



2023  
STATE OF THE COURT

# OUR MISSION

Lake Forest Park Municipal Court is dedicated to provide

**fair and impartial administration of justice**

and

**equal access for all individuals.**

We are committed to serving with

**respect, competence, and efficiency.**

**PRESIDING JUDGE**  
**Jennifer Grant**

**PROBATION OFFICER**  
**Charles Mitchell** (.2 FTE)

**PROBATION SERVICES**

**COURT ADMINISTRATOR**  
**Julie Espinoza** (1 FTE)

**COURT CLERKS**

**Elizabeth Alexander**  
(.5 FTE)

**Loyce Weishaar**  
(1 FTE)

**Kelley Gradwohl**  
(Per diem)

**Alisha Bhatti**  
(.8 FTE)

# COURT OPERATIONS & JUDICIAL DUTIES



COURTROOM  
HEARINGS



COURT  
RECEPTION



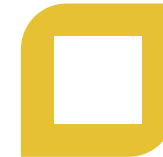
JURY  
MANAGEMENT



CASE  
SCHEDULING



LEGAL FINANCIAL  
OBLIGATIONS



POLICIES &  
PROCEDURES



SEARCH  
WARRANTS

# ACCESS TO JUSTICE

- ▶ Hybrid court for criminal calendar
- ▶ Remote (Zoom) hearings for infraction calendar
- ▶ Laptop available for participants who need assistance
- ▶ Increased public defense coverage – two (2) attorneys
- ▶ UP – KC Universal Payment program – consolidate and relicense
- ▶ Community Service in lieu of fine
- ▶ LFO assistance - reductions, waivers, and payment plans
- ▶ Pocketalk for language assistance at the court counter

# JAIL ALTERNATIVES

EHM

SCRAM

GPS

Remote  
Breath

# YOUTH COURT



- ▶ Formed in 2001
- ▶ Shorecrest High School students serve as judge, bailiff, and jury
- ▶ Bo Jordon, former police officer, security at Shorecrest H.S., and past-president of the Washington State Association of Youth Courts (WSAYC) Advised by
- ▶ Judge Grant provides judicial oversight

# Youth Court benefits



- **Restorative Justice**
  - Community Service
  - Defensive Driving School
  - Letter of Apology/Essay
- **Accountability**
  - Offenders admit the violation
  - Offenders answer to their peers
  - Infraction found committed and reported to DOL if Offender fails to comply
- **Empowers Youth**



# Youth Court Hearing - JS and WZ

- ▶ “This experience has been a wake call for me. I have realized that driving is not merely a privilege but also a responsibility. I must be accountable for my actions on the road and must strive to be a cautious and conscientious driver.”
- ▶ “Going forward, I commit to adhering to all traffic laws and speed limits, ensuring that I prioritize the safety of myself and others at all times.”
- ▶ 10 Community Service Hours –
  - ▶ Nonprofit – church
  - ▶ Provided community meal service

# Youth Court Hearing - JS and WZ (con't)

- ▶ “I write this letter with deep remorse knowing how my reckless actions have endangered the safety of others on the road.”
- ▶ “I am deeply sorry for the irresponsible act of my speeding. My actions were inexcusable and put the safety of others at risk, which I deeply regret. I offer the sincerest apologies and gratitude to the law enforcement officers, fellow drivers, pedestrians, and my own family who were affected by my actions.”
- ▶ 10 Community Service Hours –
  - ▶ Nonprofit – park
  - ▶ Cleaned and read water meters and worked on structures for the children’s play area

# STATE V. BLAKE (2021)

Drug possession statute ruled unconstitutional – convictions were to be vacated and legal financial obligations were to be reimbursed

Government funds the work and reimbursement while setting up the Blake Refund Bureau

