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LOYALTY

INTEGRITY

COURAGE

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LEADERSHIP

ACCOUNTABILITY

COMPASSION

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2008 Annual Report

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

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ALASKA STATE TROOPERS ORGANIZATION



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



FIRE &
LIFE SAFETY



ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES



ALASKA
STATE
TROOPERS



ALASKA
WILDLIFE
TROOPERS



STATEWIDE
SERVICES

ALASKA STATE TROOPER DETACHMENTS AND BUREAUS

A

B

C

D

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ABI

ABADE

JUDICIAL ABHP
SERVICES



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ALASKA STATE TROOPERS



INTEGRITY

Integrity to remain steadfast, honorable and uncompromised in the performance of our duty.

LOYALTY

Loyalty to Alaska, to the highest ideals of law enforcement and to the truth, regardless of outcome.

COURAGE

Courage to make the right decisions in the face of physical danger and moral dilemma.

LEADERSHIP

Leadership by setting the example of professional conduct and progressive public safety solutions.

COMPASSION

Compassion to those in need regardless of circumstance or condition without bias.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability to Alaskans for our performance, our reputation and our perseverance.



Public Safety through Public Service

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Office of the Director

In 2008, Alaska State Troopers released its Strategic Compass after a great deal of dedicated time and effort by commanders and headquarters' staff. We were on track to achieving our core mission and goals. However, the latter half of 2008 became tumultuous because AST got caught up in the politics of the time. We had three commissioners in one year. There were high-level investigations and counter-investigations. All this outside attention slowed many of our plans, but through it all, we persevered. We continued our daily work of serving the public, dealing with homicides, sexual assaults, driving under the influence cases, search and rescues, collisions, domestic violences and all the other day-to-day operations that AST deals with as a matter of course. We accomplished feats and committed daily acts of heroism that should make every Alaskan proud. In addition, we constantly demonstrate that AST is filled with ethical, loyal, courageous and hardworking employees. Regardless of what challenges face us, we stay the course, we persevere and because of this, we came away at the end of the year with some significant successes.

The three major issues from the Strategic Compass:

- Hiring, training and preparation of our workforce;
- Implementation of modern business practices and technology;
- Repair, upgrade and replacement of some very deplorable facility conditions.

We successfully hired a greater number of recruits for troopers and Court Services Officers to start the slow process of filling detachment vacancies and eventually investigative vacancies to allow us to do our jobs safely and more completely;

We received support and partnership from the Alaska Court System in the establishment of the Alaska Bureau of Judicial Services to highlight the importance of this mission for both agencies (Page 11)



Director of Alaska State Troopers
Col. Audie Holloway



Deputy Director
Maj. John Glick



Deputy Director
Maj. Matt Leveque

We received support and partnership from the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, the Alaska Highway Safety Office and the National Highway Transportation and Safety Office in the bid to put more troopers on the state highways to make the roads safer for not only for the motoring public, but for the furtherance of commerce. These partnerships were crucial in forming the multi-agency and multi-jurisdictional Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol (Page 72).

We made great progress by placing laptops in patrol vehicles, an electronic records management system, some very needed digital storage for digital evidence such as audio recordings and in-car video recordings and TraCS, a software for electronic versions of citations and motor vehicle crash reports (Page 14).

We began the process for developing the Office of Professional Standards to address internal investigations. In addition, we made a determination about software that could track compliments, complaints and investigations. This should help us keep track of the statistics and take some of the burden off of supervisors who usually have to conduct the investigations.

We started the notification process to gain awareness about the conditions at many of our facilities. I basically had to condemn the AST post in King Salmon as unsafe for the public or employees. Some of our posts are inadequate for the number of personnel, while many are outdated. The evidence storage is inadequate and our outdoor storage yards are fast becoming junkyards.

It seems tedious to wait for needed repairs, space, personnel, and technology when it is obvious how badly it is needed and how far we lag behind to the rest of the business world. However, the key to success in these endeavors is to document the problem, back it up with facts and make it known so it can be fixed. Every one of us has this responsibility. Every one of us has the responsibility to persevere for the sake of the public we serve.





Real Men Choose Respect

The core mission of the Alaska State Trooper and Village Public Safety Officers program is to protect and serve, especially those who are the most vulnerable – women and children. All men should have this same mission. Yet Alaska has the highest rate of forcible rape in the country and it's had this despicable notoriety for many years. We also have some of the highest rates of sexual abuse of minors, internet crimes against children and domestic violence. Who are the perpetrators? Men. Who can change this? Men. Real men do not commit acts of violence against women and children.

Troopers and VPSO alone cannot change this, but we can and have committed ourselves to provide the very best service possible to victims. We can make sure our cases are handled professionally and followed up in a timely manner. What else can we do? We can continue to be role models and we can speak out publicly at every opportunity. We can also speak to our friends and get the word out that domestic violence, sexual assault and sexual abuse of a minor is an epidemic in Alaska. We can ask those friends pass on to their friends about how this epidemic needs to stop. In addition to the personal and family destruction, this victimization costs Alaskan society millions of dollars.

The Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, with the assistance of the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, now has a 10-year strategic plan. I urge all of you to look it over and be at least a little familiar with it. You can find it on the CDVSA website at <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/CDVSA/>. You will note that the council is now able to devote some resources to prevention, but the bulk of resources is still needed for immediate shelter and

assistance to victims. There is also a section about perpetrator accountability. This is high on a troopers' and VPSOs' "to do" list. We have a very big part in changing unacceptable societal norms.

I know we have our hands full and that we must prioritize our workload. Many cases are delayed due to new reports coming in the door all the time. But as we prioritize our cases and plan our days, please make a special commitment to prevent these crimes by helping spread the word. When this does not work and a perpetrator victimizes women and children, let us also make another special commitment to him – to make the very best case possible against him and he gets the very best service possible from Alaska State Troopers. Maybe by holding him accountable and allowing him time to ponder his choices, we will prevent the next act of violence against a woman or child.

Maybe someday, society will ask itself "Why do we put up with this? Why do we allow our men to beat, threaten and abuse women and children?" Changing societal norms to make this type of behavior unacceptable is the ultimate goal. In the meantime, the victims can turn to the troopers and domestic violence/sexual assault advocates for help. More information, including specific shelter information and safety plans, can be found at the ANDVSA website at www.andvsa.org.

Thank you all for helping with this endeavor.

Audie Holloway

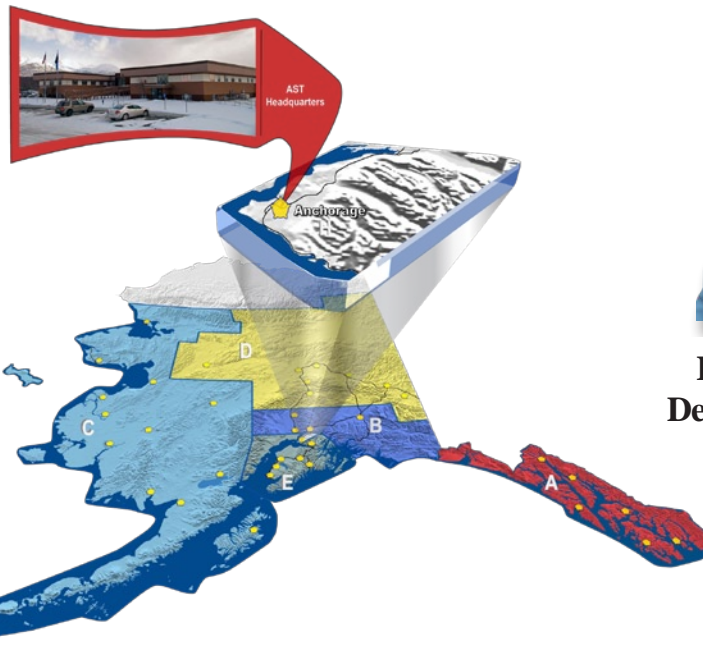


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations



Capt. Hans Brinke
Commander



Lt. Randy Hahn
Deputy Commander
FTEP/Projects

DIVISION OPERATIONS COMMAND
 Division Operations Commander – Captain
 Deputy Commander – Lieutenant - FTEP and Projects
 Lieutenant - Search and Rescue, Public Information Office
 Lieutenant - Technologies
 Lieutenant - Recruitment
 1 Lieutenant - Legislative Liaison (Vacant)
 1 Lieutenant - Academy Commander in Sitka

The Division of Alaska State Troopers' headquarters is located at 5700 East Tudor Road in Anchorage. The headquarters houses the Director's Office and Division Operations. Division Operations staff is responsible for personnel supervision, special projects, operational assignments and support functions. These responsibilities are not limited to the six AST detachments and four bureaus, but rather they extend department-wide to include the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Division of Fire and Life Safety and liaison responsibilities with various local, state and federal agencies.

Some of the responsibilities overseen by the Director's Office and Division Operations include:

- Division Budget
- Division Field Operations
- Recruitment
- DPS Academy
- Statewide Search and Rescue
- Field Training and Evaluation Program
- AMBER Alert
- Legislative Liaison
- Public Information Office
- Traffic Safety
- Grant Application and Administration
- Felony DUI Vehicle Forfeiture Program
- ALMR Communications
- Training
- Technology Standardization and Research
- Personnel Services
- Vehicle Fleet Coordination
- Domestic Violence Training
- Emergency Operations and Homeland
- Security



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations



RECRUITMENT

FIELD TRAINING & EVALUATION PROGRAM



Lt. Jeff Laughlin
Recruitment

RECRUITMENT UNIT

1 Lieutenant

1 Sergeant

STAFF

1 Criminal Justice Technician

1 Administrative Clerk

5 Background Investigators

criminal history examination. After successfully completing a short written assignment and passing an oral board, applicants are given a conditional offer of employment. Before a firm job offer is extended, applicants must pass a polygraph examination, a psychological assessment, a medical evaluation and a drug and alcohol screening.

The primary responsibility of the unit is to recruit and evaluate applicants for the position of trooper recruit in both divisions of Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers and Court Services officers throughout the state. Recruitment efforts operate continuously.

The recruitment postings and application process fully migrated to the Workplace Alaska internet-based application system in 2007.

Applicants must confirm they meet the minimum requirements for the position and then must pass a physical fitness test and undergo an extensive background investigation, including a credit and

The Alaska State Trooper Recruitment Unit is located in the Department of Public Safety Headquarters in Anchorage.

Recruitment Unit Statistics for 2008:

Trooper recruits

- 1,697 applications
- 223 identified potential recruits
- 62 interviewed
- 31 applicants hired

Lateral hires

- 66 applications received
- 9 interviewed
- 3 hired

Court Service Officer in Fairbanks and Anchorage

- 103 individuals applied
- 6 interviewed
- 3 hired

Deputy Fire Marshal

- 4 applicants
- 2 hires



Recruitment Unit Office Assistant Jennifer Gordan (in yellow) and Criminal Justice Technician I Leda Evans (far left) instruct applicants during the timed run portion of the physical fitness test.



Before recruits are promoted to trooper, each must accomplish the following:

- 18-week training program at the DPS Academy in Sitka – 20-30 percent of FTEP recruits either quit or do not graduate (consistent with national statistics).
- 15-week Field Training and Evaluation Program. Trooper recruits are expected to develop to the point of being able to independently perform all law enforcement functions – 20-30 percent of FTEP recruits either quit or are not acceptable (consistent with national statistics).
- 1-year probationary period

Successful applicants attend an 18-week training program at the Public Safety Academy in Sitka. Upon graduation, trooper recruits move to their first duty assignment and begin a 15-week Field Training and Evaluation Program. Trooper recruits are expected to develop to the point of being able to perform all law enforcement functions independently and if successful, will be promoted to trooper upon the successful completion of their probationary period, generally 12 months from the start of the Academy.

Starting in the spring of 2008, the department accepted applications from any current or former police officers that already held a police certification from any other state. The certifications are screened and must be approved by the Alaska Police Standards Council. This is considered a lateral hire and, in most cases, is not required to attend another full academy. Lateral hires usually attend a three-week Trooper Basic Course in Sitka.

The Field Training and Evaluation Program (FTEP) is a standard program for both Alaska State Troopers

and Alaska Wildlife Troopers. During this intense 15-week training period, trooper recruits are subjected to all of the rigors and activity of a normal trooper, but they are also provided with daily training, feedback and evaluation of their performance. Due to the nature of the program, it is frequently viewed as significantly more stressful than the time spent at the Public Safety Academy.

A Field Training Officer (FTO), is assigned to ride with the trooper recruit for the entire duration of their shift, every day. FTOs are generally more experienced troopers who have demonstrated proficiency in skills such as traffic enforcement, interview and interrogation, report writing, officer safety and vehicle operations as well as a myriad of others. They are not only expected to know how to do their own jobs quite well, they are also expected to know, or learn, how to teach a trooper recruit to be proficient in those same areas.

