

Lake Stevens Police

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

INTEGRITY



HONOR



SERVICE





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Message from the Chief

Last year, our focus remained on recruiting, retention, and wellness. We started with six vacancies and had three more separations during the year. Thanks to great recruiting and hiring practices, we ended the year with just one vacancy for a police officer position. Training the new staff was essential, and I want to thank our field training officers and Records Unit trainers for their hard work and dedication.

This annual report highlights outstanding service, the work of each unit, and the services provided to keep our community safe.

As we move into 2025, we will continue to be fiscally responsible and provide professional police services through organizational excellence and community interaction.

To the men and women who serve our community every day, thank you! And thank you to the Mayor, City Administrator, and City Council for their continued support during the staffing shortage.

Jeffrey G. Beazizo
Chief of Police

Mission

We serve the Lake Stevens community by enhancing public safety and quality of life through professional police services, organizational excellence, and community interaction.

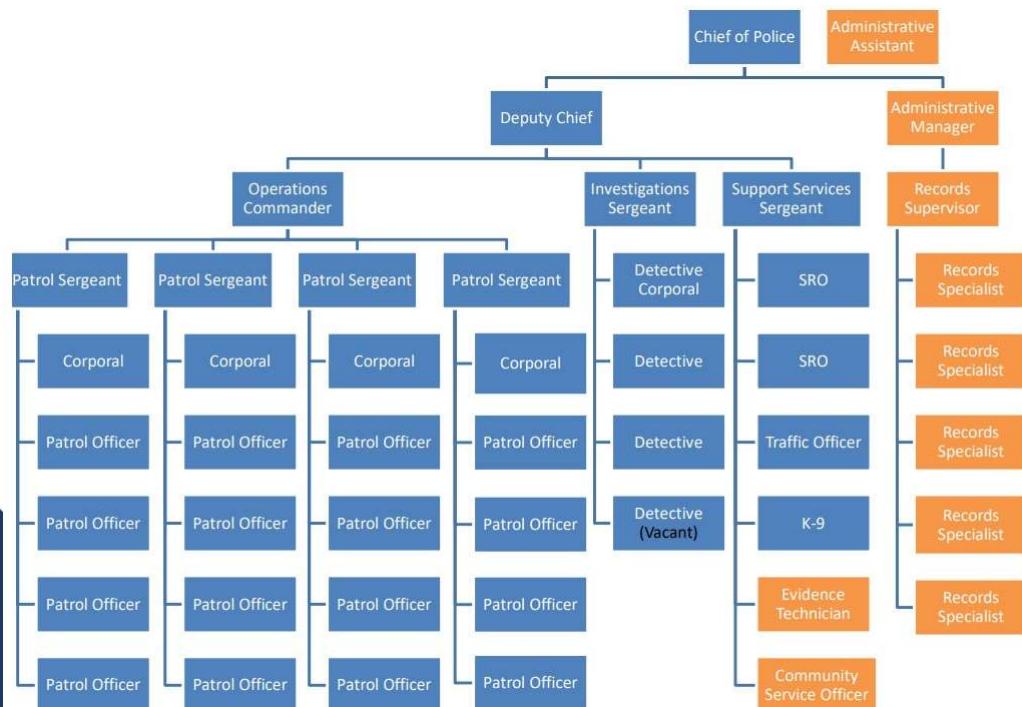
2025 Goals

- Identify and implement crime suppression and reduction strategies to address crime trends and community concerns.
- Increase and enhance a traffic safety program using education, engineering, and enforcement.
- Implement innovative practices to attract, hire, and retain top candidates to fulfill department needs.
- Assess technology needs of the department to streamline our processes and the number of programs utilized.
- Provide community education and awareness of current crime trends and prevention strategies.



OUR DEPARTMENT

The Lake Stevens Police Department serves a population of 41,540 residents and operates with an annual 2024 budget of \$10.7 million. Our department consists of four divisions: Office of the Chief, Administration, Support Services, and Operations.



In 2024, our employees completed a total of 5343 training hours.

