

# CITY OF LYNDEN

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Taylor, Police Chief

(360) 354-2828



### Public Safety Committee Meeting - 04/04/2024 Agenda

Police Department - 203 19th Street

4:00 PM April 04, 2024

#### **Call to Order**

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

- [1.](#) March 2024 Draft Minutes

#### **Items from the Audience**

##### ***Scheduled***

##### ***Unscheduled (20 Minutes)***

*Audience members may address the Committee on any issue other than those scheduled for a public hearing or those on which the public hearing has been closed. Prior to commenting please state your name, address, and topic. Please keep comments under 4 minutes.*

#### **Committee Items**

##### **Fire Department Items**

- [2.](#) LFD March 2024 Report

##### **Police Department Items**

- [3.](#) Public Safety Stats - March 2024
4. Hiring Update-Records clerk position
- [5.](#) Fireworks Information Mailer

#### **Added Items**

#### **Adjournment**

# CITY OF LYNDEN

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Taylor, Police Chief  
(360) 354-2828



### Public Safety Committee Meeting - 03/07/2024 Agenda

Police Department - 203 19th Street  
4:00 PM March 07, 2024

#### **Call to Order** 4:00PM

**Roll Call:** Committee Members Present: March Wohlrab, Lee Beld, Gary Vis  
Others Present: City Administrator John Williams, Police Chief Steve Taylor, Lieutenant J. Bos, Police Support Services Manager Sharon Clark, Fire Chief Mark Billmire, Fire Support Services Manager Kinsey Dehaan.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

1. January 2024 Draft Minutes: Approved

#### **Items from the Audience**

***Scheduled- None scheduled.***

#### ***Unscheduled (20 Minutes)***

*Audience members may address the Committee on any issue other than those scheduled for a public hearing or those on which the public hearing has been closed. Prior to commenting please state your name, address, and topic. Please keep comments under 4 minutes.*

Cynthia Ripke -7000 block Guide Meridian: Would like to see Citizen's Police Academy brought into the school district- Middle school and up. Expressed thanks to the City of Lynden for keeping marijuana dispensaries out of the city limits. Inquired about different proposed fire taxes and was referred to Whatcom County tax assessor office due to her living outside of the city limits and was advised that the City of Lynden does not have separate Fire tax lines.

Mikhail Nichols- 2000 block Anders Ln- Voiced some concerns over Law Enforcement response to Domestic Violence incidents with the community as well as concerns over perceived racial and gender biases being present due to personal negative experiences.

#### **Committee Items**

2. Downtown Parking – Community Development brought forward the request that employees of downtown businesses park off the street and not in front of the businesses on Front Street. Would also like to see the 3-hour parking time limit enforced on Front Street. (This entails needing to create a position to monitor this daily as well as a system to impose and uphold any fines issued.) Would parking on side streets then create another parking problem?  
Committee conversation about other parking options included a parking garage, (The

current cost to build a parking garage at this time is estimated to be 80,000.00 per parking stall.) Acquiring property downtown to put in an additional parking lot for downtown employees and overflow parking. While conversations continue a letter will be sent to downtown business owners asking that their employees use side street parking, leaving the parking spaces on Front Street open to customers visiting the downtown businesses in the interim.

3. Public Safety-Chamber of Commerce Events 2024(Permits) – The Chamber of Commerce has submitted their annual event list. The Public Safety Committee is moving the list forward to the next upcoming council meeting for full council approval.

### **Fire Department Items**

4. -LFD Annual Report 2023 – See attached report.  
\*\*additional stat for the year- There were 677 (28% of the time) Overlapping calls (anytime simultaneous calls are occurring) in 2023.\*\*
5. Public Safety Committee Meeting - LFD January report. – See Attached report.
6. - LFD- Response volume. See attached report.  
Committee member Lee Beld wanted confirmation that the department staffing level has not changed since 2017. Historically the department has relied on its combination status of career and volunteers to help offset staffing needs. The department is down to only 1 volunteer. The department applied for a SAFER grant in 2023 with hopes of adding two additional full-time career positions but was not an award recipient.

Areas with high response volume.

-High response areas include our adult family homes and the 1600 block of Grover.