In July 2008, 16 AWT and AST recruits were assigned to the FTEP in Palmer, Fairbanks and Soldotna. Of those 16, 15 successfully completed the program in 2008 and were allowed to complete their probationary periods. In December 2008, another five trooper recruits were assigned to Palmer, Fairbanks and Soldotna for their FTEP.

In the past decade, law enforcement has faced a puzzling struggle in the recruitment effort to fill positions and retain current personnel. Even though wages and benefits appear to be competitive, the industry nationwide has suffered stagnant or even negative employment rates. Law enforcement leaders are certainly concerned about current conditions due to the one-year hiring process, but are even more worried about the ability to attract suitable candidates for the future.



Recruitment Unit Supervisor Lt. Jeff Laughlin talks to a group of high school students participating in a career camp through the Southcentral Foundation.

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY



Lt. Jim Helgoe
Academy Commander

ACADEMY COMMAND

- 1 Lieutenant
- 1 Sergeant
- 5 Corporals

ACADEMY STAFF

- 1 Administrative Assistant
- 1 Administrative Clerk
- 1 Education Assistant
- 1 Maintenance Specialist

The academy staff provides comprehensive and rigorous training involving academics, physical fitness, decision making and stress inoculation. Each student is challenged academically, mentally and physically.

The academy's instruction includes core curricula in:

- Ethical behavior
- Laws of arrest
- Search and seizures
- Use of force
- Defensive tactics
- Professional police communications
- Firearms
- Less-lethal force options
- Emergency vehicle operations
- Fitness
- Criminal and constitutional law

The Department of Public Safety Training Academy has been located on Baranof Island in Sitka since 1967. However, the current campus was built in 1974. Campus facilities consists of two classrooms, staff offices and library, workout facilities, an on-site small arms range and dormitory-style rooms for up to 67 recruits. The academy sits on approximately 20 acres of land. A larger firearms range and classroom are located off campus.

Over the years, the academy's workload and curriculum have continued to grow as it provides training to law enforcement agencies from across the state. The academy is now considered the premier law enforcement training academy in the state for basic law enforcement training. With few exceptions, municipal law enforcement agencies send their police recruits to the DPS Training Academy. The basic 15-week Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET) includes more than 900 hours of training.

All of these topics are necessary to receive certification in Alaska by the Alaska Police Standards Council. Through daily interactions with academy staff, each student is taught the importance of attention to detail and sense of urgency. These principles are required for a recruit to be successful both at the academy and in their future career.

On average, each student attends classes six days a week and can have 11 or more written tests on a regular

Total Numbers Trained at Academy in 2008



- 21 in DPS training following ALET; 5 for Nov. 22-Dec. 10 and 16 for June 12-30
- 5 VPSOs for class running Jan. 7-March 14
- 7 CSOs, 4 in March 9-28 and 3 in class running Aug. 24-Sept. 13
- 4 Lateral Hires, 2 AST and 2 AWT in class running May 11-June 4
- 25 Firearms Instructor in class running Oct. 20-Nov. 1
- 30 in ALET
 - 24 in Class No. 39 including 10 AST, 3 AWT, 6 Municipal officers and 5 Airport officers (Feb. 24-June 5)
 - 14 in Class No. 0802 including 5 AST and 9 Municipal officers (Aug. 7-Nov. 17)



Alaska Law Enforcement Training recruits learn techniques to survive in the cold Alaskan waters.



weekly test day. The daily academic and physical workload, combined with the mental sharpness essential for success, requires students to study and prepare diligently while putting forth maximum effort at all times.

One of the most important and unique training values associated with the academy is the real world scenario-based training provided to each student. After select classes are completed, students are expected to apply the new knowledge and skill sets to various scenario-based training events. This training mimics what actual law enforcement officers face while on patrol and is closely monitored by the commissioned staff. Scenarios covered are anything from routine calls like traffic stops, to the more stressful events such as a downed officer rescue, active shooter or attacker response. The training better prepares the recruits to succeed and to provide a higher level of professional service to their communities once they become full-fledged officers.

After graduation from the ALET course, the Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers recruits continue their training at the academy for an additional three weeks. This training session is often referred to as Trooper Basic. The trooper recruit receives more tailored and advanced training during this session in fish and wildlife investigations, boating safety, survival, commercial fisheries enforcement, media relations, critical stress management, patrol

rifle, pepper ball and Stinger spike system. They are also exposed to additional scenario-based training events. In addition, the academy conducts in-service training for commissioned DPS members.

SUCSESSES

Level of training – The academy’s continued success in training troopers, police officers, Village Public Safety Officers, Court Service Officers and trooper recruits is the result of a professional staff and high-quality training tailored to meet the unique needs of Alaska. The vast majority of graduates of the DPS Public Safety Training Academy report the training they received was among the most useful and fulfilling aspects of their law enforcement career.

CHALLENGES

Facilities – Since the shut down of Sheldon Jackson College, the academy took on the challenge of finding another food service provider. This resulted in higher food costs and the additional costs to bus the recruits to a location further away from the academy for meals.

Emergency Vehicle Operations Training – The Emergency Vehicle Operations training is limited because the academy does not have a dedicated driving range that can be utilized to provide current and realistic training.

Recruits at the Alaska Law Enforcement Training exercise during an early morning physical training session.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations



SEARCH AND RESCUE



Lt. Barry Wilson
SAR Coordinator

The Alaska State Troopers are tasked with the responsibility of ground Search and Rescue across the State of Alaska under the authority of Alaska State Statute AS 18.60.120-175. Under that authority AST conducts search and rescue activities with aircraft, watercraft and land vehicles. The Alaska National Guard and U.S. Coast Guard coordinate SAR operations in and off the coast of Alaska. The

cooperative and joint efforts between the Alaska State Troopers, the state and federal partners and SAR volunteer organizations, provides for the best possible use of the manpower, assets and equipment to locate and recover missing and hurt individuals.

There was a 16 percent increase in search and rescue mission reports between the years of 2007 and 2008. During 2008, the Alaska State Troopers conducted over

287 search and rescue missions. All of these missions involved over 24,730 trooper, military, and volunteer hours and saved 494 lives in 2008. An additional 482 activities were conducted to include overdue hikers, hunters, motorists, boats

and aircraft incidents and did not require a full search and rescue mission report.

Alaskan volunteer organizations assist the Alaska State Troopers on almost all search and rescue operations across the state. They provide expert skills and volunteer

a tremendous amount of hours to fulfill our missions. Trained volunteers are invaluable assets with who the Alaskan people and the State Troopers are grateful to have. In 2008, the State Legislature passed House Bill 320, which provided search and rescue volunteers working on authorized missions or training to be covered by the state workmans' compensations insurance. This was a tremendous step forward to protecting our search and rescue volunteers in these important and dangerous duties.

At the end of 2007 and into 2008, Alaska State Troopers, in coordination with the RCC and the Coast Guard, conducted an extensive search for a missing medical evacuation LifeGuard helicopter. The helicopter, with a crew of three and a patient on board, went missing near Whittier on Dec. 3, 2007. The combined effort included over 1,800 hours of searching by 68 individual searchers, 152 hours of fixed and rotary aircraft hours and 195 hours of vessel hours. Unfortunately, the aircraft was never located and only one of the victims was recovered.

A second event that typifies the cooperation between troopers and our volunteer partner organizations and other state partners occurred in February near Turnagian Pass off of Mile 69 of the Seward Highway. A group of snowmachiners were caught in an avalanche that trapped three riders. One was recovered alive within minutes of the avalanche by other riders. The other two individuals were deceased. During the next week weather hindered the recovery effort until the following weekend when the Alaska Railroad, in conjunction with the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group, U.S. Forest Service and AST's Helo 1 conducted aerial bombing of the area to reduce the avalanche danger for the searchers. The victims were recovered after several hours of searching. Just as the victims were located there was an avalanche across the highway that trapped a skier. The volunteer searchers immediately responded in Helo 1 to the scene and assisted with the safe recovery of the victim from the avalanche debris. The recovery effort involved 45 searchers expended over 540 hours of effort to return the victims to their families.



Scott Horacek, a member of the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group who is often used as a spotter for rescue missions, loads his equipment onto AST's Helo 1.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE ALL-HAZARDS PLANNING AMBER ALERT

The Public Information Office (PIO) is responsible for providing the public with information on trooper activities and significant events. The three-person office includes one supervisor who is an Information Officer III and two Information Officers – all positions are filled by civilians. They produce and distribute public safety announcements and media on public safety. The PIO is also responsible for establishing and maintaining professional relationships with local, regional and national media. An average month may comprise as many as 180 inquires from news media outlets in addition to calls from the public and other state agencies. This office produces the Department of Public Safety newsletter as well as other online publications. The Trooper Times website is maintained by this office and includes press releases, photographs and positive department articles. The PIO coordinates with the Bureau of Highway Patrol (BHP) in the creation of radio and television commercials for “Click It or Ticket,” “Impaired Driving is a Dead End” and the “Road Wise” programs of the National Highway Safety and Transportation Association and are produced by the media specialist assigned to BHP.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA AND ALL-HAZARDS PLANNING

The Alaska State Troopers are members of the Incident Management Team (IMT) for pandemic influenza and the emerging All Hazards Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group. This group is activated in the event of a large scale incident that disrupts a large number of people or infrastructures within the state. The Department of Public Safety Commissioner or designee will serve as the representative of the department and direct and advise on all law enforcement issues in the event of an incident. One example is the Kivalina Fall Sea Storms. This involved the evacuation of the village and coordination of air assets to assist in the transportation of people

and equipment in response to the event.

AMBER ALERT

The Alaska State Troopers is the statewide coordinator for the Abducted Minor: Broadcast Emergency Response (AMBER) Alert program, which is designed to alert the public in the event of a child abduction. The Alaska AMBER Alert Plan was implemented in 2003 with the support and coordination of the Alaska State Troopers PIO office. The goal of the program is to implement a system that instantly galvanizes the entire state to assist in the search and the safe, rapid recovery of an abducted child. To that end, the Alaska State Troopers, along with public and private sector agencies, local law enforcement and broadcasters in Alaska have voluntarily cooperated in the program. Several Child Abductions Response Teams (CART) have been created statewide to help in the event of an abduction.

The criteria for the activation of an AMBER Alert is: the victim must be under 18-years old or someone with a known mental or physical disability; law enforcement is reasonably certain an abduction has occurred and the victim is believed to be in imminent danger of serious bodily harm or death; and there is enough descriptive information of the victim, suspect or suspect vehicle to assist in the location of the victim. Once the criteria is met, the alert will be sent using the Emergency Alert System (EAS), which immediately broadcasts the information on television, radio and roadway information signs. The information is sent repeatedly for a designated period of time or until the child is located. The AST public information officers are crucial in coordinating the release of information during AMBER Alert activation.

As of 2008, Alaska has not needed to activate the alert for any reason other than a test.



Lt. Barry Wilson
PIO Supervisor
AMBER Alert Coordinator



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

JUDICIAL SERVICES



Capt. Dan Lowden
JS Commander



Lt. Anthony April
JS Deputy Commander

**JUDICIAL SERVICES
COMMAND**
1 Captain
1 Lieutenant

The Department of Public Safety is required by statute to transport prisoners, serve writs and provide security for Alaska Courts. The Division of Alaska State Troopers has established units in specific communities to provide these services to the Court System and the public. These units are called Judicial Services Units (JS). JS units employ Court Services Officers (CSO) and Alaska State Troopers to perform these tasks. These tasks are not limited to the

units because troopers perform these duties in locations where a JS Unit has not been established.

There are JS Units in Anchorage, Barrow, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, and Palmer. The units vary in size from one CSO in Barrow to 26 CSOs, two AST sergeants and two troopers in Anchorage.

CSOs are a unique class of officers who work under the general direction and command of AST. They are not certified police officers, but are classified as peace officers. Among the duties they are assigned to perform, CSOs provide prisoner transport, court security and process services under authority of Alaska statutes. They are armed and their arrest authority is limited to their primary duties.

In 2008, AST began a process of consolidation the JS Unit in to single statewide bureau to improve uniformity of operation, standardization of procedures, improve communication between the regional offices and provide for improved efficiency in the transport of prisoners. The consolidated command will also allow for a statewide central point of contact for the Alaska Court System and the Department of Corrections when discussing operational topics important to the JS operation statewide.

In 2008, five Court Services Officers were added to Anchorage to cover the responsibilities of transporting municipal charged prisoners. This responsibility was added to DPS following the settlement of a lawsuit. More courtrooms are expected to be added in 2009, placing even more demands on the JS Units. Additional courtrooms require more security, which usually translates into more prisoners to transport and more writs to serve. AST anticipates the need to increase the number of CSOs accordingly.



Court Services Officer Phillip Swimeley directs female inmates into holding cells at the Judicial Services Unit located in the basement of the Nesbett Courthouse in Anchorage



ANCHORAGE JUDICIAL SERVICES UNIT

2 Sergeants

1 Trooper Assigned to the Warrant Section

1 Trooper assigned to the Alaska Fugitive Task Force

26 Court Services Officers

5 Administrative Clerks

2 Accounting Clerks

The Anchorage JS Unit is responsible for the safe transportation of prisoners to and from court, between correctional institutions in and out of state and to other locations such as hospitals and the extradition of wanted persons to and from the state. The prisoners transported by Anchorage JS include felons, misdemeanants and fugitives. During 2008, Anchorage JS personnel transported approximately 30,176 prisoners.