Allocated Commissioned Staff: 37
Year End Staffing: 36

Allocated Non-Commissioned Staff: 10
Year End Staffing: 10

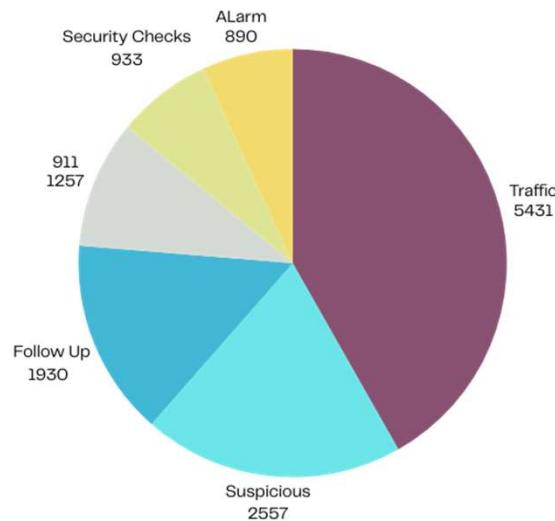
LSPD's rate of Officers per 1000 citizens is 0.90. The state average is 1.33 and National average is 2.49.



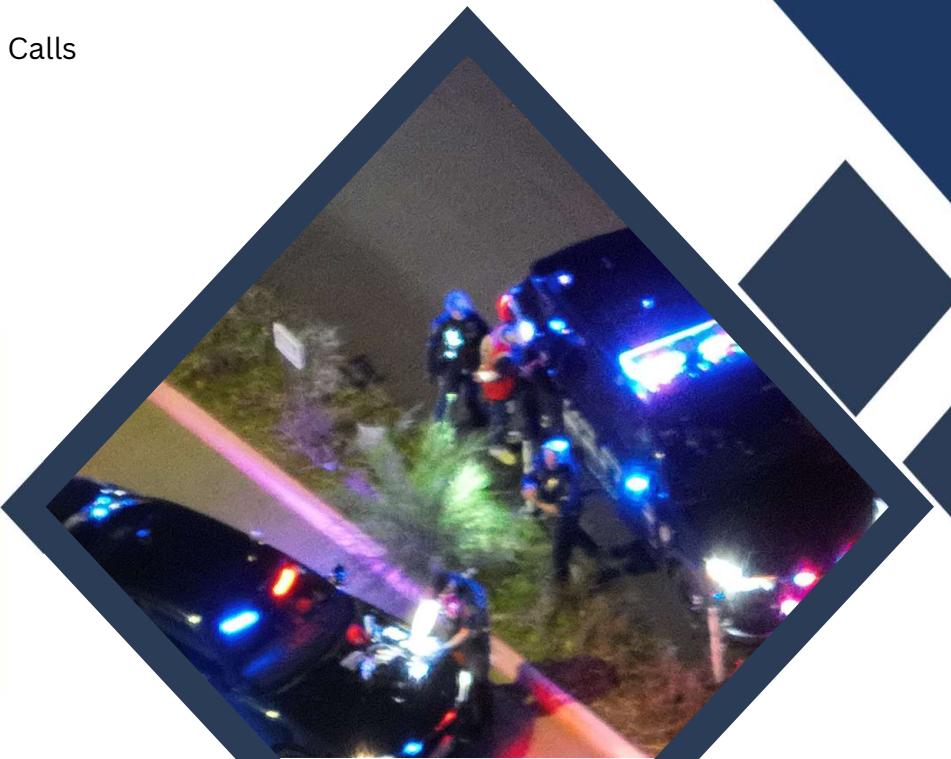
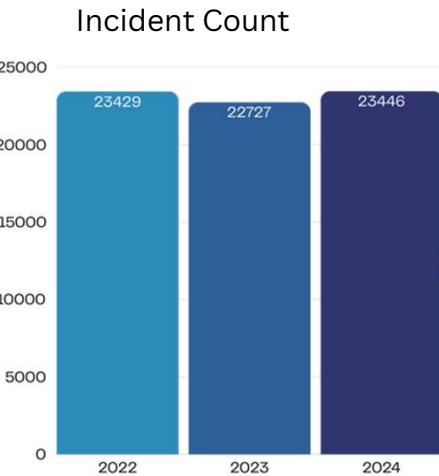
Operations Division

The Operations Division represents the most visible and active police presence in our community. Our dedicated officers work hand-in-hand with community members to uphold the mission and values of the department. They are committed to maintaining public safety and fostering a sense of trust and cooperation.