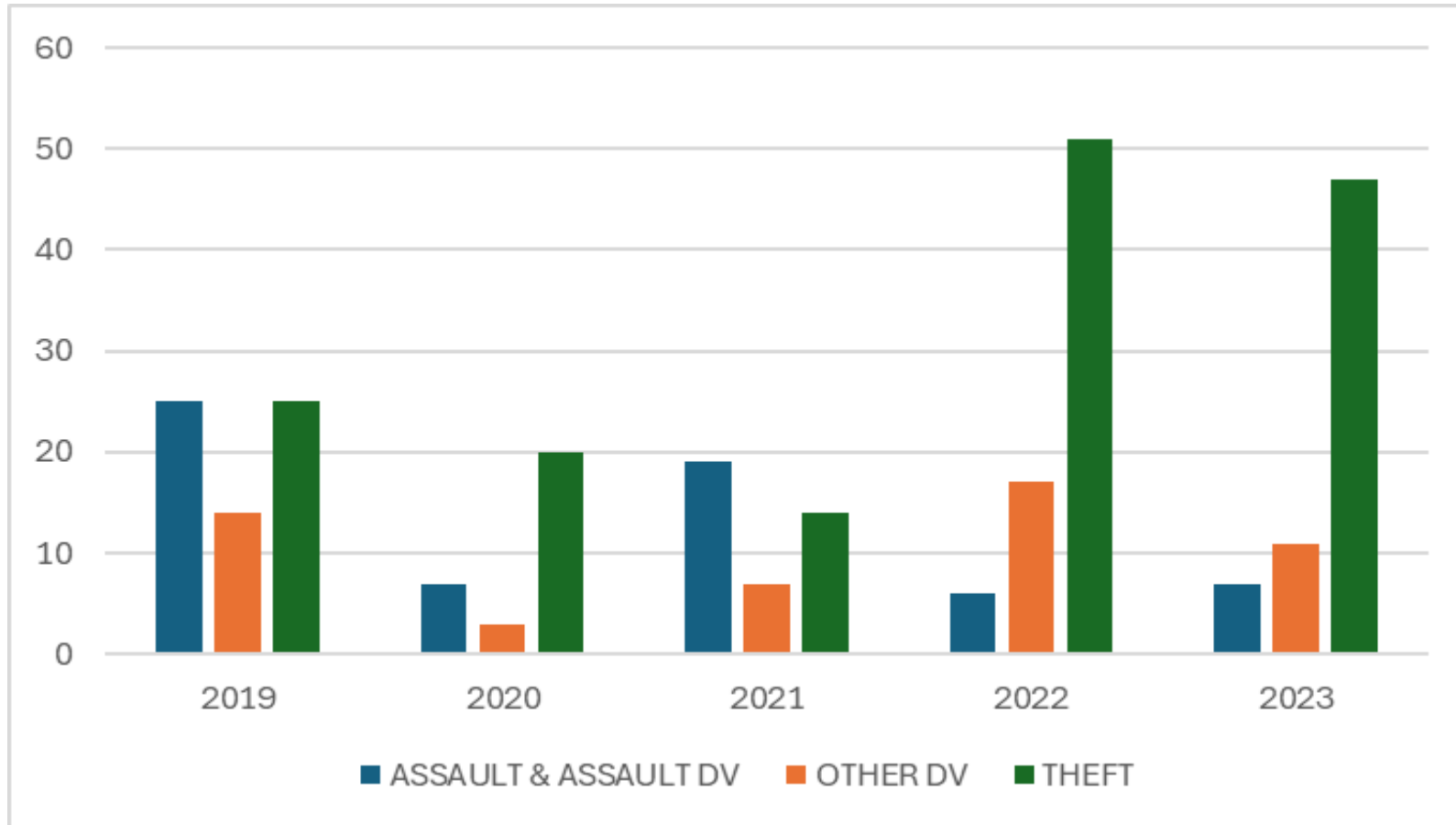
Cases back to 1979 screened for court action. Prosecution motions to vacate convictions. Court calculated LFO refund.

April 13, 2023 – Calendar for 85 defendants with financial consequences. Verified name and address to facilitate refund.