The Anchorage Unit processed approximately 6,557 court writs. The writs served include subpoenas, summons, complaints, writs of assistance, evictions, child custody orders, mental health commitments, domestic violence protective orders and several other types of court process.

The overall Anchorage Judicial Services Unit is responsible for providing security for the Alaska Court System buildings, located in downtown Anchorage, as well as providing security for the trial courts and court personnel. The three-building campus in downtown

Anchorage includes the Nesbett Courthouse, the Boney Memorial Courthouse and the Snowden Administrative Office Building. The Alaska Court Campus sits on three city blocks in downtown Anchorage and the buildings contain 369,000 square feet of space. There are 23 courtrooms in the Nesbett and 17 courtrooms in the Boney. The courtrooms in the Boney Building include four courtrooms on the Appellate Court floor and one courtroom on the Supreme Court floor. The Anchorage Supreme Court is comprised of the chief justice and four associate justices. The Court of Appeals consists of a chief judge and two associate judges. The Anchorage Court System is comprised of 15 superior court judges, nine district court judges, six magistrates and five standing masters, with over 350 administrative court personnel. The Anchorage Judicial Services Unit is also responsible for the safety and security of the single courtroom at the Anchorage Correctional Complex, located at Third Avenue and Post Road.

The Prisoner Transportation Section is responsible for the safe transportation of prisoners to and from the courts, to and from the correctional institutions, hospitals and mental institutions.

The Writ Section's duties include the timely service of legal process (writs). The writs served include subpoenas, summons and complaints, writs of assistance, evictions, and writs of executions, child



Court Services Officer John Ferguson stands guard during a district court trial at the Nesbett Courthouse in Anchorage.





Court Services Officer Thomas Robson stands in front of the Seal of Alaska that hangs in the Alaska Supreme Courtroom in the Boney Courthouse in Anchorage.

ANCHORAGE JUDICIAL SERVICES ACTIVITY

Process

👮 Total Writs Received -----	6,340
👮 Total Writs Served -----	4,933
👮 Total Writs Un-served -----	1,046
👮 Total Writs Recalled -----	600

Writs of Assistance

👮 Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	62
👮 Child Pickups -----	4
👮 Evictions -----	141

Prisoner Transport

👮 Total Moves -----	30,176
👮 Local Moves -----	29,957
👮 Non-Local in State Moves -----	219

Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

👮 Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States) ----	69
👮 Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska) ----	10
👮 Fugitives Returned to Alaska -----	10

Warrant Arrests (Persons arrested on Alaska warrants)

👮 Total Warrants Received -----	4,199
👮 Total Warrants Served in Alaska -----	3,348

custody (pickup) orders, mental health commitments, domestic violence protective orders, and other types of court process.

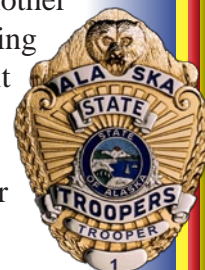
The Warrant Unit is responsible for the extradition or extradition coordination of wanted persons (fugitives) arrested in Alaska and in the Lower 48 states.

Two court service officers are assigned to the Security Section. While all officers assigned to Anchorage JS respond to incidents and provide general security, these two officers are specifically assigned to provide security to the court. Their duties include protection of the judiciary, security of the court buildings and maintaining the peace and order in the supreme, appellate, superior, and district courtrooms. These officers respond to duress alarms, reported crimes on the court campus, medical emergencies, security escorts for domestic

violence victims and other disturbances. Officers spend approximately 40 hours per week providing security in various domestic violence hearings, which include short-term hearings and long-term hearings.

Two court service officers are assigned to the Anchorage Jail Court. These officers provide security in the public courtroom and in the prisoner holding area of the jail.

An Alaska State Trooper sergeant oversees the 19 CSOs responsible for prisoner transports. Another AST sergeant oversees the two CSOs providing building security, the three CSOs in the writ section, the trooper assigned to the warrant unit tasked with extradition of fugitives in and out of Alaska and the trooper investigator assigned to the Alaska Fugitive Task Force.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations



TECHNOLOGY



Lt. Kat Peterson
Technology

The Alaska State Trooper on the road or the clerk sitting in the outlying posts may not have seen a lot of changes in 2008, but a flurry of behind-the-scenes activity paved the way for major accomplishments slated for the following years. Most of 2008 was spent planning to bring many projects on line that will help bring AST up to speed with technology in the 21st

Century, making it more effective and efficient. AST's technology liaison, Lt. Kat Peterson, worked along side Department of Public Safety personnel and contractors to place Mobile Data Terminals (MDTs) in trooper patrol vehicles and labored with the different criminal justice entities to consolidate forms and computer systems to allow data sharing throughout Alaska.

The Department took a step forward in setting up an electronics records management system and needed digital storage for digital evidence such as audio recordings and in-car video records. This needed to be done in order to utilize iCop systems designed to record video from patrol vehicles installed in trooper vehicles patrolling the Mat-Su area.

As part of a pilot program, five different patrol troopers in B Detachment were given Panasonic Toughbook laptops to test run in 2008. These troopers also tested the crash form portion of the Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) on the laptops. The software allows the trooper to collect data electronically by scanning a driver's license and registration with a hand-held scanner.

The software reads the barcode placed on

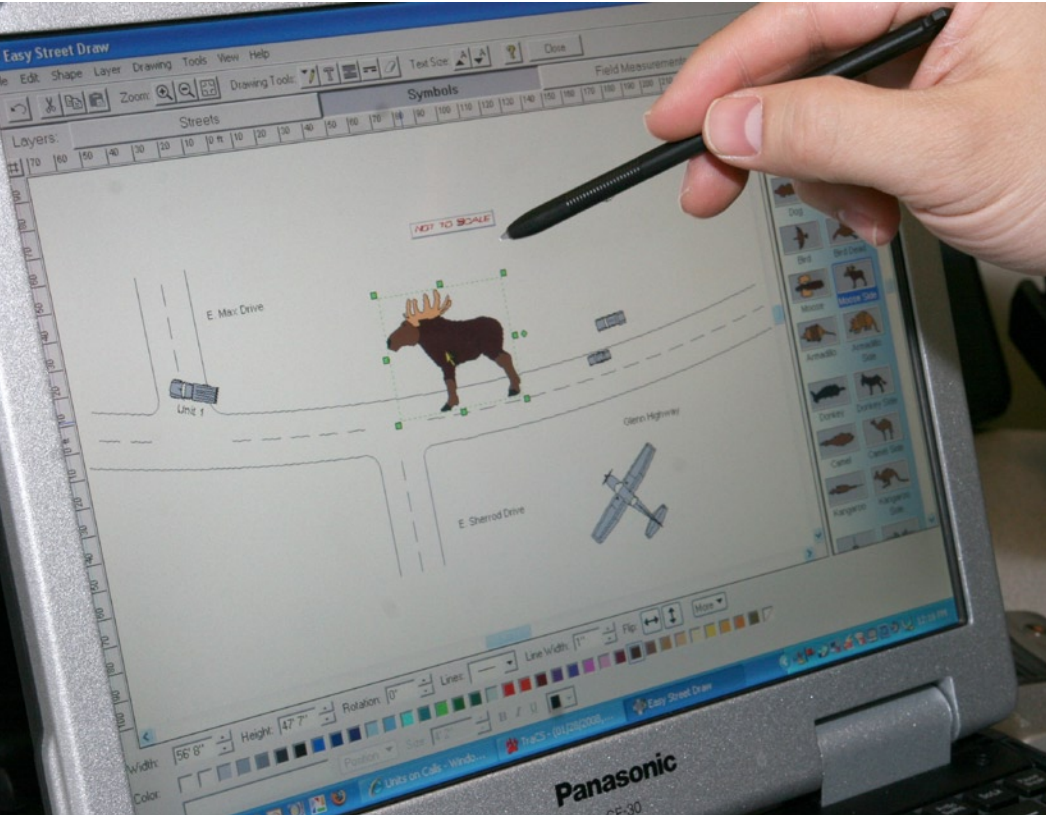
the back of the driver's license by the Division of Motor Vehicles and populates the form automatically. Part of the software allows troopers to use graphic icons, such as different types of vehicles and even wildlife, to illustrate a crash scene on the electronic form. Having a few troopers test the computers and system allowed the department to work out the bugs. It also determined the original laptop car mount was substandard for AST use. A more suitable mount was identified and will be used when approximately 120 computers are installed in patrol vehicles throughout the state – from Tok to Anchor Point – in 2009. Eventually, the laptops will allow troopers to look up information from their patrol vehicles instead relying on dispatchers to broadcast needed information over radios. Dispatchers will also be able to send individual troopers electronic messages regarding call for service requests. Other law enforcement departments in the state already have this capability.

Phase one of an online reporting system was



Sgt. Chris Hill fires up the Panasonic Toughbook he was assigned to test in 2008.





The crash form included in the Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) loaded on the Panasonic Toughbooks allows troopers to use a stylist to drag icons to illustrate crashes, such as an aircraft crash involving a moose shown here.

completed by doing an assessment of the needs of the different criminal justice agencies in Alaska that will use the system. This will bring the different state entities – the Department of Law, Alaska State Courts, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Revenue – and municipality police departments and some city attorneys together on a same operating level for sharing information. This system allows data sharing by taking the information entered in the different databases, making it readable for everyone and eliminating redundant data entered by the different entities. When one bit of information is entered in one linked system, the other systems, such as the Department of Laws computer (CRIMES), the Alaska court System Computer System (CourtView) and Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN), are all updated with the same information.

Another important tool that has been in the works for years and took a big step forward in 2008 is an overhaul of APSIN. This technology was built in 1984 and does not integrate with other applications well. The update will move from a mainframe-based APSIN to one that utilizes a Microsoft Windows environment. The new APSIN has more functionality, allowing troopers and staff in different parts of the state to view information on the same database. It will be able to talk to other computer systems outside DPS as well as work

as a stand-alone entity. Due to officer safety issues, only Judicial Services Units around the state utilize the new system. The new APSIN is scheduled to implemented DPS-wide in 2011.

Countless hours were spent in weekly meetings in 2008 to ensure needs of the different criminal justice entities were included in a universal traffic citation. This new form merged the three versions DPS was using – the Uniform Traffic Citation, the Uniform Summons and Complaint and what's commonly called the wildlife ticket used by Alaska Wildlife Troopers – with those used by different municipalities' citations. The effort took substantial time and research to ensure the information required on the numerous different citations used by the individual departments was consolidated into one standard form that could be used throughout the criminal justice system.

Also in 2008, three different types of portable breath testers (PBTs) were evaluated by DUI team members in Fairbanks and the Mat-Su Valley. The information provided during these tests was used to make a selection and to apply for a grant to obtain the Intoximeter FST PBTs that will eventually used for field sobriety testing throughout the state.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

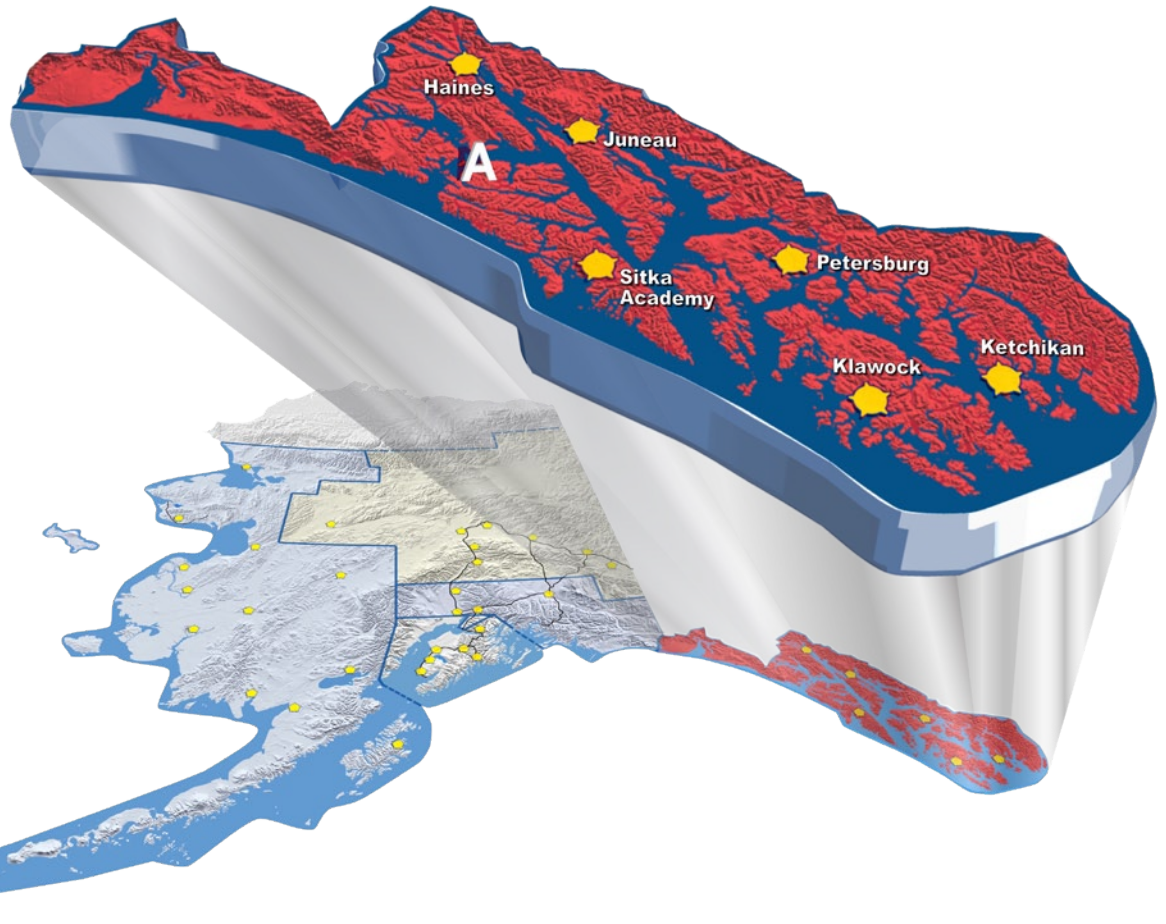
A Detachment



Commander
Capt. Kurt Ludwig



Deputy Commander
Lt. Rodney Dial



DETACHMENT COMMAND

Detachment Commander – Captain

Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Legislative Liaison)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Assistant