Top Call Types



56% - 911 Calls
44% - Officer Initiated Calls



Operations Division



Incidents/Call for Service

A police incident or call for service refers to any situation where law enforcement is requested to respond to a specific event or issue. This can include a wide range of scenarios such as emergencies, disturbances, accidents, or suspicious activities. When a call for service is received, officers are dispatched to the location to assess the situation, provide assistance, and take necessary actions to resolve the matter.

2024: 23,446 Incidents



Cases

A police case report is a detailed written account of an incident or crime that officers respond to. It includes essential information such as the date, time, location, involved parties, and a narrative of the events. These reports are crucial for documenting evidence, supporting investigations, and providing a basis for legal proceedings.

2024: 2329 Case Reports Taken

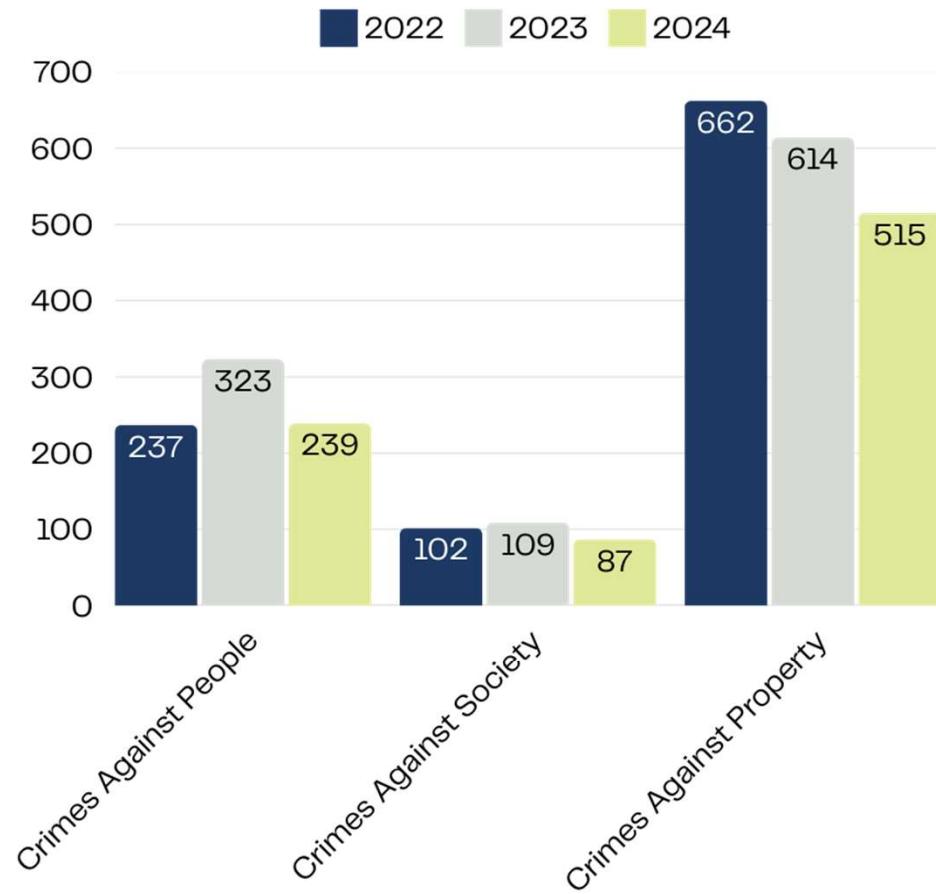


Arrests

A police arrest is a critical function of law enforcement, where officers detain individuals suspected of committing a crime or charges are referred to the prosecutor's office, where legal proceedings are initiated to determine the appropriate course of action..

