

Meeting Agenda Public Safety Advisory Committee

April 2, 2025 5:15 p.m.

HOW TO ATTEND

- In-person: Lakewood Police Station, 9401 Lakewood Drive SW.
- **Virtually**: Online or by phone. Online: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/92169813017?pwd=RjFIYmVHOGVvamV2TTVvRUJyQzZHUT09. Or dial (253) 215-8782 and enter participant ID: 921 6981 3017.
- Livestream: YouTube.com/CityofLakewoodWA

Persons requesting special accommodations or language interpreters should call 253-830-5002, as soon as possible in advance of the meeting so that an attempt to provide special accommodations can be made.

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC COMMENT

GUEST SPEAKER- Public Works Capital Projects Division Manager Troy Pokswinski

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

WEST PIERCE FIRE & RESCUE COMMENTS

LAKEWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS

YOUTH COUNCIL COMMENTS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Preview of Next Meeting (June 4th)

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

Community Outreach Reports and Open Discussion on Public Safety

ADJOURNMENT



Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

MEETING PLACE/DATE:

Lakewood Police Department, December 4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

5:16 p.m.

ATTENDANCE:

<u>Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Present:</u> James Hairston, Mark Peila, Kamarie Wilson, Teresa Imholt-King, Julius Brown and Ray Dotson

<u>Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Excused:</u> Kristofer Alston

Lakewood Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Absent: Ken Witkoe

Staff: Assistant Chief John Unfred and Admin Assistant Joanna LaVergne

Youth Council Liaison: No one from Youth Council was in attendance; Efren Lopez and Lui Owejan asked to be excused.

Council Liaison: Councilmember Trestin Lauricella

West Pierce Fire and Rescue Liaison: No one from WPFR were able to be present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. James Hairston motioned to approve the October 2, 2024 minutes. All ayes; minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

GUEST SPEAKER

Neighborhood Connections Program Coordinator Chris Davis gave an update on his Neighborhood Association Revitalization efforts, which included three new neighborhood associations, as well as the new Neighborhood Connections Leadership Group (NCLG) which would meet every month. Discussion ensued. Joanna LaVergne will update the neighborhood association list and send the presentation to PSAC members.

As part of the neighborhood association discussion Mr. Ray Dotson brought up the PSAC clothing that he had created several years ago. Discussion ensued. Mr. Julius Brown motioned to send the shirt and hat through to City Council for approval for PSAC members to wear to PSAC visibility events, as well as neighborhood association meetings. All ayes; Mr. Dotson will send pictures to Joanna LaVergne to provide to City Council for consideration.

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS:

Councilmember Trestin Lauricella gave an update on projects such as the Sound Transit funding for sidewalks for East Lakewood, as well as upcoming events like the Holiday Parade on Saturday and the Jingle Bell 5K on the 14th. He also stated that the City Council had passed an ordinance re: exposing children to illegal substances, raising the level of offense to a gross misdemeanor, which is the highest the City can raise it. The goal is to push State Legislature to make it a felony, statewide.

FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMENTS:

No one from West Pierce Fire and Rescue was able to attend the meeting.

POLICE COMMENTS:

Assistant Chief John Unfred discussed the 3rd Quarter Report and explained the new Business District Car (BDC) which had been created by LPD. The BDC consisted of a one officer patrol vehicle that would be assigned solely to the business district of Lakewood, 7 days a week, in an effort to further curb retail theft. Assistant Chief Unfred also discussed the Black Friday retail theft

emphasis, the Flock camera system, and stated that the PD is currently fully staffed. Discussion ensued.

YOUTH COUNCIL COMMENTS:

There was no Youth Council present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Board Comments:

Chair Kamarie Wilson discussed the Truck and Tractor Day, stating it was a good event and they talked to lots of parents. Discussion ensued, to include a suggestion about having something to hand out to the kids, next year, to help them bring more adults to their table, as well as making sure that the table and tent which had been requested for their booth were actually put up for them.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board Comments:

Chair Kamarie Wilson stated it was time to work on the 2025 Work Plan, stating that at the joint meeting, the City Council really liked the idea of PSAC making themselves more visible in the community. Chair Kamarie Wilson opened the floor for discussion regarding PSAC committing to 1 Tuesday a month, to man a booth at the City's Farmer's Markets during the summer. It was agreed that they would look at doing 1 Tuesday for all three months (June, July and August). It was also agreed to keep Truck and Tractor Day on their work plan under PSAC Visibility.