A Detachment is located in Southeast Alaska, an area full of glacier-cut fjords and islands covered with dense, temperate rainforest. The steep, rocky terrain and the many islands and fjords make Southeast Alaska very difficult to navigate. Roads are limited to within the different communities scattered throughout the detachment. Because of the sparse population, there are mostly local road systems. The exception is the northern mainland towns of Haines and Skagway, which are connected to the Alaska Highway. Haines has the only post in the detachment with direct road access to the mainland of Alaska. Meanwhile, travel between the islands and between mainland cities is limited to boat and aircraft. A popular

means of travel through this region is the Alaska Marine Highway system.

A Detachment encompasses more than 36,000 square miles of land and 17,283 square miles of coastal area. This brings the total area covered to more than 53,000 square miles, which is larger than the state of New York.

A Detachment consists of 32 employees assigned to four individual posts. These employees include 15 commissioned troopers, two of which are staff positions, five Court Services Officers and 12 civilian staff personnel. Of these 32 positions, one patrol trooper position in Klawock is vacant, but scheduled to be filled in late 2009. There are approximately 69,200 year round residents in A Detachment. However, all but approximately 14,130 residents live outside of communities with local police departments. These residents fall under A Detachment's immediate jurisdiction.





Sgt. Matt Dobson, Juneau post supervisor, investigates a plane crash on Baranof Island. The crash claimed the lives of two men visiting from Georgia.

Juneau Judicial Services Unit and oversees the Angoon Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO). Juneau troopers are responsible for patrolling the area outside the Borough of Juneau, however; they also conduct daily traffic enforcement throughout the entire city. Troopers are also responsible for all search and rescue events in northern Southeast Alaska. This area stretches from just north of Yakutat, along the Canadian border to the east and south to Petersburg. Juneau troopers investigate all crimes committed in the area's two state correctional facilities and seven jails. These facilities have a combined total of 331 prisoner beds. Troopers often spend the majority of their on-duty time in outlying communities – most of which are only accessible by boat or floatplane – conducting investigations.

A DETACHMENT POSTS

Ketchikan Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 5 Troopers
- 2 Court Service Officers
- 7 Radio Dispatchers

The Ketchikan post serves as A Detachment's headquarters. It is located at mile 7.3 North Tongass Highway in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough. Approximately 13,000 residents live within the borough. The Ketchikan Post has the only round-the-clock AST Dispatch Center in southeast Alaska. The troopers here are responsible for patrolling the 31 miles of highway and numerous side roads, and providing public safety for the nearly 6,000 residents who live outside the city of Ketchikan. The native village of Saxman, with a population of approximately 420, is located near Mile 2 of the South Tongass Highway. The village is also located in AST's area of responsibility.

Post troopers also patrol in the small town of Hyder, located on the U.S.-Canadian border near the town of Stewart, British Columbia. Because of this, Ketchikan Post troopers have a close working relationship with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police stationed in Stewart.

Juneau Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 2 Troopers
- 3 Court Service Officers
- 1 Radio Dispatcher
- 1 Administrative Clerk

This post has eight personnel assigned to it. The sergeant supervises the Juneau and Haines posts, the

Klawock Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 2 Troopers
- 1 Administrative Clerk

This post is located in the City of Klawock on Prince of Wales Island, one of the largest islands in the United States. The Klawock troopers cover nearly 2,000 miles of roads, including logging trails, on the island. There are more than 12 communities on the island. Thorne Bay is the only community with a Village Public Safety Officer. Two of the communities, Klawock and Craig, have their own police departments. However, the area covered by those police departments is minimal. There is a VPSO vacancy in the village of Hydaburg.

Haines Post

- 1 Trooper

The Haines post is manned by an Alaska State Trooper and an Alaska Wildlife Trooper. The AST trooper is supervised by the Juneau Post sergeant. The Haines Post is responsible for patrolling to the Canadian border, including the village of Klukwan and the area surrounding Skagway. During the tourist season, both U.S. and Canadian border



crossings become extremely busy with people traveling to and from the ferries. The assigned trooper works closely with the U.S. Border Protection/Immigrations and Customs Enforcement personnel at the border crossing, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and other Canadian officials. Haines is also the port of call for most of the Alaska Marine Highway System's passengers traveling through Alaska's Southeast Passage.

2008 SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Weather – A year of record snowfall in southeast Alaska kept detachment troopers especially busy in 2008. According to the National Weather Service, parts of southeast Alaska experienced more snow since the all-time record set in 1964-65.

Southeast troopers responded to a number of vehicle collisions, motorist assists and winter search and rescues. Record snowfall also caused an avalanche in the Juneau area, disrupting the area's hydroelectric power for several months.

Fatal aircraft crashes – Southeast Alaska continues to experience a significant number of aircraft incidents each year. In just the course of just 10 days, detachment troopers handled three such events.

On Aug. 1, Ketchikan Troopers received a report that a small aircraft ran out of fuel and crashed into the water five miles outside of Ketchikan. A search was initiated and both occupants of the aircraft were rescued and survived.

Eight days later, Juneau troopers initiated a search for Brian Andrews, the Deputy Commissioner of Revenue, and his son, Brandon, who were reported missing after taking a flight in the family aircraft. Active search efforts continued for nearly two weeks. Unfortunately, they have yet to be found.

Trooper Josh Bentz talks to a driver of a vehicle on the Haines Highway near the U.S.-Canadian border.



On Aug. 10, Juneau troopers responded to an aircraft crash on northern Baranof Island involving a small aircraft whose pilot became lost in marginal weather and ran out of fuel. The crash claimed the lives of two men visiting from Georgia.

MAJOR FOCUSES AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Tourism – The tourism industry plays a major part in the financial stability of many of the communities in Southeast Alaska. Because of this, Alaska State Troopers are intimately involved with the Southeast Alaska Maritime Security Committee, headed by the U.S. Coast Guard's port security captain. The committee meets regularly to discuss security threats against the cruise line industry and threats against Southeast Alaska. The committee consists of representatives from the Department of Public Safety, U.S. Coast Guard, local police departments, FBI, local harbor masters, companies that have businesses along the waterfront and others that have some involvement with the tourism and cruise line industry. The exchange of information during these meetings is important to the region and helps increase the awareness to potential threats against the industry.

Sexual assault investigations – Another focus of the detachment's law enforcement activities is the investigation of sexual assaults and sexual abuse of minor cases, especially in the rural areas. These investigations are often time consuming and require a great deal of expertise. Since there are not any investigators assigned to the detachment, patrol troopers must conduct these types of investigations. As a result, detachment troopers are often sent to advanced-training courses to give them



the skills they need to effectively investigate these crimes.

CHALLENGES

Search and rescues – The detachment averages approximately four dozen search and rescue missions each year, with the numbers continuing to increase. Search and rescues increased by approximately 12 percent from the previous year. These SAR missions range from missing hunters, hikers and boaters, to missing aircraft. The Alaska State Troopers in the detachment do not have aircraft or vessels. Patrol troopers must charter aircraft to travel to the outlying areas when needed. The SAR activity increases each year during the spring and summer months with the beginning of the tourist season and the influx of cruise ship traffic.

Death Investigations – Because A Detachment troopers are responsible for all public safety services provided to the cruise ships sailing in Alaskan waters, troopers investigated 11 cruise ship deaths in 2008. Troopers must travel to the cruise ship to conduct the death investigation. Most of these deaths occur while the ships are underway and not tied up to a municipality's dock. Some of these deaths require troopers to fly to an outlying community where the cruise ship can dock for boarding.

Service to public – The tourism industry has reported a 100% increase in tourism during the past 10 years, going from 497,808 to more than 1 million people visiting the area today. With the increase in tourism there comes an increase in search and rescues, deaths, thefts, assault investigations

and the need to respond to other calls for service.

Prisoner transports – The Department of Public Safety is responsible for transporting prisoners between the larger holding facilities to their court proceedings in the outlying communities. With the number of facilities dotted throughout the region, and the need to constantly move prisoners to larger holding facilities, troopers often need to charter commercial aircraft to fly to the outlying areas to keep up with the transport demands. The tasks also take troopers away from other duties such as responding to calls for assistance or investigations. There are only five court service officer positions available to help with these duties. There was a CSO vacancy for the latter portion of the year.

SUCSESSES

Handling the workload – Because the detachment is faced with a dramatic boom in population during the summer months each year, personnel, both commissioned and civilian, work hard to handle the additional workload without additional assistance and using the same resources available during the rest of the year.

Investigating serious crimes – The investigation of serious crimes, such as sexual assaults and sexual abuse of a minor cases, is another area in which the detachment performs well. The troopers receive



Photo courtesy/Michael Penn of the Juneau Empire
Karla Stephens watches as a dive team retrieves the body of her brother, Arthur Teel, 38, along the Juneau waterfront. The body was located by Keeper, a black Labrador, and his owner, Mike Pilling. Alaska State Trooper Chris Umps, right, and members of SEADOGS were on hand for the recovery.



From left, Ketchikan troopers Zachary Huckstep, Jack LeBlanc, Lt. Rodney Dial and Court Services Officer Ron Whitton with Mythbusters Adam Savage (on left) and Jamie Hyneman (on right) and a crewman.



the necessary training to conduct thorough and well-documented investigations. The attention to detail during these investigations is needed to effectively prosecute offenders.

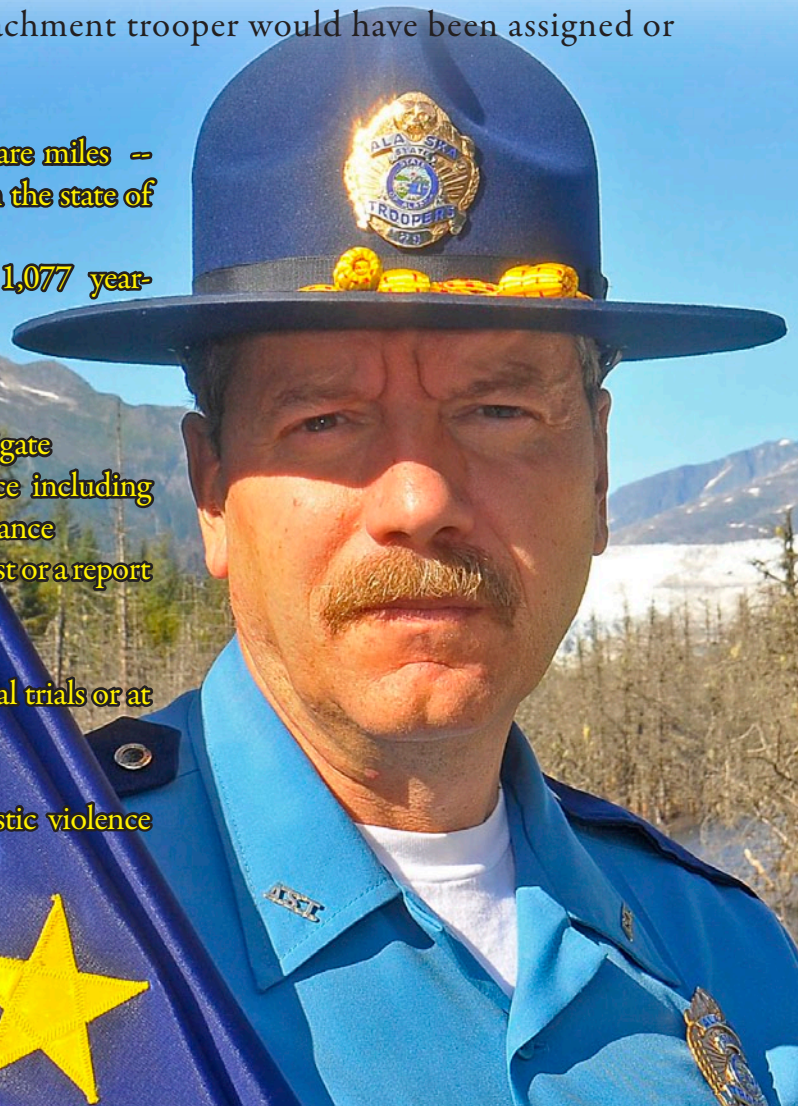
Dispatch center – The detachment’s dispatch center, located in Ketchikan, does an outstanding job of providing communications and information to numerous personnel and agencies in Southeast Alaska. It is the only 24-hour DPS dispatch center in the region. The dispatch center also serves the U.S. Forest Service’s law enforcement officers and is a resource for many of

the municipal police departments. Other state agencies, such as adult probations, Office of Children’s Services and juvenile probations, rely on the dispatch center for information as well.