7. LFD February 2024 Report- See attached report
8. Ladder 75 Update – Firefighter Brink, Firefighter Hastings and the department mechanic have gone over most recent specs for the build. Firefighter Hastings and the department mechanic will be making a site visit in April to check on progress and have any questions answered. Delivery date has been bumped up from spring of 2025 to November or December of 2024.
9. Part-Time recruitment update. – Panel and Chief's interviews concluded, presenting eligibility list for Civil service approval and the next meeting.

### **Police Department Items**

10. Public Safety PD Stats - January 2024- See attached report

11. Public Safety PD Stats - February 2024 -See attached report

-Body Worn Camera's- There are currently four in use. We expect within 3-6 months that they will be utilized department wide. We have been getting positive feedback from the officers currently using them.

-Hiring Update: Annika Bierlink will be sworn in at the March 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. We won't have an academy date for her until July, so she will be able to help as needed in records. We will be working with HR to begin the process to fill her vacated records position.

- Proposal to add two Corporal Positions- See attached proposal

In the amended RCW there is a NO pursuit stipulation during times there is no assigned supervisor on duty. The addition of adding two Corporals will limit the time our department does not have a supervisor on duty and ensure there is a supervisor on shift for as many hours as possible throughout a 24-hour period.

Citizen Mikhail voiced agreement that supervisors need to be available throughout the shift and having gaps in supervisory coverage creates a safety hazard as well as an inefficient system pertaining to pass downs from shift to shift.

Committee Member Beld asked if during times when there is no supervisor scheduled if there was the option of "acting" paying the senior officer out of class pay to stand in as "acting supervisor" and mentioned that Whatcom County Sheriff's Office has been doing this for multiple years. Chief Taylor will investigate to see if having an "acting" would fulfill the supervisory requirement necessary per the RCW. Chief Taylor also advised that agencies similar in size are going in the same direction of adding Corporals due to the amended RCW. Should the request for additional Corporals be approved, it would be around summer that the promotional process would be completed. Due to having an unfilled position since October we would be within budget capacity for 2024 to finance the promotions. The promotions would then be included in the budget process moving forward. City Administrator Williams advised that the next step would be to present this to the Mayor for his approval on the budget adjustment. The Public Safety Committee is in support of the request and will move it forward for Mayor approval.

**Adjournment:** 1718





# Monthly Report

## March 2024





## Fire Prevention/Inspection:

3/1 8650 Benson Hydro test  
 3/14 Townsedge Hydro test  
 3/14 Mod Pizza Knox Box  
 3/14 Cobblestone Hydro test  
 3/29 8889 Depot Sprinkle and alarm finals

## Public Education/Community:

3/8 Teen Heart Screen  
 3/27 LMS Chess Challenge



Teen Heart Screen

## Emergency Operations:

Duty Officer Watson 3/12 – 3/18, 3/26 – 4/1  
 Duty Officer Billmire 2/27 – 3/11, 3/19 – 3/25  
 3/18 Exhaust system repair  
 3/20 Stryker annual maintenance

## Emergency Responses:

EMS = 181 (133) 86%  
 Overlapping Calls = 67 (31) 32%  
 Aid Given = 13 (9)  
 Aid Received = 6 (3) (3 for no LFD)  
 Transports = 41 (25)

**Total Calls 211 (158)**

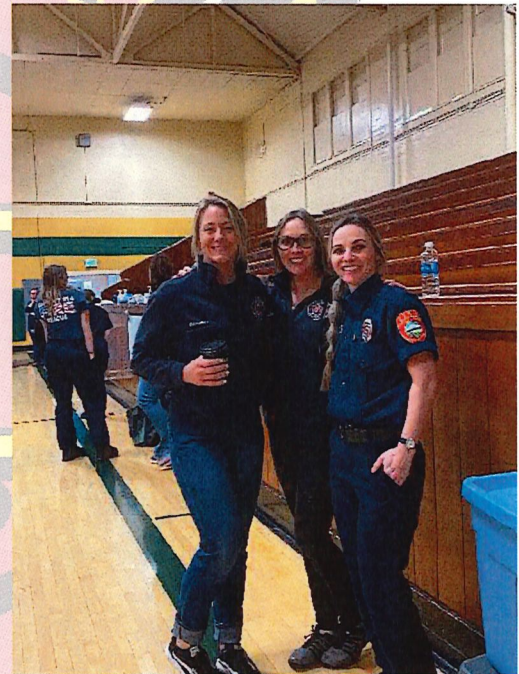
Average Turnout Time = 1:30 (1:29)