2024: 987 Arrests

Operations Division



IBR, or Incident-Based Reporting, is a system used by law enforcement agencies to collect detailed data on crimes. This method allows for a more comprehensive understanding of crime patterns and trends.

Crimes against people refer to offenses that directly harm or threaten individuals. These include crimes such as assault, robbery, and homicide. The primary focus is on the physical or emotional harm inflicted on the victim. **26% reduction from 2023.**

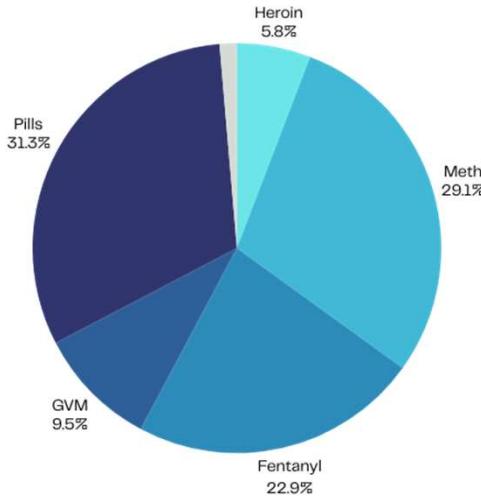
Crimes against society are offenses that go against societal norms and laws but do not necessarily harm an individual directly. Examples include drug offenses, prostitution, and gambling. These crimes are considered to undermine the moral fabric of society. **20% reduction from 2023.**

Crimes against property involve the theft, destruction, or damage of someone else's property. This category includes burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson. The main concern here is the loss or damage to property rather than harm to individuals. **16% reduction from 2023.**

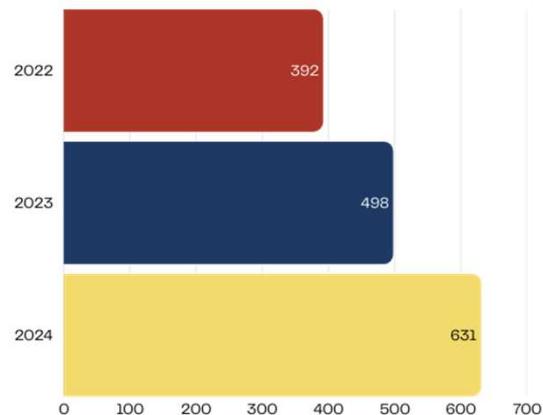
Operations Division

The Operations Division demonstrated exceptional performance and dedication in their duties over the past year. They successfully executed **search warrants on 33 vehicles**. Additionally, the division's efforts led to the recovery of 7 stolen firearms, and responded to **184 DUI incidents**, reflecting their proactive approach to ensuring safety and their unwavering dedication to protecting the community.

Narcotics Destroyed



Collisions



Support Service Division

The Support Services Unit of the police department plays a crucial role in enhancing the overall effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement operations. This unit encompasses several specialized teams, each contributing uniquely to public safety and community engagement.

School Resource Officer

During the school year, Officers Carter and Kilroy provide law enforcement and mentorship for the Lake Stevens School District. They cover several elementary schools, two middle schools, one mid-high and a high school, ensuring a safe and positive learning environment.

Beyond their daily duties, they attend sporting events, dances, club activities, and other school events.

Their top priority is student safety, which includes mentoring youth to make good and safe choices. They are also valuable resources for school staff and parents, often assisting with issues like custody, domestic violence, and parenting.



Community Service Officer

Our city's citizens often require services best handled by a noncommissioned officer, such as animal control, crime prevention, parking, and dealing with abandoned vehicles. Our dedicated Community Service Officer has taken on these responsibilities, allowing patrol officers to focus on 911 calls and other critical investigations. In the first 6 months* of 2024, our CSO handled:

- 53 Animal Control Calls
- 143 Parking complaints
- 54 Abandoned vehicles
- 5 Animal cruelty cases
- Business Crime Prevention and Safety Plans
- 20 Car Seat checks

*position vacant for 6 months of 2024

Support Service Division



K9

The K9 Unit plays a vital and dynamic role in narcotics investigations. Our K9 Unit was the first and only fentanyl detection team in WA State until Sept of 2024.

