LEWISVILLE
a brief history

In 1855, Basdeal Lewis purchased the land around which Lewisville would be formed and named the town for himself. Incorporation as a city did not occur until a vote in 1925, when the population was only 815. The first law enforcement officer was M. L. Knight who was appointed city marshal when the city incorporated.

On August 9, 1939, the city council voted unanimously to abolish the city marshal in favor of creating a police department along with a police chief position to answer to the city council. In 1959, the Lewisville Police Department consisted of two police officers: W. D. "Bill" Watson and Jerry Mathis.

On April 15, 1963, city council named Charles Garrison as police chief. In 1968, Ralph Adams served as police chief followed by Bill Elsby in 1971. Chief Elsby turned over the reins to David Fowler in July 1975. The police department grew to 34 police officers in 1977 and hired Steve H. McFadden, Jr. as its police chief—a position he would hold until 2007. On May 2, 2007, Russ Kerbow became the chief of police retiring in August 2018, after serving over forty years as a Lewisville Police Officer. Chief Kevin Deaver became the new Police Chief following Chief Kerbow's retirement.

On February 8, 2010, Lewisville Police Department became the 28th agency state-wide to become "recognized" by the Texas Police Chiefs Association's 'Best Practices' program – a series of 164 separate standards. The department was re-recognized in 2014.

Today, the department is authorized 158 sworn police officers, 77 civilian and detention personnel, and uses the services of more than 100 volunteers throughout the city. The department consists of Patrol, Traffic, Criminal Investigations, a Tactical Team, and Special Operations Unit. The department's organization consists of a police chief, two assistant police chiefs, one public safety technical services manager, seven captains, and nineteen sergeants.