AN “AVERAGE” A DETACHMENT TROOPER

If there were such a thing, the average A Detachment trooper would have been assigned or completed the following in 2008:

- Responsible for approximately 4,077 square miles -- an area more than 1-1/2 times larger than the state of Delaware.
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,077 year-round members of the public
- Arrested 5 DUI drivers
- Issued 65 traffic citations
- Assigned 7 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 473 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 38 cases which resulted in an arrest or a report being referred for prosecution
- Transported dozens of prisoners
- Spent dozens of hours testifying in criminal trials or at traffic court
- Assigned search and rescue related events
- Investigated 8 death cases and six domestic violence related offenses



To Catch a Kayaker

Kayaking Alaska's Inner Passage offers a close look at the natural beauty of the hundreds of islands that assemble Alexander Archipelago. The 300-mile long-maze of islands and waterways makes it easy for someone to get lost. It also provides a seemingly easy way to slip undetected into Canada and even the Lower 48 – or so thought one kayaker who wanted to disappear.

The area has only a handful of Alaska State Troopers to cover 36,000 square miles of land and an estimated 17,280 square miles of coastal area in the detachment. Combined, this area is larger than the state of New York. Regardless of the challenging vast terrain, Alaska State Troopers maintain an unwavering dedication to public safety.

It was here in Southeast Alaska that convicted sex offender Erik Jacobsen – equipped with a good supply of survival gear and food, a map of British Columbia and an Army Ranger survival book – attempted to elude Alaskan authorities by kayaking through the Inner Passage.

Jacobsen had already spent the majority of a decade in jail. In 2000, he was convicted of second-degree sexual abuse of a minor. Shortly after his release from prison, Jacobsen was charged again, this time the sex assault was committed against a family member. At the end of his second stint in prison in late 2007, Jacobsen registered as a sex offender and dropped off the radar.

A worker with Adult Probation was the first person to become concerned about Jacobsen's absence. Jacobson had failed to show up for his required meetings and the probation worker was convinced that the registered sex offender was up to no good. After the court issued a warrant for Jacobson's arrest, Juneau-based Alaska State Trooper Jeff Landvatter began actively seeking the wanted man. Despite his efforts, Landvatter was unable to locate the fugitive.

Two months later Trooper Chris Umbs, also stationed in Juneau, received a phone call that would re-start the search effort for Jacobson. A woman reported to Umbs that her roommate had started acting very strange after a trooper patrol car recently cruised through their apartment complex. Her roommate, Jacobsen, admitted to her that troopers were looking for him. Jacobsen told the woman he wanted to leave Alaska despite court orders forbidding him to do so. The next day, the woman called Umbs claiming Jacobsen departed Juneau by kayak with the intention of paddling to the Lower 48. The woman found a note Jacobsen left, which indicated he planned to kidnap his daughter and take her to Mexico.

The U.S. Coast Guard and the Alaska Army National Guard were asked to notify their air crews to be on the look out for Jacobsen. All the police departments littered throughout the Southeast were advised a wanted sex offender was kayaking through the Inner Passage. In Juneau, Umbs tracked down the taxi driver who drove Jacobson to several local stores to buy a variety of survival supplies for his trip. The driver told Trooper Umbs that Jacobsen talked about circumnavigating Admiralty Island. At the end of Jacobsen's shopping spree, the driver dropped him off at the most southern point of Juneau's road system at the end of Thane Road.

During the investigation, several of the troopers at post were discussing the case. Someone remembered Alaska Wildlife Trooper Aaron Frenzel had recently returned from a boat patrol in the region Jacobson was suspected of kayaking through. Frenzel was contacted at home and queried about his patrol. Amazingly, he spotted a man matching Jacobsen's description camping on the Snettisham Peninsula about 32 miles south of Juneau. Frenzel said he didn't make contact with the man because of a high beach swell along the shore and at the time he didn't know about a fugitive kayaker. Troopers passed the tip to the National Guard, who had a helicopter in the area conducting a training mission. A short time later, the National Guard called back stating a person in a single blue kayak was entering into Holkham Bay approximately 40 miles south of Juneau.

Umbs and Sgt. Matt Dobson, the supervisor at the Juneau post, jumped into action. A float plane was chartered and the duo headed south. Upon reaching the Holkham Bay, the lone blue kayak and its paddler were quickly spotted. The float plane landed so Umbs and Dobson could contact the man making his way through the bay. Despite the new dye job on his hair, Jacobsen was easily identified and placed under arrest without any incident.

In this case, looking for a lone kayaker among the countless channels and bays winding around hundreds of islands is like looking for the proverbial needle in the haystack. However, persistence paid off as Alaska State Troopers – with the aid of a member of the public, an Adult Probation Officer, the U.S. Coast Guard and Alaska Army National Guard – tracked Jacobsen to a small, remote bay in the Inner Passage of the panhandle.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

B Detachment



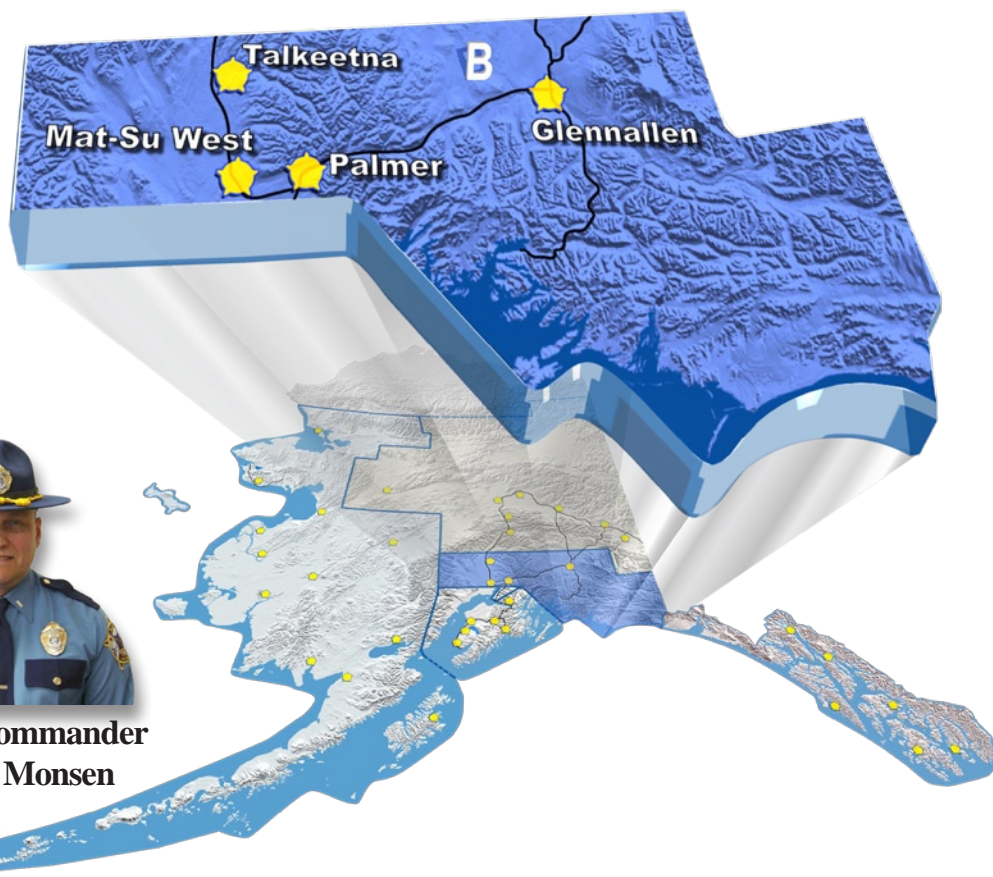
Detachment Commander
Capt. Dennis Casanovas



Deputy Commander
Lt. Patrick Davis



Deputy Commander
Lt. Nils Monsen



larger than the entire state of Alabama.

DETACHMENT COMMAND

Detachment Commander – Captain

Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Palmer post)

Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Mat-Su West post)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Supervisor

ROADWAYS AND HIGHWAYS

The detachment is responsible for 2,845 road miles within its boundaries. This is approximately 21 percent of the 13,298 miles of public roadway in Alaska. This does not take into consideration the vast number of trails that crisscross the detachment and are utilized by recreational traffic year round.

POPULATION SERVED

There are an estimated 91,657 residents living within the boundaries of B Detachment. Alaska State Troopers provide public safety to a vast majority of the residents. However, five cities have their own police departments and serve approximately 24 percent of this population. In addition to the detachment residents, countless tourists and residents from other regions of Alaska routinely travel in and out of B Detachment's boundaries for recreation and work throughout the year.

B Detachment of the Alaska State Troopers is located primarily in Southcentral Alaska. The patrol area borders the Municipality of Anchorage, the Kenai Peninsula Borough, the Denali Borough and the Canadian Border. A large portion of B Detachment is encompassed by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Personnel wise, B Detachment is a medium-sized detachment. The detachment is authorized for 44 commissioned Alaska State Troopers, seven Court Service Officers and 12 civilian employees. The detachment covers approximately 52,465 square miles of territory, an area slightly





Court Services Officer Pierre Burkett watches as prisoners bound for the Mat-Su Pre-Trial Facility load into a van.

State Trooper posts provide direct services such as sex offender registration and criminal background checks to the general public.

Judicial Services Unit

- 1 Sergeant
- 1 State Trooper
- 7 Court Service Officers
- 2 Administrative Clerks

B DETACHMENT POSTS

Palmer Post

- 2 Sergeants
- 14 State Troopers
- 3 Administrative Clerks
- 2 Evidence Clerks

Mat-Su West Post

- 2 Sergeants
- 12 State Troopers
- 2 Administrative Clerks

Troopers from Palmer Post and Mat-Su West Post cover the same geographical area, from mile 30 to 110 of the Glenn Highway and also from mile 35 to mile 60 of the Parks Highway. Troopers share the Parks Highway from Mile 52 to 60, and respond to calls within the city limits of Houston, depending upon whether officers from the City of Houston are available. Both

Most of Judicial Services Unit (JS) personnel have office space located in the Palmer Courthouse. JS duties include executing arrest warrants and civil processes, such as domestic violence protective orders and stalking orders, issued by the Palmer Court each year. A daily average of 2,000 arrest warrants, issued by the Palmer and Glennallen Courts, await service by law enforcement personnel in the region.

The Palmer-based Judicial Services Unit accounted for:

- 2,021 civil and criminal writs received from the courts
- 500 of which required rush service due to them being domestic violence, stalking and/or sexual assault orders
- Transportation of 6,633 prisoners.

Glennallen Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 State Troopers
- 1 Administrative Clerk

The Glennallen Post is responsible for mile 110 to mile 187 of the Glenn Highway. The post's area of coverage also includes 186 miles of the Richardson Highway, starting just north of the Valdez and running to Paxson. Coverage also includes 63 miles of the Tok Cutoff. Glennallen troopers are the primary

Trooper Recruit Jim Streicher sorts through paperwork while working a swing shift out of the Palmer post.



law enforcement for Tatitlek and, upon request, serve as support and backup to Alaska Wildlife Troopers stationed in Valdez and Cordova. Glennallen troopers oversee the two Village Public Safety Officers assigned to Copper Center and Gulkana.

Talkeetna Post
1 Sergeant
4 State Troopers
1 Administrative Clerk

The Talkeetna Post has primary responsibility for the Parks Highway from mile 60 to 147 to include other rural roadways such as Nancy Lake Parkway, Willow Creek Parkway, Long Lake Road, Willow Fishhook to Hatcher Pass, the Petersville Road and the Talkeetna Spur to the community of Talkeetna. Troopers assigned to this post spend a majority of their time responding to calls for service. Traffic enforcement is conducted when time permits.