In 2024, our dedicated K9 team was **deployed 36 times**, resulting in approximately **\$180,149** worth of narcotics being removed from the streets, **16 vehicles taken for search warrant**, and **26 suspects arrested**.

Their exceptional work not only enhances our narcotics investigations but also significantly contributes to the safety and well-being of our community.



Marine

The Marine Unit of the Lake Stevens Police Department comprises 10 certified marine patrol officers. During the boating season, we have 2 full-time officers on the water, supported by additional officers during peak times. **We operate 2 vessels in the summer and 1 vessel for emergencies in the winter.**

Our marine patrol officers ensure the safety of waterway users through education, vessel safety inspections, enforcement of regulations, and protection of the lake from harmful chemicals or spills.



Evidence

Our Evidence Unit, led by a highly skilled evidence technician, is a model of efficiency and precision. In 2024, the unit received and processed an impressive **2,021 pieces of evidence**, a **35% increase** from 2023.

Almost 1000 items were processed for destruction, not including drugs.

Additionally, our diligent police officers seized, recovered or took for safekeeping **214 firearms**, showcasing their commitment to keeping our community safe.

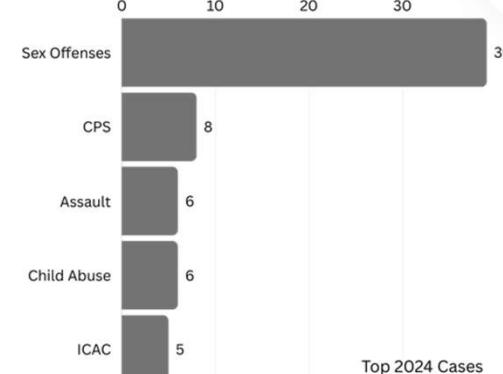
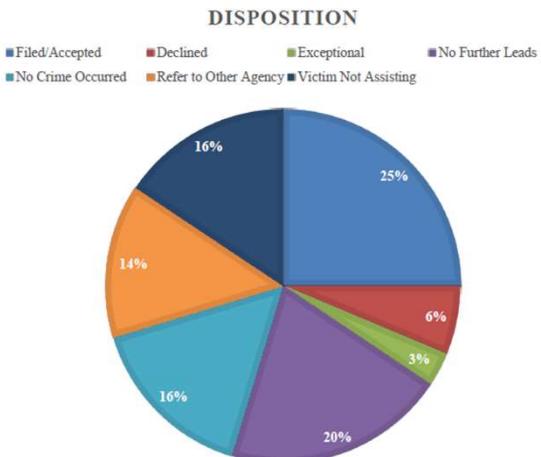
Support Service Division

INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Under the direction of the Deputy Chief and the direct supervision of a sergeant, detectives primarily focus on investigating felony criminal cases. Their goal is to build a strong case for filing criminal charges with the city, or state prosecutor's office.

The division was responsible for investigating major crimes such as homicide, robbery, aggravated assault, sexual assault, child physical and/or sexual abuse, serial crimes, and arson.

Throughout 2024, the investigations team handled or reviewed a total of 229 cases, marking an impressive 87% increase from 2023. Additionally, the unit managed two fatal collision investigations during the year.



Administrative Division

Records Unit

The Records Unit at LSPD is a dynamic and essential part of our law enforcement operations. This unit handles all aspects of records management, ensuring that information is accurately maintained and readily accessible. In addition to managing records, the unit conducts fingerprinting, enters warrants and protection orders, and processes concealed pistol licenses. They are also responsible for responding to public records requests, generating monthly and annual crime statistics, and reviewing and managing body-worn camera footage.