Chair Kamarie Wilson asked about the Neighborhood Association Revitalization. Discussion ensued. It was agreed that PSAC would continue to try to attend meetings and look at introducing themselves at the new Neighborhood Connections Leadership Group (NCLG) meeting, which happens the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Secretary Joanna LaVergne went over what she had down for the Work Plan, and discussion ensued over which speakers they would like to see at their meetings. Secretary LaVergne will send the completed Work Plan to Michael Vargas for presentation to the City Council.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF:

Board Comments:

No committee members had an update to share.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. James Hairston motioned to adjourn; all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.



Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) 2025 ANNUAL WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE

Members:

Chair Kamarie Wilson

James Hairston

Mark Peila

Julius Brown

Vice Chair Teresa Imholt-King
Ray Dotson

Ken Witkoe

Kristofer Alston

Council Liaison:

Councilmember Trestin Lauricella

City Staff Support:

Assistant Police Chief John Unfred Administrative Assistant Joanna LaVergne

Meeting Schedule:

1st Wednesday of every other month, 5:15 p.m., Lakewood Police Station and Virtual

2025 Work Plan:

1.	Neighborhood Association Revitalization	
2.	PSAC Visibility-Farmers Market, SummerFest and Truck and Tractor Day	

Date	Topic(s)			
2/5	Neighborhood Associations Revitalization and Public Works			
	Presentation			
4/2	Farmer's Market and SummerFest Prep and Parks Presentation			
6/4	SummerFest and Farmers Market Prep			
8/6	Truck and Tractor Day Prep and WSH Update			
10/1	PSAC Elections And 2026 Work Plan, final Truck and Tractor Day prep			
12/3	Finalize 2026 Work Plan			

Special Events:

Date	Event		
August 11th	*tentative* City Council/PSAC Joint Study Session		
October	Truck and Tractor Day		
December 4 th ?	*tentative* Fallen Officer Food and Blood Drive		

Neighborhood Association List

		Primary	<u>Backup</u>
Tillicum/Woodbrook	Active	James	Mark P
Tillicum-American Lake Gardens			
Community Center or Manic Meatballs,			
14815 Union Ave SW			
14916 Washington Ave SW			
6:30 p.m. 2 nd Tuesday of the Month			
Lake City	Active		
West Pierce Fire Station 22			
8517 Washington Blvd.			
7 p.m. 2nd Thursday of every other Month			
(January, March, May, July, September,			
November)			
Springbrook			
Springbrook Connections			
5105 Solberg Dr SW #A			
4:30 p.m. 3rd Thursday of the month			
Downtown			
Interim Lakewood Pierce County Library			
10202 Gravelly Lake Drive SW			
5:30 p.m. 2 nd Wednesday of the month Fort Steilacoom Park			
Pavilion at Ft. Steilacoom Park			
6:30 p.m. 3 rd Tuesday of the month			
Dower Elementary Area LASA			
(more info needed)			
Neighborhood Connections Leadership Group			
Lakewood City Hall (American Lake Room)			
5:30 p.m 7 p.m.			
5.50 p.m. 7 p.m.			
The following is a link to the City's website			
listing the existing neighborhood			
associations			
https://cityoflakewood.us/neighborhood-			
associations/			

1/3/25

Lakewood Police Department

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



20 YEARS OF SERVICE





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Our Numbers

102 Sworn

Limited Commission

Civilian

2 K9



Letter from the Chief

The last two years serving as the Lakewood Chief of Police have been both challenging and increasingly rewarding. The police department has been continuously evolving to meet the needs, changes and challenges in our community, while staying on top of our laws and modern-day policing strategies. We have enhanced our training measures, improved overall efficiencies, implemented new technology, revised policies and procedures, while at the same time building community trust and enhanced business district enforcement. Our officers have performed exceptionally well and are ready for the challenges of today.