B DETACHMENT ACTIVITY

Forty-one personnel from the rank of trooper to sergeant assigned to patrol functions are responsible for responding to daily service requests from approximately 71,370 residents living outside of any city police department's jurisdiction. This is an average of one trooper serving every 1,740 people.

There are approximately 675 inmates housed in the three Department of Corrections institutions located within B Detachment: the Mat-Su Pre-Trial Facility in Palmer, the Palmer Correctional Center near Sutton and Point MacKenzie Correctional Farm. Construction by the Mat-Su Borough for the Goose Creek Correctional Center is slated to begin in 2009. This facility is expected to be leased by the Department of Corrections and begin accepting nearly 1,500 inmates in 2012.

Correctional institutions not only rely upon B Detachment for support for moving prisoners to and from court, but for response and investigation of criminal conduct involving visitors, inmates and staff. Troopers in the detachment also investigate the death of inmates as well as investigations of smuggled contraband and prisoner escapes.

Of the 26,835 requests for service during 2008 some of more frequent events reported were:

- 1,409 motor vehicle collisions
- 1,089 Theft offenses
- 588 Vandalism offenses
- 563 Assault offenses
- 409 Burglary offenses
- 368 DUI offenses
- 191 Death investigations
- 155 Trespass offenses

A Highway Safety Corridor was created in B Detachment in October of 2006. The corridor is from mile 44.5 to mile 53 of the Parks Highway. Traffic violations within the corridor are subject to double fines.



Alaska State Trooper Russ Landers shows Ron Larson Elementary School student K.D. Kemp how to wear her glow stick while she's trick-or-treating on Halloween night.

CHALLENGES

Highway enforcement – There are nearly 3,000 road miles within B Detachment. Many of the roadways are considered near capacity for the efficient movement of traffic. A 24-hour vehicle count by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities on the Glenn Highway near the borders of the Mat-Su Borough and Municipality of Anchorage has recorded more than 30,000 vehicles using the highway during March in each of the past three years of 2007-2009.





Sgt. Chris Hill, a patrol supervisor at the Mat-Su West post in Wasilla, waits for information from dispatch during a routine traffic stop on the Parks Highway.

While this one day vehicle count seems astounding, it is even more impressive when you take into consideration that the number of cars on this road increases during the summer months by an additional 30 percent. The increase is attributed, in part, to the arrival of tourists as well as more recreational users and construction vehicles being used in the summer.

Service to the public – B Detachment is constantly trying to keep up with the public's demand for services. Troopers in this region often respond to emergency calls by themselves. Due to the overwhelming number of requests for law enforcement services, the public has become accustomed to having to wait, sometimes for hours, for a trooper to respond or to make contact via telephone.

Evidence storage and security – B Detachment's evidence facilities in Palmer are barely sufficient to keep up with the ever increasing numbers of items which are seized and held sometimes for years while criminal and civil litigation winds its way through the Courts. In 2008, an additional 7,650 items of evidence were received. Some items were large pieces of furniture, tires, appliances, tools, firearms, as well as items that needed to be kept refrigerated such as blood and urine and perishable consumable items that needed to be kept frozen. There are two civilian evidence custodians who are nearly overwhelmed with the requirements of receiving evidence, cataloging it, storing it, retrieving it for lawyer viewing or for court presentation and finally responsible for the timely release and/or destruction of the evidence when it is no longer needed. This region is in need of a consolidated evidence facility and adequate civilian personnel to address the increased evidence storage and handling needs.

SUCSESSES

Alaska State Fair highway enforcement – From Aug. 21 to Sept. 1, the 12-day Alaska State Fair attracted approximately 300,000 visitors to the fairgrounds in Palmer. Residents and tourists endured long traffic lines on the major roadways in and around Palmer during the fair. There were 11 troopers working on this detail full time, as well as an additional 15 troopers who worked extra hours to assist with the highway enforcement efforts during this heavily attended event. Every detachment around the state contributed one or more troopers to the focused enforcement. This effort by AST allows Alaskans to experience a safe and orderly public events. A total of 1,580 citations were issued and 40 arrests were made during the 12-day fair. Overtime funding for the enforcement team came from combined grants for seatbelt enforcement and DUI enforcement from the Alaska Highway Safety Office. There were only six motor vehicle collisions in the State Fair highway corridors during 2008. Four of the collisions involved vehicle damage only and two involved personal injuries.

Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival – The Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival occurred Aug. 1-3. The event was held on about 140 acres of private land near mile 102 of the Parks Highway. AST used the Sunshine Fire Station for a command center. In addition to the Talkeetna-based troopers, several troopers from Palmer and Mat-Su West Post worked extra shifts during the event to assist with highway enforcement efforts. Overtime grants for seatbelt and DUI enforcement from the Alaska Highway Safety Office were used to partially fund these efforts. A total of 204 citations were issued during the festival and only one motor vehicle collision was reported.





From left to right, troopers Sgt. Kid Chan, Todd Womack, Skip Chadwell, Pat Nelson and his canine partner, Roelle, work the swing shift for the Palmer post.

Other events – Several other major community events took place in 2008 which taxed resources of the Alaska State Troopers:

- The world famous Iditarod Dog Sled Race Re-Start in Willow in March
- The Moose Dropping Festival in Talkeetna in July
- The Fireweed 400 bicycle race from Sheep Mountain to Valdez and return in July
- The American Lung Association’s bicycle trek from Houston to Talkeetna and return in May
- The Cooper River salmon dip netting season which attracts thousands of participants during June and July

AN “AVERAGE” B DETACHMENT TROOPER

If there were such a thing, the average B Detachment trooper would have been assigned or completed the following in 2008:

- Responsible for approximately 1,284 square miles – an area slightly smaller than Rhode Island
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,740 year-round members of the public
- Arrested 9 DUI drivers
- Issued 172 traffic citations
- Assigned 34 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 654 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 54 cases which resulted in an arrest or a report being referred for prosecution
- Transported dozens of prisoners
- Spent dozens of hours testifying in criminal trials or at traffic court
- Investigated 4 death cases and 11 domestic violence related offenses





What sets us apart

As the sun was shining on a warm spring day in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, it took only two minutes for a drive-up confrontation between two neighbors with a long-standing grudge to turn deadly and triggered a 23-hour stand off with B Detachment patrol troopers, the Alaska State Troopers' Special Emergency Reaction Team (SERT) and other area emergency responders.

Before the shooting, the gunman was mowing his lawn on a riding mower on what had started out as an uneventful Saturday in May. His 49-year-old neighbor slowly drove up in his truck. Some words past between the feuding neighbors and the gunman as he got off his riding mower, brandished a gun and shot the man in the truck. The driver tried fleeing the truck and his neighbor, but made it only a short distance before collapsing and dying. The gunman walked up to where his neighbor lay motionless, looked at him and then strode away leaving him for dead on Porcupine Trail road outside of Wasilla. Afterwards, he put his riding lawnmower away and went inside his house.

The first call reporting the shooting went to the Palmer Police Department at 5:35 p.m. Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers on duty responded and set up a perimeter to locate and isolate the gunman. Dispatchers quickly identified the gunman and were able to get him on the phone. The 63-year-old man, in a matter-of-fact manner, admitted to the shooting and to leaving his neighbor for dead in the street. A Wasilla Police Department dispatcher made an excellent effort at trying to talk the gunman into putting his gun down and coming out of his home to meet with troopers. The gunman repeatedly refused.

The incident demanded the attention of all troopers on-duty in the area. Additional patrol troopers, to include wildlife troopers, investigators and all three elements of the SERT team, were called out to assist with the incident that consumed an entire weekend in order to resolve and thoroughly investigate the tragic event. But such is life for an Alaska State Trooper. What sets them apart from school teachers, receptionists, construction workers and accountants is they start their work day knowing they will face danger and possibly death while on the clock. Yet, day after day troopers don the blue, gold and crimson uniform, strap on their side arms, pin on their badge and square off their Stetson because they are dedicated to protecting and serving Alaskans.

Roads in the neighborhood were blocked off. Residents in the immediate area were notified of the deadly confrontation and the ensuing trooper response. Most neighbors that lived close voluntarily evacuated, others opted to stay inside their homes. Emergency medical and fire responders staged nearby throughout the ordeal in case there was another casualty.

While SERT and patrol troopers surrounded the scene, Alaska State Troopers' crisis negotiators reached out to the gunman and spoke to him on the phone. As minutes turned into hours, more negotiators were called in. In all, four crisis negotiators had contact with the man and attempted to bring the incident to a peaceful resolution. The almost-constant dialog with the gunman lasted throughout the night and into Sunday. The gunman, while admitting he killed his neighbor, didn't believe he was solely responsible for the shooting. He felt it was justified to some degree. He claimed the man he shot tormented him for years. By this time, the gunman had been drinking alcohol, but claimed he wasn't intoxicated. Those dealing with him also worried about his mental status.

Eventually, the gunman agreed to go outside to talk to troopers. He refused to put down his gun, rather, he held on to it tightly as he stood outside his house. He told the troopers and police surrounding his home to shoot him. They did not and the gunman went back inside.

At 4:34 p.m. the gunman came out of his house a second time with his gun still in hand. He walked on to his lawn, put his own gun to his head and pulled the trigger. Despite efforts by medical personnel on scene and at the hospital, the gunman succumbed to the self-inflicted wound.

Just as quickly as the incident began, the stand off was over and the investigation began. Investigators photographed, documented and sorted evidence on scene for 12 hours after the gunman took his own life.

On Monday morning as many people were heading off to school or work, about 40 Alaska State Troopers were just starting to head home. Most of them were desperate to catch a few hours of sleep, a shower and a change of uniforms before starting their next shift.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

C Detachment



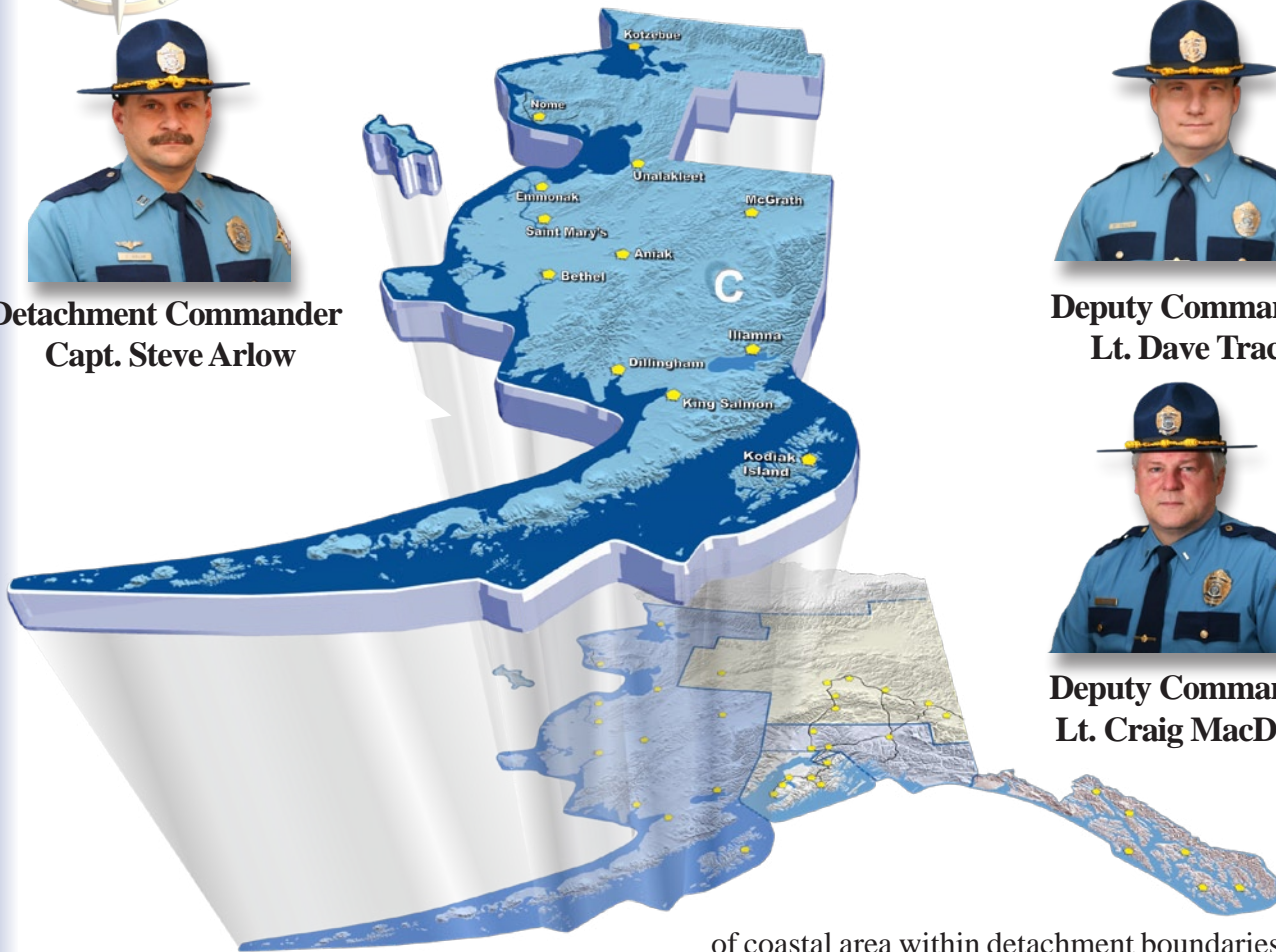
Detachment Commander
Capt. Steve Arlow



Deputy Commander
Lt. Dave Tracy



Deputy Commander
Lt. Craig MacDonald



DETACHMENT COMMAND

Detachment Commander – Captain
 Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Anchorage)
 Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Bethel)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Assistant
 1 Accounting Technician
 1 Accounting Clerk

of coastal area within detachment boundaries. There are 53 commissioned troopers allocated to C Detachment, to serve the estimated 40,020 people that live within AST's jurisdiction. That is an average of one trooper for every 804 residents. Each trooper was responsible for 4,321 square miles of area in 2008. However, of the positions authorized, 16 were vacant for significant periods of time during 2008 with 10 positions still open by the end of the year.