Beyond these critical tasks, the Records Unit plays a vital role in community engagement by organizing events that foster positive relationships between the police and the public. Their comprehensive efforts ensure transparency, accountability, and community trust.

Public Disclosure

	2022	2023	2024
Number of Requests	1235	1599	1891
% Increase	4%	30%	18%
Time Spent on Requests (hours)	785	1522	3193
% Increase in Time	13%	94%	110%

Body Worn Camera/Digital Media

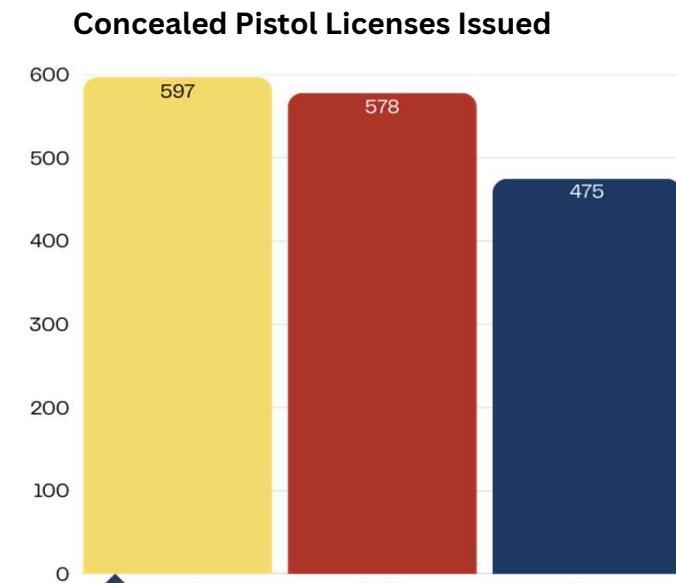
There are 72,594 pieces of digital media managed by the records unit. Digital media is BWC, photos, and audio/video recordings. Since the inception of our BWC program the number of requests has increased significantly.

Since the program started in 2022, there has been a 464% increase in requests for digital media.



Administrative Division

In 2024, the Lake Stevens Police Department assumed responsibility for the entry of all misdemeanor warrants from Marysville Court. This transition marked a significant enhancement in the department's records management capabilities, ensuring that warrant information is accurately and efficiently processed. By taking over this critical function, the department has streamlined operations and improved the overall effectiveness of its warrant management system. This initiative reflects the department's commitment to organizational excellence and its dedication to maintaining public safety through meticulous records management.



In 2024, our employees entered into the National database:

- 522 Protection Orders from Superior and Marysville Municipal Court
- 294 Misdemeanor Warrants from Marysville Municipal Court



Accomplishments

Professional Police Services

- Officers Lyons and Brecht were honored with the Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue First Responders Award for their courageous response to an apartment fire, where they assisted residents who were jumping from the second floor.
- The Lake Stevens Police Department (LSPD) has joined the North Sound Police Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization. Donations can be directed towards specific projects or the general fund, with the option to earmark contributions for LSPD.
- LSPD hosted the FBI-Leadership Training series, which included the Supervisor Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute, and Executive Leadership Institute. Three of LSPD's current sergeants earned the prestigious FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Award by completing all three courses.
- LSPD received an \$88,000 grant from the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) to further enhance staff wellness initiatives.
- The LSPD Investigations Unit executed multiple Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) residential search warrants in collaboration with the Washington ICAC Task Force, including assistance with the extradition of a child predator.



Accomplishments

Community Interaction



- The department attended the Women in Public Service Career and Recruiting Fair in Monroe to recruit candidates. Entry-level officers volunteered at local resource centers while awaiting academy training.
- The department participated in the 3rd Annual Lake Stevens Polar Plunge for Special Olympics, raising over \$18,000 with 73 participants, including city officials and community members. They also took part in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Washington.
- Officer Carter conducted Active Shooter training for city department staff. The department held a "Pops with Cops" event at North Cove Park, engaging with families and handing out otter pops to kids.