In 2024, the Lakewood Police Department was recognized nationally by the International Association of Chief's of Police, when they produced a video to highlight our crime reduction strategies and implementation of new technology in our community. Our team efforts resulted in a 67% reduction in vehicles stolen and a 25% reduction in overall property crimes, when compared to our year-over-year statistics. It is our goal to drive down crime, while leveraging technology to facilitate a department that is both efficient and effective.

We are extremely grateful for the strong ties built in the Lakewood community. We know every contact isn't about enforcement. It's about serving people, often at their most difficult moments, such as after a car accident, family dispute or the loss of a loved one. We appreciate the trust the community has in us, as a department, to get the job done. This is why we create opportunities to give back, as in our Shop with an Officer Program, Community Meals give away, our Annual Food Drive and the Citizen's Police Academy. We want to be here for the community, regardless of the problem and regardless of the need.

As we move into 2025, we will stay focused on our community-first agenda. Always striving to achieve and maintain the highest standards in policing. Continuing to develop community and business partnerships that will enhance our effectiveness in crime reduction, build trust in the community and foster our overall community policing model.

I am very thankful to serve as your police chief and I am very proud of the accomplishments our team has made this year. Our talented police force is eager to serve, but please know that we cannot police the city without you and your support. Continue to be our eyes and ears to improve the City of Lakewood. One Team Against Crime in 2025.

Chief Patrick D. Smith

CORE VALUES

INTEGRITY DEDICATION TEAMWORK COMPETENCE RESPECT

66 *Making a Difference*

MISSION

"

The purpose of the Lakewood Police Department is to create a safer city that is conducive to thriving families, schools, and productive businesses. The Department is committed to the safety and welfare of its citizens and visitors, while staying focused on crime reduction, to minimize victimization. We proudly work cohesively with our citizenry, and community groups, to create a harmonious city for all to enjoy.



Lakewood's 21st century department consists of 100 commissioned police officers, two Community Service Officers, two Court Compliance Officers, two Animal Control Officers, three Code Enforcement Officers, and ten civilian support staff. The Lakewood Police Department is one of the largest departments in the State of Washington, serving a population of over 60,000. To successfully counter crime challenges, the Department operates a large array of programs and employs modern technology to expand its reach and efficiency.

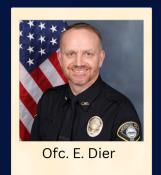


Command Staff:

Chief Patrick D. Smith
Assistant Chief John Unfred
Captain Jeff Alwine
Captain Chris Westby
Captain Andy Gildehaus
Captain Jeremy Prater
Captain Peter Johnson



WELCOME











Ofc = Officer CCO = Court Compliance Officer

FAREWELL



Sgt. Ken Devaney



Det. Chris Bowl

CONGRATS

R MOTIO Ν



AWARDS

Police Chief Commendation



Lifesaving Award





The Patrol Division is comprised of 48 sworn personnel who are responsible for responding to emergency calls, traffic enforcement, proactively fight crime and solve problems in the community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The patrol division is commanded by the patrol Captain, along with six patrol sergeants that lead their individual squads of seven officers.

YOU CALL. WE RESPOND.

49,810
Calls for Service
Lakewood Population: 62,303

44,110

Dispatched Calls for Service

Average Response Times

4.6 minutes
Priority 1/ Life Threatening

8.7 minutes
All Other Priority Calls



Top 4 Categories of Calls for Service

Traffic Stop
Welfare Check
Security Check
Suspicious Vehicle

16,481

Officer Initiated Calls

1,510

1,067

Tickets

Collision Reports

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The Investigations Division consists of five units:

- · Forensic Services
 - Major Crimes
- · Property Crimes/Robbery Unit
 - · Special Assault
 - · Special Operations

YOU NEED ANSWERS. WE INVESTIGATE.