**Average Response Time = 4:20 (4:01)**

Average Time on Scene = 18:06 (19:12)

Average Transport Time = 24:40 (27:30)

Average at Hospital Time = 27:01 (25:12)

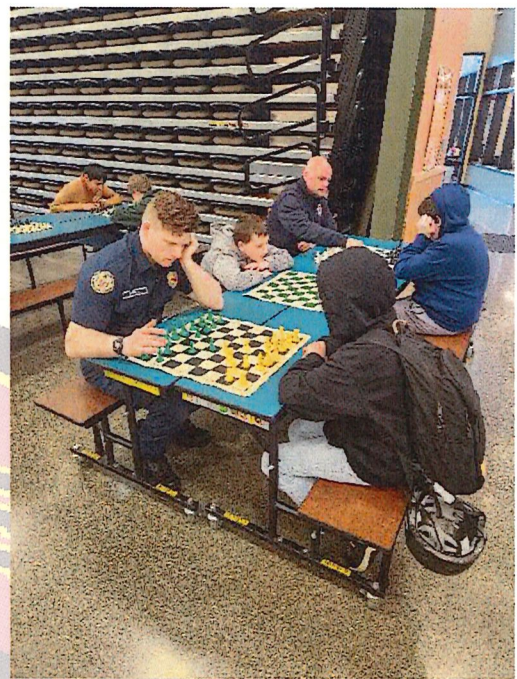


Teen Heart Screen helpers





Car fire on Grover



LMS chess challenge







### Annual Fire Situation Report - Summary

Basic Incident Type Code And Description (FD1.21)	Total Fires
	1
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	1
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	181
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	1
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	2
353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	1
441 - Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	1
552 - Police matter	1
553 - Public service	1
611 - Dispatched and cancelled en route	15
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	1
650 - Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke, other	1
700 - False alarm or false call, other	1
900 - Special type of incident, other	1
	<b>Total: 211</b>

#### Aggregate Function Criteria

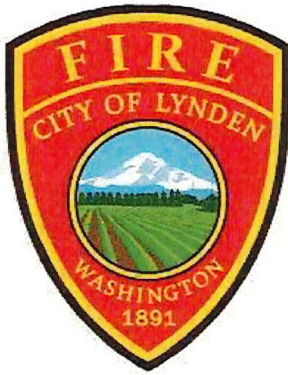
Total Fires: Is Greater Than 0

#### Report Filters

Basic Incident Date Time: is between '3/1/2024' and '3/31/2024'

Agency Name: is in 'Lynden Fire Department'





Incident Complaint Reported By Dispatch (eDispatch.01)	Number of Runs	Percent of Total Runs
Falls	50	28.57%
Sick Person	22	12.57%
Breathing Problem	14	8.00%
Hemorrhage/Laceration	11	6.29%
Chest Pain (Non-Traumatic)	10	5.71%
Convulsions/Seizure	10	5.71%
Unconscious/Fainting/Near-Fainting	9	5.14%
Abdominal Pain/Problems	7	4.00%
Heart Problems/AICD	6	3.43%
Overdose/Poisoning/Ingestion	5	2.86%
Stroke/CVA	5	2.86%
Traumatic Injury	5	2.86%
Traffic/Transportation Incident	4	2.29%
Psychiatric Problem/Abnormal Behavior/Suicide Attempt	3	1.71%
Unknown Problem/Person Down	3	1.71%
Diabetic Problem	2	1.14%
Headache	2	1.14%
Allergic Reaction/Stings	1	0.57%
Animal Bite	1	0.57%
Assault	1	0.57%
Burns/Explosion	1	0.57%
Cardiac Arrest/Death	1	0.57%
Pregnancy/Childbirth/Miscarriage	1	0.57%
Transfer/Interfacility/Palliative Care	1	0.57%
<b>Total: 175</b>		<b>Total: 100.00%</b>

#### Report Filters

Incident Date: is between '3/1/2024' and '3/31/2024'

Agency Name (Dagency.03): is in 'Lynden Fire Department'

Response Ems Shift (Iresponse.005): is in 'A Shift, B Shift, C Shift'

Response Type Of Service Requested (Eresponse.05): is in '911 Response (Scene)'



# LYNDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## *Criminal and Other Activity*

### Top 10

January - March 2024

	January	February	March
Assault	9	10	11
Burglary (Residential)	3	2	2
Crimes Against Person	4	5	1
Domestic Violence	4	4	7
Drug Offenses	2	1	1
DUI	3	6	3
Sex Crime Reports	2	1	3
Theft	8	10	4
Traffic Accidents	3	8	6
Vehicle Prowls	3	1	3
Other Reportable Calls	107	116	163
Non-Reportable Calls	596	516	591



[illegible]



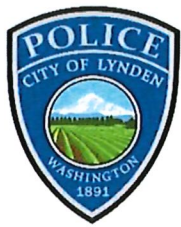
# LYNDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Criminal and Other Activity

2022 - 2024

	January		February		March		April		May		June		July		August		September		October		November		December		TOTALS					
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024			
Alcohol Offenses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2		0	0		0	0	0	1		0	0		0	0		2	0				
Assault (Felony)	0	0	1	2	3	2	1	3	1	0		1	0		0	1		0	1		0	2		1	0		0	0		
Assault (Misdemeanor)	3	9	8	5	4	9	9	8	10	6	12	4	14		8	12		6	9		2	6		3	16		6	11		
Auto Theft	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	1	1		1	0		0	0		0	0		2	0		0	0		0	0	
Burglary (Residential)	5	2	3	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	3		3	2		3	1		0	4		1	3		2	2		1	3	
Crimes Against Person	0	1	4	2	4	5	3	5	1	1	3		2	7		2	3		4	3		2	3		2	2		0	3	
Crimes Against Property	2	2	6	6	6	14	17	3	3	5	3		2	3		6	5		4	3		2	2		7	3		7	4	
Domestic Violence	6	5	4	4	10	4	5	6	7	5	6		1	7		8	6		8	10		4	12		7	10		5	8	
Drug Offenses	1	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	1		1	1		0	1		1	1		0	0		2	1		1	2	
DUI	0	2	3	1	1	6	3	7	3	0	5		0	1		7	4		4	1		1	9		3	7		0	13	
Malicious Mischief	3	9	2	5	4	5	12	7	16	5	6		12	6		9	6		9	4		2	3		4	2		2	59	
Public Order Maintenance	6	13	22	8	20	19	12	9	18	12	18		17	12		12	19		16	18		12	19		10	12		16	5	
Robbery	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1		0	0		0	0		0	1		0	0		0	0		0	14	
Service Calls	33	49	51	38	78	52	45	57	98	61	44		38	57		47	62		48	60		47	63		47	40		36	0	
Sex Crime Reports	1	1	2	1	0	1	1	2	3	3	3		2	2		1	1		2	1		1	3		0	1		0	64	
Theft	24	17	8	22	17	10	28	16	4	15	12		27	13		31	22		21	12		14	7		10	13		15	2	
Traffic Accidents	8	15	3	8	4	8	6	8	6	9	10		5	10		9	11		11	7		12	11		20	15		13	24	
Traffic Offenses/Complain	19	20	26	22	22	23	46	25	21	36	13		21	21		33	34		28	24		19	20		8	27		16	12	
Vehicle Prowls	4	2	3	2	0	1	7	2	3	2	0		2	6		5	0		4	2		3	1		4	0		0	33	
All Others	7	4	3	3	10	3	9	5	7	9	14		12	6		9	14		7	12		10	7		7	7		5	0	
Non-Reportable Calls	506	745	594	474	556	516	524	551	591	629	602		694	581		756	672		592	587		656	559		582	517		679	660	
Total Calls	629	897	746	603	741	682	732	717	793	802	758	0	844	753	0	950	875	0	765	760	0	791	730	0	719	675	0	804	917	0

