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TROY SHUEY

Alaska State Trooper since 2002
U.S. Air Force (1988-1995)

At least Shuey didn't need to change his stationary from EAFB during his military career. He was stationed first at Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, then Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota. He served as a law enforcement specialist during a time when the security and law enforcement careers in the Air Force had distinct and different job functions. "I performed the duties and responsibilities similar to any civilian law enforcement department in the country would and like we do today in AST," he said. He also performed dispatch duties and corrections during his Air Force career. He deployed to Korea in support of Foal Eagle, an annual combined field training exercise between the two countries that was used as a demonstration to deter war on the Korean peninsula. He was also deployed to work as a guard at Camp X-Ray, a temporary detention facility at the Guantanamo Bay detention camp in Cuba in support of the refugee crisis from Haiti and Cuba. In addition, he had all his bags packed and ready to go during the first Gulf War. He trained with and alongside Anchorage Police Department, AST, Rapid City Police Department, and many sheriff departments during his Air Force career. "I learned many things during this time that I have been able to utilize in my civilian career that has made me a better Trooper, sergeant and member of DPS," Shuey said. After his Air Force career ended, he worked for the Campbell County (Wyo.) Sheriff Department from 1995 until 2001 when he left to return to Alaska and become a Trooper. Shuey, who is from the East Coast, said, "My dad was stationed at Elmendorf prior to the '64 quake so I grew up hearing about Alaska my whole life."

SHERRY FERNO

Alaska State Trooper since 2004
Vermont Air National Guard (1990-1999) Security Forces
South Dakota Air National Guard (1999-2004) Security Forces

Alaska Air National Guard (2004-Present)

Ferno decided to go into the Air Force Security Forces area of the Air Forces because she was already working as a civilian police officer. At the time, the career field had only been open to women for three years. While with the Vermont Air Guard, Ferno deployed to England to back fill a position for an active duty troop. Later she went to Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) school to become a firearms instructor. In 1999 she moved to South Dakota and joined the Air Guard in Sioux Falls. While in the Air Guard there she went to Turkey for a few weeks as well as continuing to be involved with CATM. After 9/11, she was activated for two years. During that time, she deployed to Kuwait for six months where she served at the area supervisor and later took charge of the armory. Afterward, she served six months at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland. While in Maryland, she was the non-commissioned officer in charge of the main gate and worked with the Secret Service on a few occasions. She was also working the flight line when former President Reagan died and saw the funeral procession. In 2004, she moved to Alaska to take a job with the Alaska State Troopers. Not wanting to leave her military career behind, she enlisted with the Alaska Air Guard. Ferno traveled to Mongolia twice to train with the Mongolian military as well as other nations' militaries. She also deployed overseas for another six month tour to the Middle East. She was promoted to master sergeant (E-7), and took on the responsibility of squad leader as well as CATM. She eventually transferred from Fairbanks to Palmer and a position with the Alaska Bureau of Investigation. Later she applied for and was selected to be the commander of the Security Forces Squadron and eventually assumed her current rank of captain. She continues to juggle both jobs and responsibilities with the support of both organizations.