1,643

Violent Crimes

Homicide; Forcible Rape; Robbery; Aggravated Assault



3,324
Property Crimes
Burglary; Larceny/Theft;
Motor Vehicle Theft; Arson







INVESTIGATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Innocence Lost Task Force South Sound Violent Crimes Task Force

PSATT/ Puget Sound Auto Theft Task Force

DEA/Tahoma Narcotics
Task Force

PCFIT/Pierce Co. Force Investigation Team

Cases Assigned/Cleared

290/301- Special Assault

350/264- Property Crimes/Robbery

173/179 - Major Crimes

15/7 - Special Operations

Special Operations

36 Arrests

44 Search Warrants

\$60,000+

51

Assets Seized

Guns Seized

SPECIALTY UNITS



Traffic

The Lakewood Police Department's Traffic Unit consists of one sergeant, three officers and one community service officer and is focused on increasing public safety on the roadways. This goal is accomplished through enforcement, engineering and education. The unit uses a variety of selective enforcement measures along with emphasis patrols in school zones and high traffic areas to make Lakewood roads safer. The unit also conducts emphasis patrols to crack down on impaired driving.

Animal Control Stats:

4: 1.900

Service Requests

203

Animal Impounds

512

Infractions Issued.

7

Potentially Dangerous

Dogs

Traffic 2024 Stats:

1,067

Collisions

Citations/Infractions Written:

1,510

Animal Control

Animal Control is staffed by two full time officers who work with the communities of Lakewood, Steilacoom, and DuPont.

They work with citizens to promote responsible pet ownership, control pet disease and public safety through education, service, and enforcement.





Property and Evidence Room



Pieces of Evidence Collected

5,756

including:

413 Firearms

29,910.5 Grams of Narcotics

\$42,941.90 Money

The three staff in the Property/Evidence Room hold, preserve, and document all of the evidence collected from crime scenes and provide it to courts when needed for trial. They also ensure that property recovered from solved crimes, such as burglaries and car prowls, are returned to the rightful owners.



Marine Services Unit (MSU)

The Marine Services Unit (MSU) provides services to the area lakes. The department maintains a large boat on American Lake, as well as a rigid inflatable boat on a trailer and two jet skis. The diversity in marine fleet allows officers to respond quickly to the variously sized lakes in the city.

Officers patrol and provide rescue/recovery services to numerous waterfront homes, businesses, beaches, marinas, and parks that are used by thousands of visitors and residents alike all year long. They are also part of the Metro Dive Team.



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SPECIALTY UNITS





K9 Unit

The Lakewood Police Department's K9 Unit consists of two K9 teams. The Lakewood K9 unit is part of the Pierce County Metro K9 Team. Both teams are State Certified through Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission, State Accredited through the Washington State Police K9 Association, and certified through the Peirce County Metro K9 Agreement. This means that they undergo an additional 500 hours of K9 specific training, in addition to the base training all officers receive, each year.

The K9 patrol teams responds to calls for service county wide to assist in safely tracking wanted subjects, pursuing fleeing subjects, and building searches.



HOOF!

2024 K9 Stats:

36 Captures

138Deployments



Community Safety Resource Team (CSRT)

The Community Safety Resource Team (CSRT) consists of one sergeant, three Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs), two Community Service Officers (CSOs), and three Code Enforcement Officers (CEOs).

Each member of the team is assigned to designated areas of the city where they work together to tackle not only full-blown neighborhood problems, but the root conditions that contribute to them. This includes, but is not limited to, criminal activity, nuisance properties, dangerous buildings, unlawful business practices, and homelessness issues.



BHCT 2024 Stats:

760

Care Response Episodes

236

New Admissions to Behavioral Health Resources

238

Re-Admissions to Programs
For Further Treatment

CSRT 2024 Stats:

572

Total Code Complaints Received

394

Code Complaints Received Via MyLakewood311

29

Community Meetings

Behavioral Health Contact Team (BHCT)



Mental Health Professionals (MHP's) Matt Landis and Kristi Flesher work with Officer Arbiol as part of the BHCT and with CSRT and Patrol to find people proper help and assistance instead of taking them to jail or sending them to overcrowded emergency rooms. Their work helps people with mental health issues get streamlined mental health and medical care, along with finding housing, and solutions to personal needs. 2024 marked our first year with two full-time MHP's on staff, for the full 12 months. In addition, the Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare incorporation with Multi-Care gave us more opportunities for referrals and a wider network of available resources for the people we serve. Both resulted in increased numbers for the year.