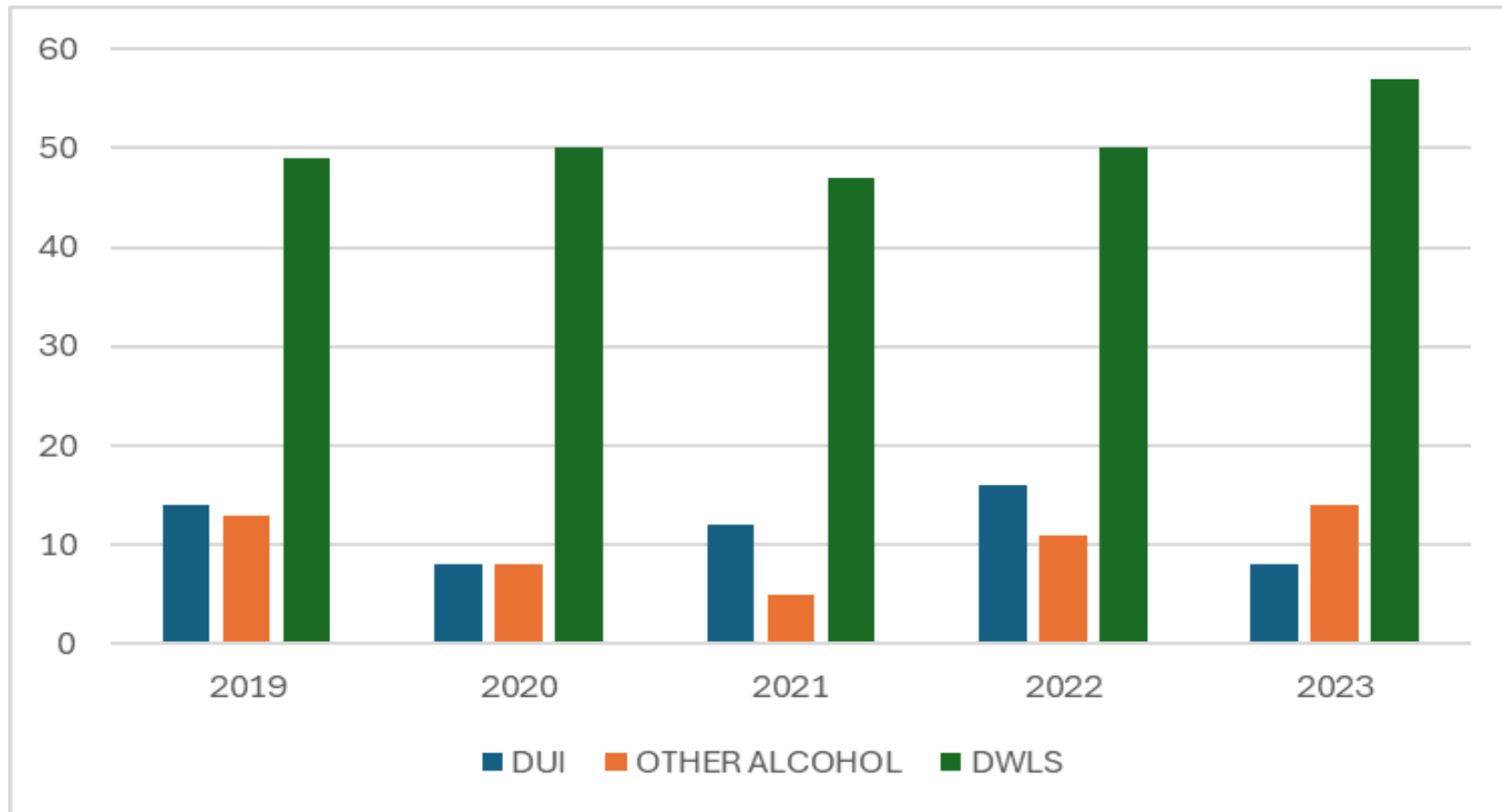
# OUR CASES: By the numbers

- ▶ Cases Filed
  - ▶ Traffic
  - ▶ Criminal non traffic
  - ▶ Criminal traffic
  - ▶ Infractions non traffic
  - ▶ Parking infractions
- ▶ Hearings Held
- ▶ Historical Comparison

