying to identify. At the end of 2014, there were 170 subjects identified. This is such an amazing resource for investigators.

This leads to Facebook and Twitter. We began using Facebook and Twitter in early 2014. Our Facebook has five stars with over 400 likes. We posted and tweeted over 160 times. Many of these tweets were for getting information out to the citizens that a crime occurred and many times looking for information on those crimes. At one point, we had over 12,000 views in one day!

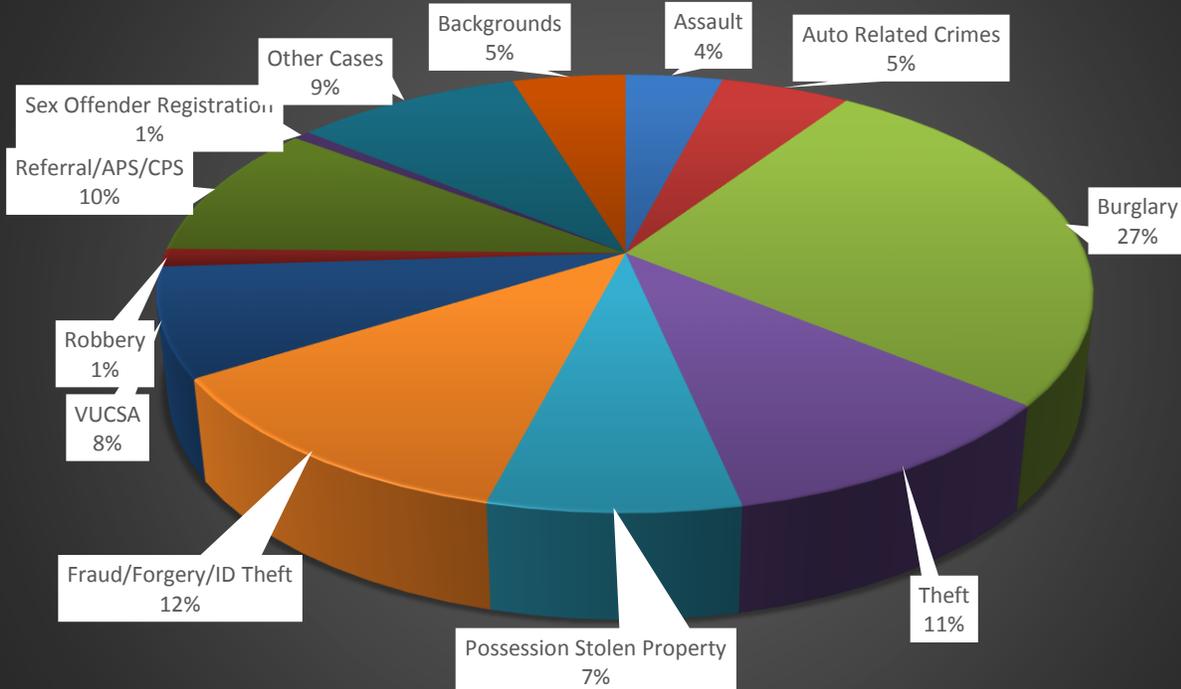
Investigations

Investigations	2012	2013	2014
Assault	11	8	6
Auto Related Crimes	9	5	8
Burglary	55	32	40
Theft	32	23	16
PSP	3	1	11
Fraud/Forgery/ID Theft	23	20	18
VUCSA	5	8	12
Rape / Sex Other	6	4	4
Robbery	2	1	2
Referral/APS/CPS	19	20	15
Juvenile Case	10	11	9
Sex Offender	2	0	1
Other Cases	87	37	14
Backgrounds	0	11	7
Total	264	181	163

2014 - Completed Investigations



2014 - Cases Assigned to Detectives



Investigations

2014 - Investigation Highlights

Vehicular Assault

On January 5, 2015 a semi-truck rear-ended a vehicle at NE 170th St and Bothell Way NE in LFP. The victim vehicle caught on fire and an LFP officer and two witnesses removed the driver just before the car became fully engulfed in flames. The driver of the semi was arrested for DUI and a blood draw was conducted incident to a search warrant. The investigation was completed and it was determined that the semi driver was under the influence of methamphetamines. Criminal charges of vehicular assault were forwarded to the King County Prosecutor's office.

Residential Burglary

On January 29th, 2014, victims reported they had some items missing from their garage. They suspected a subject who completed some recent work on the property. A phone call from the victims stated they were parked across from the suspect residence and noticed that their snowboard was in the back of the suspect's girlfriend's car. Detectives met the victims at their location. The suspect was contacted as he was removing the snowboard from the vehicle. He admitted taking the snowboard. A pawn check was conducted and additional items that were stolen from the victim residence were located as being pawned by the suspect. The pawned items were recovered by detectives and returned to the victims. Criminal charges of burglary and trafficking in stolen property were referred to the King County Prosecutor's office.