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (UAS)



Lakewood Police added unmanned aircraft systems, or drones, to its toolbox in 2018 to help with day-to-day business including traffic investigations, missing persons reports, locating fleeing suspects, conducting search warrants, assisting other agencies, and more.

As part of the program requirement the department is open and transparent about its use of the unmanned aerial devices, posting monthly usage reports to the city website and sharing information with the public about how and when the devices are used.

Drone Usage:

5 Training/Maintenance/Admin Flights

1 Crime Scene Investigation Flights

1 Search and Rescue

9 Incident Management Flights

3 Police Operations

8.05 Total Flight Hours





Retail Theft Program

The Lakewood Police Department continues to implement and expand the Retail Theft Emphasis Program, led by the Property Crimes/Robbery Unit and the Neighborhood Patrol Officer (NPO) Unit, with support from Patrol Officers and Court Compliance Officers, who assist with prisoner transport.

LPD personnel have established strong working relationships with Loss Prevention Agents from various Lakewood retailers. Surveillance and Arrest Teams collaborate in real-time with these agents to apprehend suspects and recover stolen property efficiently.

Holiday Emphasis Program

The Holiday Emphasis Program deploys officers in high-visibility patrols within the Lakewood Towne Center, aiming to deter and respond to theft-related incidents. Since its inception in 2017, this annual effort has contributed to reductions in retail crime and strengthened community engagement.

2024 Program Impact

In 2024, LPD conducted four retail theft emphasis operations, resulting in:



82 Arrests **\$10,000+** in recovered stolen property

Since the program's relaunch in 2022, these operations have led to:

200+ arrests \$34,000+ in recovered stolen property





In 2024, the Lakewood Police Department was one of five agencies featured at the 2024 International Association of Chiefs of Police Convention in Boston. IACP-TV came out to interview and film LPD and the resulting video was debuted at the convention in October. Use the QR code to view the video.



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS



Use of Force & Pursuits

Each "I" equals 100 incidents

91 Pursuits

121 Use of Force

2,059 Arrests

44,110 Dispatched Calls for Service



Reasons for Pursuits

- 44 Felony Property Crime
- **16** Possible DUI
- 2 Suspicious Vehicle
- 21 Reckless Vehicles
- **5** Felony Person Crime
- 1 Misdemeanor Property Crime
- 1 Wanted Subject
- 1 Misdemeanor Person Crime

Reasons for Use of Force

- **6** Traffic Stops
- 17 On View
- 10 Field Contact
- 88 Calls for Service

Internal Investigations & Findings

2 Internal Investigations

7 - Sustained

7 Allegations

Exonerated - incident occurred but the conduct or performance of the employee was found to be lawful and proper.

Sustained - allegation is supported by sufficient evidence to justify a reasonable conclusion that the alleged misconduct occurred.

Not Sustained- there is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation(s).

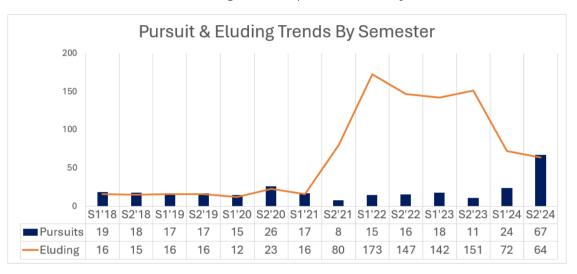
Unfounded- the investigation revealed that the incident or allegation(s) did not occur.

Standards Failure- standards were followed but had undesired results. This results in reassessing standards and modifying/expanding training.