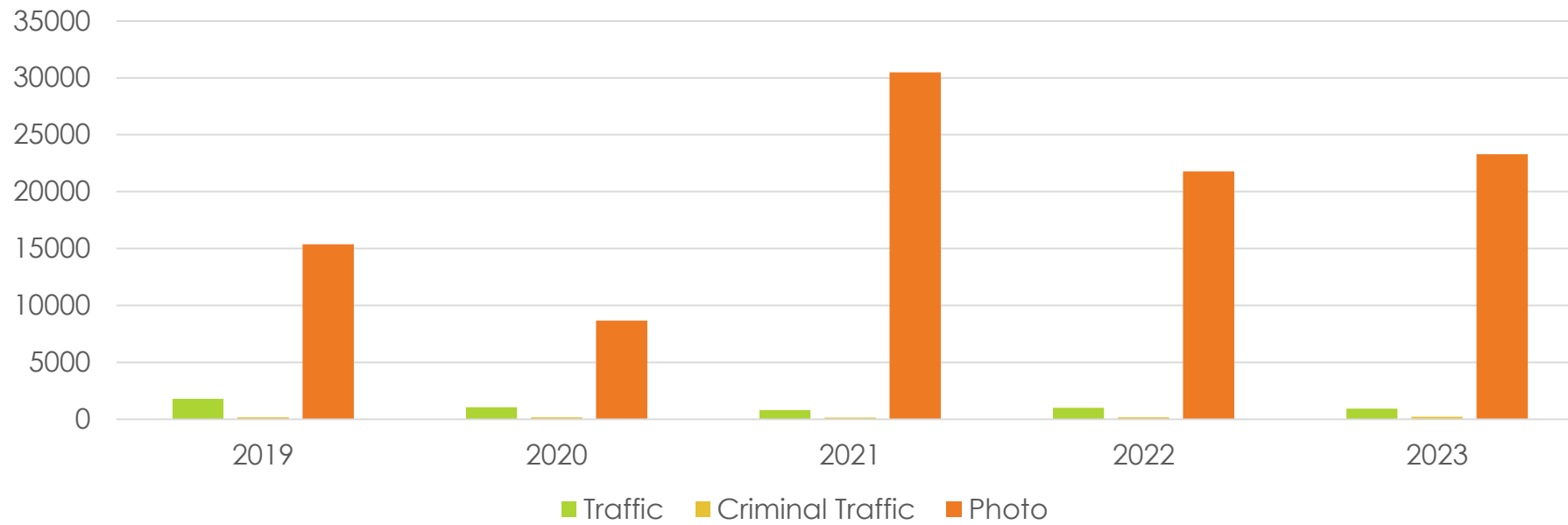
# Criminal Non-Traffic Filings



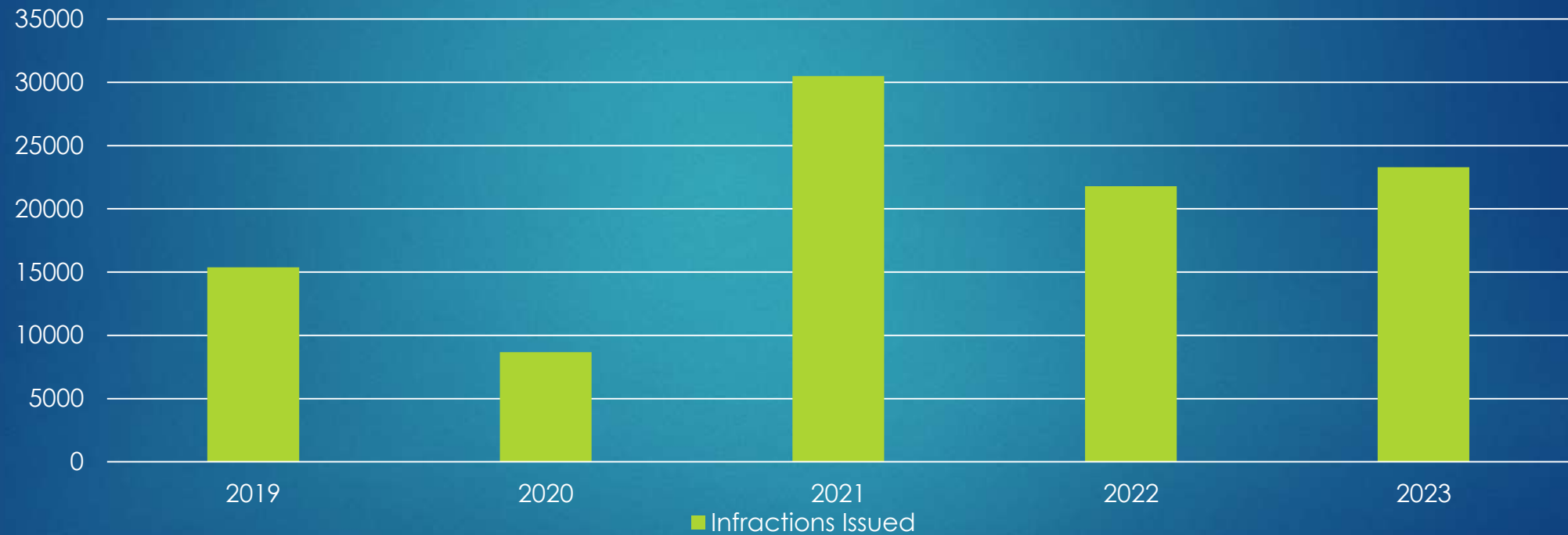
# Criminal Traffic Filings



# Traffic Filings



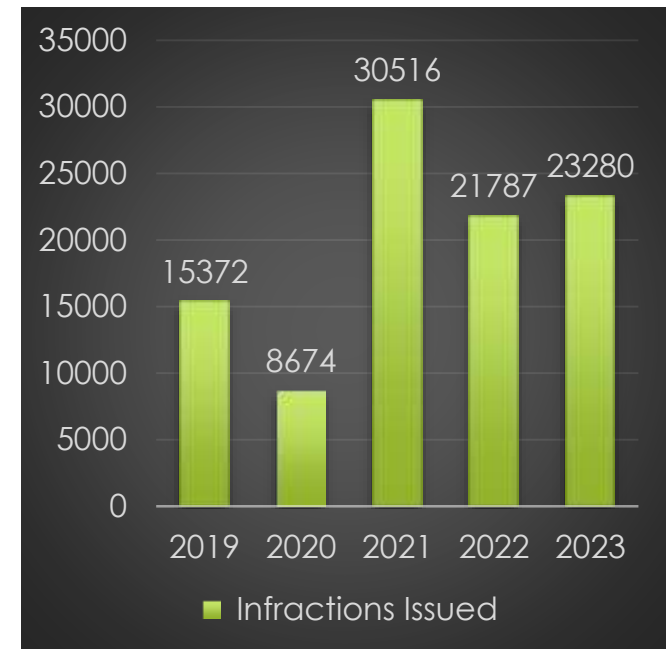
# Photo Enforcement





# Photo Enforcement

- ▶ Cases filed
- ▶ Hearing Options
  - ▶ In writing
  - ▶ TEC – electronic submission – email
  - ▶ Court hearing – held remotely / ZOOM
- ▶ Fine considerations



# Statewide issues effecting the judicial branch

- ▶ Access to justice
- ▶ Blake – convictions vacated and LFOs refunded
- ▶ Shortage of public defense attorneys
  - ▶ Caseloads are being addressed
  - ▶ Conflict Counsel
- ▶ Court security
- ▶ Case management system – CLJ/CMS –
- ▶ Shortage of interpreters/unwilling to appear in person

Thank you!

QUESTIONS?

► Email the court at [LFPcourt@cityofLFP.gov](mailto:LFPcourt@cityofLFP.gov)