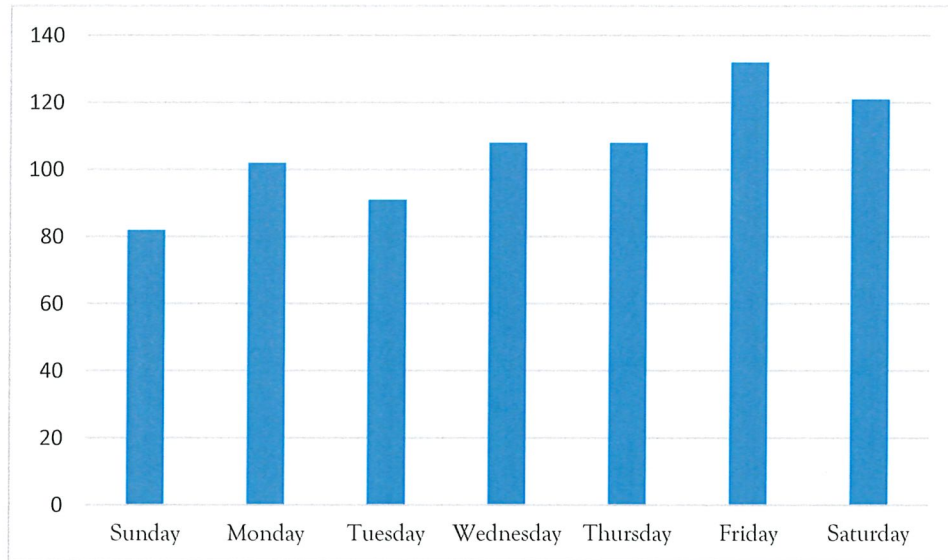




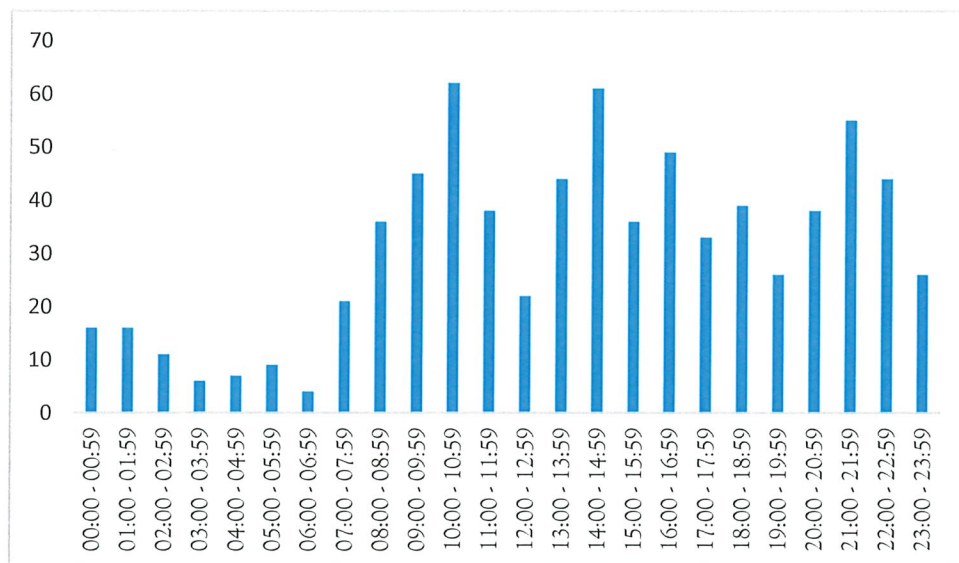
# LYNDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