Alaska State Troopers provide public safety to a majority of the residents. However, 13 cities have their own police departments and serve approximately 41 percent of this population concentrated in regional hubs. The rest are scattered throughout the detachment without any road system to connect them. All of Western Alaska is considered off the road system, meaning traveling to communities from Alaska's urban centers is only possible by aircraft or watercraft. Travel between most of the communities also depends on these modes of transportation. Residents often rely on snowmachines and all-terrain vehicles for transportation – motorized

C Detachment is not only the largest geographically, but is the most sparsely populated of the five detachments within the Division of Alaska State Troopers. C Detachment covers Western Alaska, the Aleutian Chain and the Kodiak Island Area – an area from the coast of the Bering Sea and Pacific Ocean inland and from Kodiak Island north to the Arctic Circle. There are approximately 70,380 people living in the nearly 216,077 square miles of land within detachment boundaries. In addition, there are 19,347 miles





Trooper Vic Aye of the Anchorage Service Unit secures a suspect before transporting him from Shageluk to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Correctional Facility in Bethel.

vehicles that others living in urban Alaska reserve for recreational use.

Various seasonal activities occur within this region and increase the population considerably. In the Bristol Bay and Kodiak regions, major commercial fisheries operate in the spring and summer, bringing employment and outside residents from around the world. Sport fishing and hunting activities also substantially increase the population which results in an increase in crime and search and rescue commitments.

Not surprisingly, the detachment provides public service to diverse cultures including a higher percentage of Alaska Natives than anywhere else in the state. Western Alaska has been the home to Inupiat, Yupik, Aleuts and Athabascans for thousands of years.

What is unique about being an Alaska State Trooper in C Detachment is both the requirement and the opportunity to practice law enforcement missions in a non-traditional way. For example, C Detachment troopers need to safely and confidently operate non-traditional modes of transportation such as all-terrain vehicles, snowmachines, aircraft and boats in some of the most extreme environmental conditions on the planet. The climate, as well as the remoteness, hampers travel between trooper posts and the communities they serve. Temperatures can dip as low as 80 degrees below zero and are often accompanied by harsh storms.

Troopers must be able to work independently and with the knowledge that back-up may be hours or sometimes days away. Troopers often rely on villagers to assist them. In an urban area, other law enforcement resources are almost always available to assist. Troopers in rural Alaska must establish positive relationships in each of the villages in order to have this support net available when needed. Many villages appreciate this method of law enforcement and have a sense of involvement with law enforcement within their communities when crime occurs or when search and rescue missions are activated. This method of policing

has been in place in rural Alaska for many years, embodies the core of community policing concepts and precedes similar policing efforts in other areas of the country by decades.

Anchorage Service Unit

1 Sergeant (ASU Supervisor and VPSO Training Coordinator)

1 Trooper

The detachment headquarters in Anchorage also houses the trooper assigned to the Anchorage Service Unit. This trooper is responsible for follow-up investigations within the state jail system in Anchorage, calls for service on the Aleutian Chain, prisoner transports, special traffic enforcement on the Seward and Glenn Highways, enforcement of sex offender registration violations, serving arrest warrants and other special projects. Trooper Victor Aye was the trooper assigned to this unit in 2008 and was recognized for his extensive travel and support to the communities within his area of responsibility as well as several lengthy temporary duty assignments in other locations within the detachment. Aye was presented with the Department's Honorable Service Award for his dedication and hard work.

The detachment is also responsible for managing the Village Public Safety Officer Program. The VPSO program has 72 VPSO positions authorized statewide with 55 of them filled at the end of 2008. Forty-eight of these VPSOs work within C Detachment boundaries. All training for the VPSOs is coordinated by a sergeant at C Detachment Headquarters. This training is also made available to Village Police Officers who fall within the different village or tribal government run police departments.

The detachment normally provides back-up service and emergency assistance for all city police departments. It also provides assistance for any major case investigations upon request.





The various C Detachment troopers working out of the Bethel-area of coverage gather for training in Bethel. Back row left to right – Sgt. Teague Widmier, Trp. Mike Duffield, Trp. Lucas Altepeter, Trp. Dixie Spencer of Aniak, Trp. Chris Nelson from Aniak, Trp. Mike Roberts, Lt. Craig Macdonald, Trp. Andrew Ballesteros, Trp. Sean Adkins of St. Mary’s Kneeling – left to right – Pilot Earl Samuelson, Trp. Charles Taylor, Trp. Joshua Trigg, Trp. Terry Tuckwood, Trp. Dave Kemper, Trp. Henry Ching

C DETACHMENT POSTS

Bethel Post

- 1 Lieutenant
- 2 Sergeants
- 10 Troopers
- 1 State Pilot II

3 Administrative Clerks (1 Vacant)

Bethel is a Western Alaska hub with a population of 5,665 residents. The city has its own police department, but its staffing numbers fluctuated over the years and has on occasion asked Alaska State Troopers for assistance with investigating serious crimes. Bethel has a state-owned airport with passenger, cargo and air taxi services. This air service is the primary means of transportation for troopers responding to calls for service in the villages. The port of Bethel is the northern-most medium draft port in the United States. River travel is the primary means of local transportation in the summer. In the winter, the Kuskokwim River becomes a 150-mile ice road to surrounding villages. A barge service based in Bethel transports goods to the Kuskokwim villages. One or two of the Bethel troopers must cover the District Court needs within Bethel. This includes daily prisoner transports to and from the jail to courtrooms and transporting prisoners into Bethel from outlying villages. The Bethel Post serves 27 villages with a little less than 12,490 residents in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta.

- Atmautluak
- Chefornak
- Chevak
- Eek
- Goodnews Bay
- Kasigluk
- Kipnuk
- Kongiganak
- Kwethluk
- Kwigillingok
- Makoryuk

- Newtok
- Nightmute
- Nunapitchuk
- Oscarville
- Platinum
- Quinhagak
- Scammon Bay
- Toksook Bay
- Tuluksak
- Tuntutuliak
- Tununak

Aniak Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Troopers

1 Administrative Clerk

Aniak is a community with an estimated population of 500 residents. The city does not have its own police department. It is east of Bethel by 150 river miles and 90 air miles. The village sits on the south bank of the Kuskokwim River at the head of Aniak Slough. The area encompasses five square miles of land. The total population in all villages covered by the Aniak Post is 1,922. The economy is based on government, transportation and retail services. The Aniak post serves the following communities in addition to Aniak:

- Upper Kalskag
- Chuathbaluk
- Crooked Creek
- Georgetown
- Grayling
- Holy Cross

- Anvik
- Shageluk
- Sleetmute
- Stony River
- Red Devil
- Lower Kalskag



- Akiachak
- Akiak

- Napakiak
- Napaskiak

McGrath Post

1 Trooper

This is a new position and was filled in the summer of 2008. The trooper is supervised by the Aniak sergeant. The community of 317 residents is located in the upper Kuskokwim River, approximately 220 air miles from Anchorage. Due to a military presence during World War II, it has a 5,435-foot asphalt runway, greatly enhancing accessibility. The economy is based on government and tourist-related industries and is located on the Iditarod Sled Dog Race trail. Besides McGrath, the trooper provides service for four other small communities:

Lime Village Takotna
Nikolia Teilda

St. Mary's Post

2 Troopers

The troopers at this post are supervised by one of the two Bethel sergeants. The population in St. Mary's is approximately 540. The community is located on the Yukon River and participates in a commercial salmon fishery during the summer months. The city police department disbanded a few years ago. The St. Mary's post services the following five communities with an additional 2,260 residents:

Marshall Pitkas Point
Pilot Station Russian Mission
Mountain Village

Emmonak Post

2 Troopers (1 Vacant)

The post is located in a community on the lower Yukon River with approximately 790 residents. Economy is based on government and commercial

fisheries. Emmonak established a city police department in 2008. The post is supervised by a sergeant in Bethel and services the area surrounding Emmonak and three other communities with a population estimate of 1,430 residents:

Alakanuk Kotlik
Nunam Iqua

Dillingham Post

1 Sergeant

3 Troopers

1 Administrative Clerk

Dillingham, a community with approximately 2,350 residents, is located at the extreme northern end of Nushagak Bay in northern Bristol Bay. It lies 327 miles southwest of Anchorage. The city can be reached by air and sea only. The fishing industry is the primary economic source in the area. The city has its own police department. The Dillingham post also is responsible for providing Judicial Services tasks for the Superior and District courts in Dillingham, moving prisoners to and from court as well as back and forth from Anchorage. Troopers provide court security if needed and serve summonses, subpoenas and writs issued by the court. The Dillingham Police Department runs the local jail, which has a consistent problem of being over the allowable inmate capacity. This requires Dillingham troopers to conduct weekly prisoner transports to Anchorage at a considerable expense to the state. In addition to Dillingham, the post services an additional 2,420 residents in the following nine communities:

Aleknagik Manokotak
Clark's Point Portage Creek
Ekwok Koliganek
New Stuyahok Twin Hills



Trp. Charles Taylor with students at the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Kuskokwim Campus Summer Camp in Bethel.



Cold Bay Post
Vacant

Cold Bay does not have a city police department or troopers posted in the community with roughly 90 residents. There are police departments in King Cove, Sand Point and Unalaska that are both a relatively short plane ride away. Because of its central location in the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge on the western end of the Alaska Peninsula, Cold Bay serves as the regional center for air transportation on the Alaska Peninsula and as an international hub for private aircraft. The Anchorage Service Unit trooper and Dillingham post service the following eight communities with 2,140 residents in the Cold Bay region with the help from the Alaska Wildlife Troopers stationed in Dutch Harbor. The VPSO program has a strong presence in this region.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| Adak | Nikolski |
| Akutan | False Pass |
| Atka | Sand Point |
| Nelson Lagoon | |

King Salmon Post
2 Troopers (1 Vacant)

The post provides direct public safety services to approximately 400 residents within the local community. The number of residents increases dramatically during the summer months due to the fishing industry. Tens of thousands of visitors pass through the King Salmon airport each summer. The King Salmon area, to include Naknek, and the 1,029 residents that reside in this area, are served by the Bristol Bay Borough Police Department. The Police Department currently has nine employees: a chief, three officers, four dispatchers and a dispatch supervisor. The department is located on the Air Force Base in King Salmon. In addition to the local community, the King Salmon Post, which is supervised by the Dillingham sergeant, services the following nine communities with a combined population of

approximately 680 residents.

- | | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Chignik | Perryville |
| Chignik Lagoon | Pilot Point |
| Chignik Lake | Port Heiden |
| Egegik | Ugashik |
| Levelock | |

Iliamna Post
1 Trooper

Iliamna is located on the northwest side of Lake Iliamna and has a population of 95 residents. Newly opened in 2007, one trooper shares the post facilities with an Alaska Wildlife Trooper. Tourism, sport fishing and commercial fishing are its economic base. If the proposed Pebble Mine becomes a reality, this region may see a boom in mining like none other seen in Alaska in this era. This would have a definite impact on the current law enforcement presence, possibly requiring additional staffing to maintain adequate levels of service. The Iliamna post is supervised by the Dillingham sergeant and services the following seven communities with an additional 775 residents.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| Kokhanok | Pedro Bay |
| Igiugig | Port Alsworth |
| Newhalen | Port Clarence |
| Nondalton | |

Kotzebue Post
1 Sergeant
5 Troopers (2 Vacant)
1 Administrative Clerk



Trooper Vanessa Mead of the Iliamna post responds to the village of Igiugig via riverboat, the main mode of summer transportation for this remote post.



Trooper Terry Shepherd of the Kotzebue post, checks out a Kobuk River camp set up by people looking for the body of a man who broke through the river ice in the winter.