- In collaboration with Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue, the department hosted a Water Safety Camp at Lundein Park, where approximately 20 kids learned water safety skills from experts. They provided traffic control and security at the Annual Aquafest events.
- Officer Charouhas worked with LEAD to bring resources and tools to the city, attending monthly meetings and conducting training sessions.
- The Investigations Unit participated in an interview with KING5 regarding community training on the "Protect Your Child" workshop.
- The department conducted a 9-week Citizens' Academy course, covering various topics such as K-9, DUI, Emergency Vehicle Operation, and more.



- The department participated in National Night Out with Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue at the Trestle Station, featuring first responders, vehicles, displays, and free ice cream for attendees. They faced off in the annual Guns and Hoses Softball Charity Game, winning 16-10 and collecting donations for the Lake Stevens Food Bank.
- The department participated in the City of Lake Stevens' Harvest Festival, handing out candy and safety materials to families, and took part in the Lake Stevens Community Resource Center Toy Drive, collecting unwrapped toys for local kids.
- The Investigations Unit also participated in a multi-agency UC Child Predator Operation led by the NW ICAC Task Force and NCIS, resulting in the arrest of numerous suspects.

Accomplishments

Organizational Excellence

- The department was awarded a WASPC Grant to hire an additional Records Specialist for the Body Worn Camera Project.
- King 5 published an article on our K9 team being the only trained and imprinted K9 Unit on Fentanyl. ([You can read the article here](#))
- A mentoring program was developed within the Investigations Unit to help young officers obtain and develop their skill set for assisting in criminal investigations and to prepare them for future roles as detectives if they desire.
- The department received the 2024 WASPC re-accreditation, complying with over 150 standards that ensure adherence to current industry standards, best practices, and State and Federal Law.
- An additional \$41,666 WASPC Accreditation Grant was awarded to support Professional Police Services and Organizational Excellence projects.
- The SharePoint Migration was completed for all Police Department SharePoint Sites, ensuring that documents and files are organized and set for proper state retention as required by law.



Personnel Recognition



Michael Hingtgen
Sergeant

Outstanding
Supervisor



Kevin Lanto
Officer

Meritorious Service
Medal



Chris Lyons
Corporal

Officer of the Year

Personnel Recognition



Ariane Fox
Records Supervisor

Chief's Leadership
Award



Julie Ubert
Administrative Manager

Chief's Leadership
Award



Jessica Dreher
Administrative Assistant

Chief's Leadership
Award

Personnel Recognition



Phil Basset
Detective

Certification of
Commendation



Amber Charouhas
Officer

Certification of
Commendation



Kristen Parnell
Corporal

Certification of
Commendation

Personnel Recognition



Years of Service

20 Years

Julie Ubert, Administrative Manager

10 Years

Josh Kilroy, Officer
Chad Well, Sergeant
Gain Heinemann, Sergeant
Chris Lyons, Corporal

5 Years

Jessica Dreher, Admin Assistant



Kandy Brown Outstanding Volunteer

Kandy has been a dedicated volunteer for the department since **2002**. She is our most reliable volunteer, consistently showing up as scheduled and readily assisting whenever we need extra help outside of her regular volunteering hours. Kandy efficiently handles her assigned tasks and always offers to help with additional duties. Her positive attitude and friendly demeanor are greatly appreciated by everyone in the department.



Promotions

Ariane Fox, Records Supervisor
Chris Lyons, Corporal

New Hires

Austin Hogan, Officer
Cady Byram, Records Specialist
Breezie Morgan, Records Specialist
Melissa Linseth, Records Specialist
Miles Lewis, Officer
Jason Sutton, Officer
Erick Everest, Officer
Amanda Van Hook, Officer
Margaret Cooper, CSO
Wayne Aukerman, Officer

Join our LSPD Team!

- Signing bonus up to \$25,000 for lateral officers
- Moving expense reimbursement
- Competitive salary
- Specialty assignment, longevity and education incentives
- Annual uniform allowance
- Holiday cash out
- Retirement, pension, and full medical
- Robust training and professional development plan



Contact a recruiter
and start your career
with the Lake Stevens
Police Department
today!

INTEGRITY



HONOR



SERVICE