The Professional standards section is staffed by a Captain, a sergeant, a training officer, and a police administrative technician. This division handles citizen complaints and conducts internal and background investigations. It oversees the training and department administrative functions. It also periodically evaluates the operation of the department for changes in policy, training and equipment.

Eluding. A Constant Struggle.

Eluding = Any driver who willfully fails or refuses to immediately bring his or her vehicle to a stop after being given a visual/audible signal to stop. Class C felony. RCW 46.61.024



Semester = 6 months S1 = January - June S2 = July - December

Prior to legislative action in 2021, many cities and towns already had restrictive pursuit policies that weighed the community's safety with the underlying reason for the pursuit. People committing crimes were not necessarily aware of an agency's pursuit policy, and, therefore, appear to have been less likely to flee from police or use a vehicle in the commission of a crime. Unfortunately, offenders are currently using the state's vehicular pursuit laws to their advantage by using a vehicle in the commission of their criminal activity -- an unintended consequence of a well-intentioned public safety goal.

Given the number of criminals who use stolen vehicles to facilitate other crimes, we are asking our State Legislature to make refinements to the pursuit policy to allow for the pursuit of stolen vehicles, and to allow local jurisdictions to individually continue with their current policy against all pursuits if they consider that to be the best choice for their community. Working within current pursuit laws, Lakewood Police Department has developed training on the use of tactics and updated policies to help minimize opportunities for drivers who would otherwise seek to flee in a vehicle.



14,963 hours

Officer In-Service and Additional Training

146.7 hours

Average Hours of Training Per Officer

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COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Every year, with the help of generous community partners, such as WalMart, and donations received from Lakewood citizens and police employees, the Lakewood Officers' Charity hosts two events for the Holiday Season; Holiday Meals and Shop with an Officer.

SHOP WITH AN OFFICER

This year, as part of our 14th annual Shop with an Officer event, our officers had the honor of taking 21 families shopping at Walmart. Families are nominated by our officers, the Clover Park School District, and local churches. This event was coordinated and financed by the Lakewood Officers' Charity, which is funded by contributions from Lakewood Police officers.



HOLIDAY MEALS

Through this program, our Lakewood Officer's Charity partners with WalMart to provide meals to 150 families enrolled in the <u>Clover Park School</u> <u>District</u> Headstart Program. We are grateful for the opportunity to connect with these families and give back to our community.



CITIZENS ACADEMY



In 2024, LPD offered its 6th annual Citizens Academy, providing an opportunity for residents to learn about police work from the inside. Through this eight-week course, residents met once a week from June to July at the Lakewood police station. They had the opportunity to learn from Lakewood police officers and department leadership, received interactive training from police officers, and had direct access to police detectives and command staff to ask questions about operations.

We had 16 graduates in this class and are looking forward to hosting it again in 2025.







NATIONAL NIGHT OUT (NNO)

Each year the Lakewood
Police Department
participates in this
national event focused on
bringing communities
and neighbors together
and creating a positive
relationship with law
enforcement.



HERE'S TO 20 YEARS



First Department Photo 2005

66

Of, For, About Community

77



First LPD Station 2004



LPD Station built 2009

LPD "Plank Owners" Among the employees

who began in 2004, helping to build LPD, **32** are still serving today.

Not pictured: Cpt. Pete Johnson Sgt. Jeff Carroll Ofc. Jeremy Vahle



SERVING LAKEWOOD



Current Department Photo

Making a Difference

77

In Memory of Our Fallen Heroes

We respectfully honor the brave officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Their courage, dedication, and service to our community will never be forgotten. Officers who died in the line of duty:

LAKEWOOD FOUR

EOW 11/29/2009

Sgt. Mark Renninger Ofc. Tina Griswold Ofc. Ronnie Owens Ofc. Greg Richards





Additionally, we remember and honor the lives of officers who, in their own struggles, left us too soon. Their service and commitment to our department and community will always be cherished. Officers who passed away:

Ofc. Arron Grant ~ EOW 4/25/2017

Ofc. David Lucchetti ~ EOW 6/3/2022



"When there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved."

Mattie Stepanek

#IAMLAKEWOOD





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