Robbery



On July 1st, 2014 Officers responded to a possible assault in progress at the Ballinger Estates apartment complex. Three individuals, one of which resides in the apartment, were physically assaulted by 3 suspects and items were taken from the apartment. It was reported that the suspects were armed with firearms. During the initial investigation, a patrol sergeant got into a vehicle pursuit with one of the suspects who had returned to the scene. Detectives worked with the CSPA Major Crimes Task Force to obtain a search warrant for the suspect residence in Shoreline. Due to the violent nature of the crime the North Sound Metro SWAT team was utilized to execute the warrant. Bloody clothing was found inside the residence along with other firearms related items. All three suspects were identified in this case. Two suspects turned themselves into jail and the third was arrested by Milton PD. DNA evidence was collected at the crime scene and the suspect residence. One victim's DNA was found on items at the suspect residence. The case has since been filed with the King County Prosecutor's Office and is awaiting trial.

Residential Burglary

On December 3rd, 2014 officers responded to an interrupted burglary. The victim was staying home sick and awoke to the sounds of his doorbell. The victim continued to sleep and woke again minutes later to the sound of his bedroom door opening and closing. This got the victim's attention as no one else was supposed to be home. The victim ended up confronting a male suspect at the top of his stairs and saw a second suspect at his front door. Both suspects fled the area in a vehicle. The victim was able to do a composite sketch of the first suspect he saw. This sketch was distributed to other area detectives who were able to help identify the suspect. The same suspect was also involved in multiple robberies in the King County and Snohomish County area. LFP Detectives worked with King County SO and SPD to locate the suspect and arrest him for his various crimes. The suspect was also identified by latent fingerprints from our burglary. The case has since been filed with the King County Prosecutor's Office.

Training



The top four training topics in 2014:

1. Active Shooter Training
2. SWAT
3. Various Criminal Investigation Classes
4. Leadership & Supervision Training



Community Policing / Outreach

The Police Department Partnered with the Police Employees Guild on two community service / outreach projects in 2014; The Special Olympics Salmon BBQ and the Chief for a Day Celebration.



**\$5,500 Raised for
Special Olympics**



**“Chief for a Day”
Matthew Sheppard**



Social Media

In 2014, we kicked off our social media program with both Facebook and Twitter. The police department postings have reached more than 2,500 citizens with almost 50,000 post views. We created the Community Partners Emergency Communication System, set up to notify community members of emergent issues involving natural hazards or police action. During the summer, the department appointed Rebecca Wood as the summer intern. She pushed out vital information to our citizens and created the “Wanted Wednesday” postings.



https://twitter.com/lfpd_police



<https://www.facebook.com/LakeForestParkPD>

Lake Forest Park Community Partners Emergency Notification System

When an event occurs within the City or in a 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.

Community Policing / Outreach

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 working together against crime, and citizens working with each other during emergencies. In 2014, the number of Block-Watch groups rose from 9 to 35.



Crime Watch

In 2014, 16 volunteers were actively participating in the program. A total of 210 houses, all 3 parks, and both schools were visually checked for suspicious activity. Throughout the year, 246 patrol days were logged for a total of 801.5 volunteer hours on patrol days. Additionally, 197 hours were logged by the coordinator, included are other non-crime watch activities.

Checks 2014	
House Checks	210
Parks	3
Schools	2

Nurturing Trust

In Partnership with the Shoreline Police Department, we participated in and co-sponsored the Nurturing Trust Program. In the fall of 2014, a total of 32 Spanish speaking parents (75% Women and 25% Men) benefitted from a series of five workshops that focused on issues directly or indirectly affecting every family. The workshops were: Positive Discipline, Domestic Violence/Child Abuse, Bullying, Drugs in our Communities, and Leadership. The majority of the participants have elementary school-aged children. This is a phase when parenting can be a challenge. It was essential to not only inform them about the importance of these issues, but also to give them basic tools that can help them deal with the issues and avoid victimization.

The participants learned fundamental ground work throughout every workshop that addressed parenting strategies and behavioral issues at a young age. These workshops were done in a sequence that allowed the participant to learn that prevention also starts at home and is the key in creating a strong and healthy community. This began in the first workshop, Positive Discipline.



2014 Department Awards

Employee of the Year
Sergeant Mike Harden

Chiefs Award
Officer Bill Wingrove

Top-Gun Award
Officer Greg Stankatis

Commendation Award
Detective Amy Troxell

Commendation Award
Officer Jackson Beard

Commendation Award
Officer Rhonda Lehman

Community Policing Award
Officer Maurice Parrish

Special Recognition
Officer Dayan Gust

Community Appreciation Award
Shoreline PD
SSO Dahlia Corona