March 2024

Calls by Day of the Week



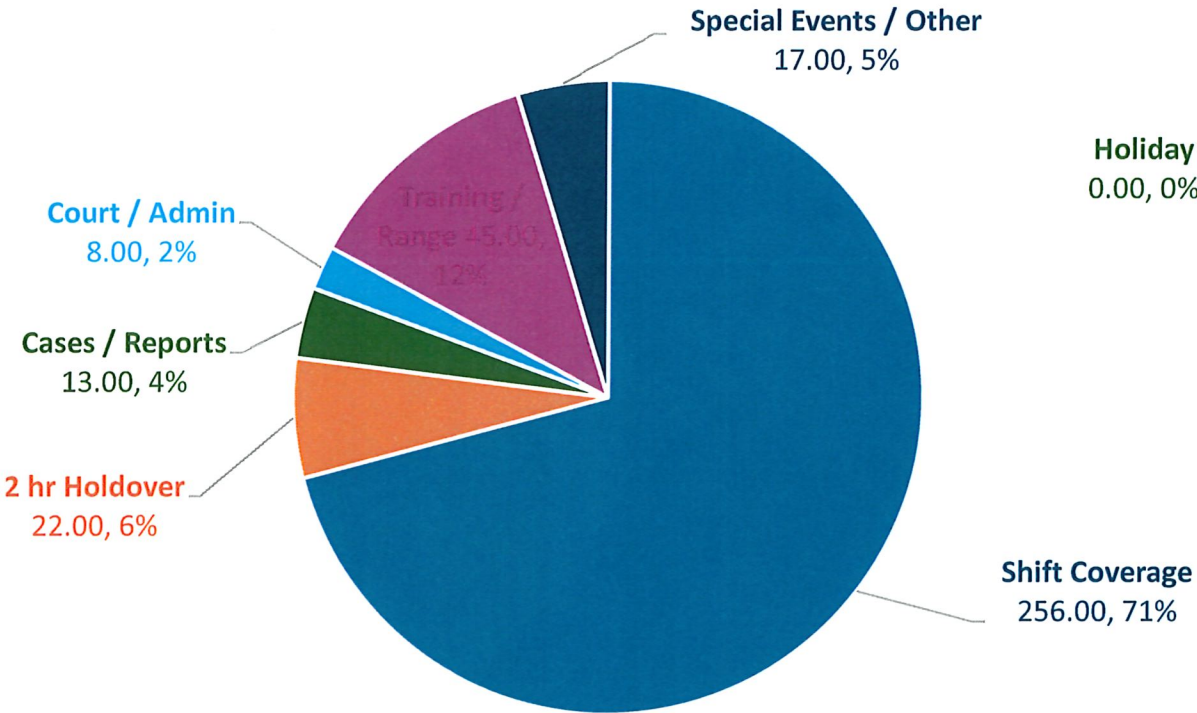
Calls by Hour



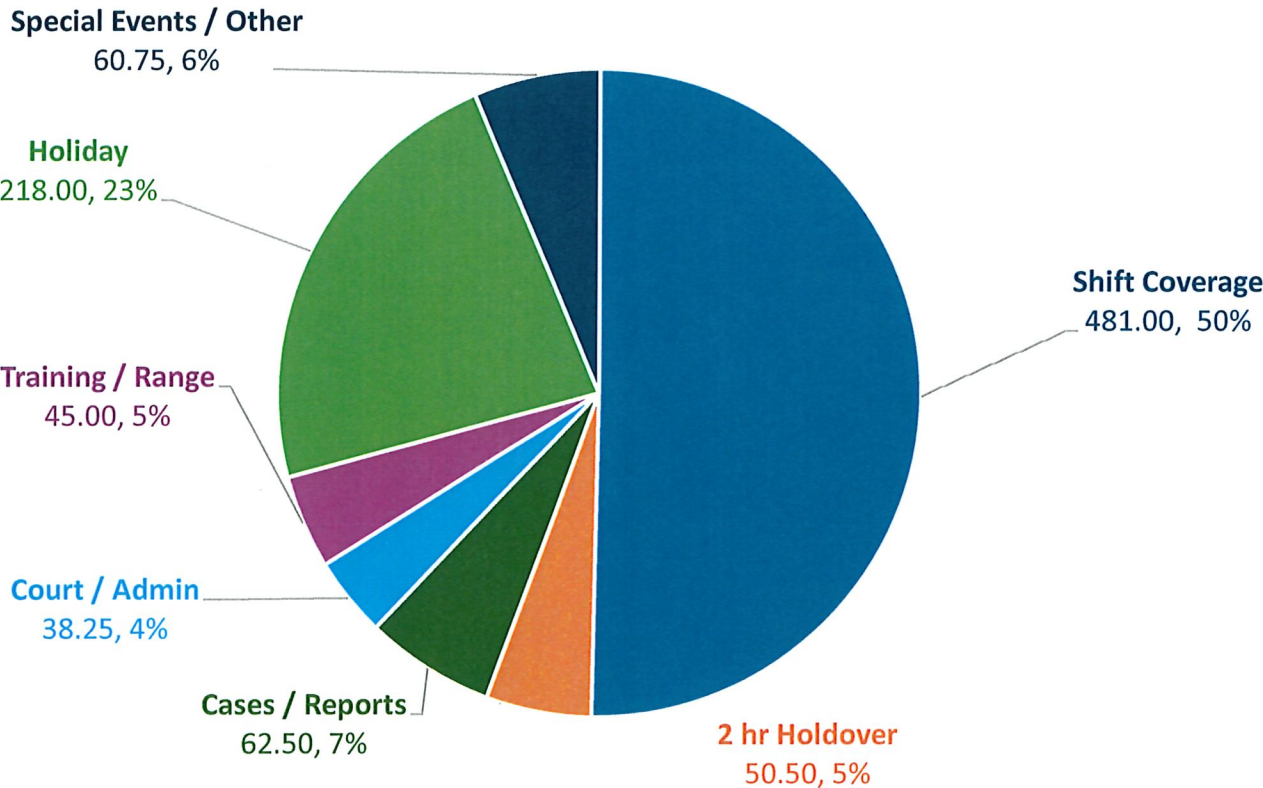


# LYNDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT

## March 2024 Overtime Hours (361)



## Year to Date 2024 Overtime Hours






# LYNDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT



## FIREWORKS FACTS

# 2024

**CITY OF LYNDEN  
FIREWORKS USE & DISCHARGE  
DATES & TIMES**

<i>July 2024</i>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> 0900-2300	<i>2</i> 0900-2300	<i>3</i> 0900-2300	<i>4</i>  <u>0900-0000</u>	<i>5</i> 0900-2100	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>31</i>			

Within the City of Lynden, fireworks can only be discharged from July 1 through July 5 and during specified times.

Outside of the city limits, fireworks can be discharged from June 28 through July 6.

Fireworks may be sold/purchased starting on June 28 through July 5.



**LMC 9.24.200 Fireworks--Use prohibited--Exception.**

No person shall cast, throw, light or fire any squib, rocket, cracker, torpedo, grenade, gun, revolver, pistol, cap or cartridge, or other combustible firecrackers or fireworks, except that type which is classified and registered as safe and sane fireworks by the state fire marshal in conformity with Chapter 228, Session Law of 1961, state of Washington. (Ord. 1141 § A (part), 2002).

**LMC 9.24.210 Fireworks--Sale and display prohibited--Exception.**

No person shall exhibit or have in his possession with intent to give away, sell or offer for sale within the city any squib, rocket, cracker, torpedo, grenade, gun, revolver, pistol, cap or cartridge or other combustible firecrackers or fireworks except that which is classified and registered as safe and sane fireworks by the state fire marshal in conformity with Chapter 228, Session Laws of 1961, state of Washington. (Ord. 1141 § A (part), 2002).

**LMC 9.24.220 Fireworks--Dangerous use prohibited.**

No person shall cast, throw, light, fire or otherwise utilize any safe and sane fireworks or any other fireworks, in a reckless or dangerous manner or in a way that causes substantial risk of injury to any person or property. (Ord. 1141 § A (part), 2002).

**LMC 5.24.100 - Dates and times consumer fireworks may be sold or discharged**

It is legal to sell and purchase consumer fireworks within the City of Lynden from 12:00 noon to 11:00 p.m. on the twenty-eighth of June, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on each day from the twenty-ninth of June through the fourth of July, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the fifth of July, from 12:00 noon to 11:00 p.m. on each day from the twenty-seventh of December through the thirty-first of December of each year, and as provided in RCW 70.77.311.

**Consumer fireworks may be used or discharged each day between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. on the first of July to the third of July, and on July 4th between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on July 5th, and from 6:00 p.m. on December 31st until 1:00 a.m. on January 1st of the subsequent year, and as provided in RCW 70.77.311.**

(Ord. 1090 § A, 1999; Ord. 408 § 6, 1963)

(Ord. No. 1479, § 1, 2-17-2015)

**RCW 70.77.485**  
**Unlawful possession of fireworks — Penalties.**

It is unlawful to possess any class or kind of fireworks in violation of this chapter. A violation of this section is:

A misdemeanor if involving less than one pound of fireworks, exclusive of external packaging; or

A gross misdemeanor if involving one pound or more of fireworks, exclusive of external packaging

For the purposes of this section, "external packaging" means any materials that are not an integral part of the operative unit of fireworks.

**RCW 70.77.488**  
**Unlawful discharge or use of fireworks — Penalty.**

It is unlawful for any person to discharge or use fireworks in a reckless manner which creates a substantial risk of death or serious physical injury to another person or damage to the property of another. A violation of this section is a gross misdemeanor.

**RCW 70.77.435**

Any fireworks which are illegally sold, offered for sale, used, discharged, possessed, or transported in violation of the provisions of this chapter or the rules or regulations of the chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, are subject to seizure by the chief of the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, or his or her deputy, or by state agencies or local governments having general law enforcement authority.

[2002 c 370 § 37; 1997 c 182 § 20; 1995 c 61 § 23; 1994 c 133 § 11; 1986 c 266 § 111; 1982 c 230 § 37; 1961 c 228 § 64.]

**RCW 9.40.110**  
**Incendiary devices — Definitions.**

For the purposes of RCW [9.40.110](#) through [9.40.130](#), as now or hereafter amended, unless the context indicates otherwise:

- "Disposes of" means to give, give away, loan, offer, offer for sale, sell, or transfer.
- "Incendiary device" means any material, substance, device, or combination thereof which is capable of
- c
  - c c
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**RCW 9.40.120**  
**Incendiary devices — Penalty.**

Every person who possesses, manufactures, or disposes of an incendiary device knowing it to be such is guilty of a class B felony punishable according to chapter [9A.20](#) RCW, and upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment in a state prison for a term of not more than ten years.

**RCW 9.40.130 — Exceptions.**

RCW [9.40.120](#), as now or hereafter amended, shall not prohibit the authorized use or possession of any material, substance, or device described therein by a member of the armed forces of the United States or by firefighters, or peace officers, nor shall these sections prohibit the use or possession of any material, substance, or device described therein when used solely for scientific research or educational purposes or for any lawful purpose. RCW [9.40.120](#), as now or hereafter amended, shall not prohibit the manufacture or disposal of an incendiary device for the parties or purposes described in this section.

[2007 c 218 § 62; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 5; 1969 ex.s. c 79 § 4.]

**RCW 70.74.180**

Any person who has in his or her possession or control any shell, bomb, or similar device, charged or filled with one or more explosives, intending to use it or cause it to be used for an unlawful purpose, is guilty of a class A felony, and upon conviction shall be punished by imprisonment in a state prison for a term of not more than twenty years.

[2003 c 53 § 354; 1984 c 55 § 1; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 21; 1931 c 111 § 18; RRS § 5440-18.]

**RCW 70.74.270**

A person who maliciously places any explosive or improvised device in, upon, under, against, or near any building, car, vessel, railroad track, airplane, public utility transmission system, or structure, in such manner or under such circumstances as to destroy or injure it if exploded is guilty of:

(1) Malicious placement of an explosive in the first degree if the offense is committed with intent to commit a terrorist act. Malicious placement of an explosive in the first degree is a class A felony;

(2) Malicious placement of an explosive in the second degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious placement of an explosive in the first degree and if the circumstances and surroundings are such that the safety of any person might be endangered by the explosion. Malicious placement of an explosive in the second degree is a class B felony;

(3) Malicious placement of an explosive in the third degree if the offense is committed under circumstances not amounting to malicious placement of an explosive in the first or second degree. Malicious placement of an explosive in the third degree is a class B felony.

[1997 c 120 § 1; 1993 c 293 § 6; 1992 c 7 § 49; 1984 c 55 § 2; 1971 ex.s. c 302 § 8; 1969 ex.s. c 137 § 23; 1909 c 249 § 400; RRS § 2652.]



**RCW 70.74.010****Definitions.**

( ) The term "**explosive**" or "**explosives**" whenever used in this chapter, shall be held to mean and include any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that is commonly used or intended for the purpose of producing an explosion, that contains any oxidizing and combustible units, or other ingredients, in such proportions, quantities or packing, that an ignition by fire, by friction, by concussion, by percussion, or by detonation of any part of the compound or mixture may cause such a sudden generation of highly heated gases that the resultant gaseous pressures are capable of producing destructive effects on contiguous objects or of destroying life or limb. In addition, the term "explosives" shall include all material which is classified as division 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, or 1.6 explosives by the United States department of transportation. For the purposes of this chapter small arms ammunition, small arms ammunition primers, smokeless powder not exceeding fifty pounds, and black powder not exceeding five pounds shall not be defined as explosives, unless possessed or used for a purpose inconsistent with small arms use or other lawful purpose.

( ) The term "**improvised device**" means a device which is fabricated with explosives or destructive, lethal, noxious, pyrotechnic, or incendiary chemicals and which is designed, or has the capacity, to disfigure, destroy, distract, or harass.