The post is located on the Baldwin Peninsula in Kotzebue Sound on a three-mile long spit, which ranges in width from 1,100 to 3,600 feet. A sub-hub office was established in the village of Selawik to allow more frequent trooper visits due to this community's population and increased calls for service while troopers are diverted to prisoner transport. Prisoner transports between this region and Nome occur weekly, often impacting trooper duties and responses to calls for service. The 10 villages outside of Kotzebue consist of a total of 4,020 residents. Kotzebue has approximately 3,120 residents and its own city police department. It's also the regional hub and the nucleus of the NANA Regional Corp., the regional Native corporation, and the Northwest Arctic Regional Borough government. Air is the primary means of transportation year round. Snow machines are used in the winter for local transportation. The Kotzebue post services the following 10 communities.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| Ambler | Kobuk |
| Buckland | Noatak |
| Deering | Noorvik |
| Kiana | Selawik |
| Kivalina | Shungnak |

Nome Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 5 Troopers (1 Vacant)
- 2 Administrative clerks

The Nome post provides coverage to an area on

the Seward Peninsula and nearby St. Lawrence Island. It also provides assistance to the Nome Police Department when requested. Nome has a population of 3,570 residents and lies 539 air miles northwest of Anchorage, 102 miles south of the Arctic Circle and 161 miles east of Russia. Nome is a regional center of transportation for surrounding villages. The post is responsible for approximately 250 miles of roads that access several villages and small seasonal communities such as Safety, Council and Cripple Creek. This network of roads provides Nome troopers the responsibility to conduct road safety enforcement including drunk driving patrols and motor vehicle crash investigations. Nome troopers are responsible for the transport of defendants from Anvil Mountain Correctional Center to the 2nd Judicial District Courthouse on a daily basis for a variety of hearings. Nome troopers share the task of transporting prisoners from the Kotzebue jail to the larger facility in Nome twice a week for court hearings to ensure the jail in Kotzebue remains below the 14 prisoner maximum. Nome is also one of the only communities in Western Alaska that allows the legal sale and consumption of alcohol. This draws people from throughout the region and creates a transient population that increases the problem of chronic inebriates on the streets. The mining industry is also experiencing growth due to increased gold prices, bringing in large companies as well as individual prospectors. Tourists flood the town every March for the end of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race and during the summer months for bird watching of exotic species. The Bering Straits Native Corp., one





Sgt. Andrew Merrill, supervisor of the Nome post, and Trooper Jonathan Stroebele patrol an area outside Nome.

of the 13 Alaska Native regional corporations, is headquartered in Nome. The Nome post provides services to approximately 3,500 residents living in the following villages:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| Brevig Mission Council | Savoonga |
| Diomedes | Shishmaref |
| Elim | Solomon |
| Gambell | Teller |
| Golovin | Wales |
| | White Mountain |

Unalakleet Post

2 Troopers (1 Vacant)

Unalakleet is located on the coast of the Bering Sea and has an estimated population of approximately 720 and a commercial size airport. This community had a small police department, but it has since been dissolved. The post falls under the supervision of the Nome sergeant. The post serves the following villages with an additional 1,570 residents.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| Koyuk | Shaktoolik |
| Saint Michael | Stebbins |

Kodiak Post

1 Sergeant
5 Troopers (2 Vacant)
2 Dispatchers

This post is responsible for approximately 5,620 residents and has C Detachment's only state dispatch center. Kodiak has a police department to serve the population of 5,974 residents that live within city limits. Approximately 1,780 people living on the U.S. Coast Guard's Kodiak Station fall under the direct jurisdiction on the Military Police. Kodiak Island, often referred to as the Emerald Isle, is the largest island in Alaska and second in size only to Hawaii when looking at the entire United States of

America. It has a large tourist and commercial fishing industry. Headquarters for Koniag Inc., the regional Alaska Native corporation, is located in Kodiak. The post serves an estimated 4,180 residents scattered throughout the Kodiak Borough—most of which live right outside Kodiak city limits. The Kodiak post also provides services to approximately 1,440 residents in more remote communities located both on and off the road system and some on surrounding islands:

- | | |
|------------|------------|
| Akhiok | Old Harbor |
| Chiniak | Ouzinkie |
| Karluk | Port Lions |
| Larsen Bay | Womens Bay |

C DETACHMENT ACTIVITY

Despite the low population density, Western Alaska has had the highest number of sexual assaults in the state for decades and 2008 was no different. The violent crime within C Detachment dropped sharply from 2007 to 2008. This can be attributed in part to the migration of some of the village population to the urban centers within Alaska. These moves, while almost impossible to measure until another complete census, were primarily driven by very difficult economic conditions brought on by the high cost of fuel, food and other consumables in the villages. The detachment accounts for over one-third of the reported number of sexual abuse of a minor offenses and over half of the sexual assault offenses in the entire state. C Detachment also leads the state in assault cases, both felony and misdemeanor, and also investigated three homicide cases in 2008.

C Detachment statistics:

- 181 sexual assault offenses
- 144 sexual abuse of a minor offenses
- 922 felony and misdemeanor assault offenses
- 3 homicides
- 24 suicides
- 12,050 calls for service,
- 1,568 arrests or charges referred for prosecution
- 240 Burglaries



Sexual Abuse Cases – A staff study conducted for 2008 revealed troopers in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region, which contains 54 villages, had a total of 1,017 felony investigations. A vast majority, 639 of those cases, were domestic-violence related. These numbers do not reflect the total number of felony investigations conducted in the entire detachment, but are presented as a representative sample of the nature of the investigations handled by the troopers assigned to the region.

Other statistics that emerged from the study are:

- ★ Seven of the villages in the region – Oscarville, Flat, Lake Minchumina, Lime Village, Red Devil, Farewell and Takotna – reported no felony crimes during 2008.

- ★ Out of the total number of cases, 149 involved sexual assault charges and an additional 123 cases were related to sexual abuse of a minor.

- ★ These cases resulted in a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner conducting 35 forensic examinations on victims of sexual assault, 21 examinations of sexual abuse of minor victims and three suspect examinations.

- ★ Of the 1,017 cases investigated in this region, 509 cases were referred to the Bethel District Attorney's office for consideration of prosecution. Of those, 280 cases were accepted as referred by the District Attorney's office and 162 resulted in a conviction and sentence.

- ★ There are a total of 58 cases still being adjudicated.

- ★ Of the total cases investigated, 16 percent resulted in conviction and or sentence. If the additional 58 cases are adjudicated at the same level as the others, then it can be expected that 55 percent of the remaining cases will result in a conviction or sentence. This would bring the total percentage of convictions/sentences up to 19 percent.

In the spring of 2008, all detachment troopers and some VPSOs attended a 40-hour course on crime

scene processing. This instruction had an emphasis on forensic evidence identification and collection and the use of investigative tools that would increase the successful scene investigation and subsequent prosecution of identified offenders.

At the conclusion of the course of instruction in May of 2008, each attendee received a crime scene kit containing equipment to enhance their ability to utilize the training they had received. Shortly after the training, two of the sexual assault cases referred to the Bethel District Attorney's office for prosecution resulted in convictions or sentences. In both these cases the District Attorney's office credited the use of alternative light sources, DNA or other investigative tools taught in the course with providing the critical evidence needed to successfully pursue those cases.

Alcohol and Drugs – Alcohol and drugs within this region have a major influence on case activity. Most of the communities have voted to prohibit alcohol in their village. The practice of bootlegging or making homebrew equates to a large portion of case activities or has a direct relationship to the serious crimes being committed. Taking illegal drugs or misusing prescription drugs is also prevalent throughout the region.

Suicides – Alcohol and drug use contributed drastically to the number of suicides within the Detachment. Suicides tend to have a domino effect on a population. Nome and Kotzebue regions suffered six suicides within a two-week period at the end of 2008. According to a 2004 study conducted by the state of Alaska, the suicide rate for Alaska was 23.4 per 100,000. That is more than double the U.S. rate of 11 per 100,000 people. AST is concerned that this trend may continue. By informing the public of this concern, AST hopes people will reach out to others in need before a suicide or a suicide attempt takes place.

Suicides are 100% preventable. Initial help for troubled individuals is a phone call away.

Seriousness of Crimes – The types of crimes investigated by C Detachment troopers on a daily basis are often of a more serious nature than what an urban patrol officer responds to investigate. Additional training, such as child



A man is caught trying to smuggle booze into a dry village in Western Alaska.





Col. Audie Holloway, director of Alaska State Troopers, speaks at a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new public safety building in Kwethluk.

forensic interview techniques for Alaska Native children, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) training and crime scene investigation training, are provided to detachment troopers to give them the tools needed to put together the best case possible for prosecution. The staff study regarding prosecution success mentioned earlier in this report illustrates how valuable this training is for the troopers and the local community.

CHALLENGES

Facilities and Prisoner Transports – Many of the detachment’s small posts only have one jail cell. Troopers must guard prisoners until they can be properly transported to larger communities where larger holding facilities are located. Because community jail guards are difficult to hire, sometimes troopers work their shift and then work additional hours watching, feeding and caring for prisoners. It is not uncommon for one trooper to escort seven or more prisoners alone on a small charter aircraft. In 2008, C detachment alone spent over \$1.2 million dollars moving prisoners. This amount encompasses airfare, per diem and hotel costs, but not overtime. It also accounts for over half of the money spent on prisoner transports for the entire Department of Public Safety— it has a huge impact on the department budget. Kotzebue troopers are responsible for transporting prisoners between Kotzebue and Anvil Mountain Correctional Center in Nome for local court proceedings. In 2008, the Kodiak Post troopers transported more than 200 prisoners between jails in Kodiak and Anchorage due to overcrowding issues or court proceedings. Troopers also transported 741 prisoners from the Dillingham jail to the local court.

In 2008, the Bethel post was responsible for more than 3,000 prisoners either transported or guarded while in court proceedings. A new development in 2008 was the addition of a dedicated Court Services Officer (CSO) assigned to support C Detachment from the Bureau of Judicial Services. This CSO was stationed at the C Detachment Headquarters

beginning in late October of 2008. In a little more than two months, the CSO conducted 149 prisoner moves – all on aircraft to and from the various posts, jails and courts within the detachment’s area of responsibility. This has become a very valuable resource for the Detachment.

Understanding cultural differences – Troopers assigned to C detachment must familiarize themselves with the cultural differences of the people of the region. A trooper will have little success in this region if they do not consider cultural differences when applying the law. The department requires troopers to attend cultural sensitivity training when assigned to the region. This training benefits all troopers and can be applied in the urban settings as well.

Staffing – C Detachment struggles continuously with keeping the civilian support staff positions filled. Much of this is attributed to the high cost of living within the region and great attraction to private sector jobs. The clerical staff is often recruited to the private sector, which often pays more. These vacancies directly affect the overall mission of AST. The lack of support staff requires troopers to perform excessive clerical duties and requires command staff to go through time-consuming hiring procedures. The Kodiak dispatch center had two of its three positions vacant most of 2008. At the same time, headquarters staff positions were vacant longer than filled and the clerks remaining worked weekends, holidays and extended shifts on a weekly basis just to try to keep up with demands. The clerks within headquarters offered to work many of their weekends to travel to the outlying areas. They admirably filled in at short-handed posts to help keep public safety services maintained at a professional level. The trooper vacancy rate was also high in 2008. C Detachment troopers were sent on temporary duty assignments from their homes to support posts that were severely short-handed. Additionally, other detachments offered support with temporary-duty personnel. Although overtime was excessive, the bigger concern was overwork burnout. Post vacancies



frequently forced troopers throughout the detachment to work overtime.

SUCSESSES

Increased presence – In 2008, detachment troopers conducted 1,421 village visits. This translates into four village visits per day, every day of the year. Included in this number are 244 overnight village visits. This means that two out of every three nights during 2008 there was a detachment trooper spending the night in a village. Despite being short-handed for the entire year, troopers made a strong effort to visit their communities. Being available in the village has proven to show an



Troopers Chris Nelson, on left, and John Holm, both of the post in Aniak, prepare to head out for a patrol on the Kuskokwim River to visit the village of Chuathbaluk.

increase in calls for service. The troopers are readily available for local residents to report public safety issues to them in person. This increased presence also serves to reduce violent crime. C Detachment troopers are specialists with this style of community policing.

Service to public – In comparing the 2008 statistics with the 2007 Alaska State Trooper annual report, it appears that significant progress has been made in deterring the most serious of crimes against people and young children within this region. As it was pointed out earlier, there has been a drastic reduction in violent offense crimes within the detachment. Certainly, the decrease in population plays some role, but it should be noted that the calls for service increased by more than 20% from 2007 to 2008. Another major factor in the reduction in crime would be the increased presence of trooper personnel in the villages.

Search and rescues – Search and rescue operations (SARs) have mostly been a success story in the past decades. In 2008, C Detachment had 219 SAR-related events, equivalent of just over four per week. The detachment had more than 30 percent of the total number of SARs for DPS in 2008. Most are a result of individuals traveling for recreational or community events between villages or subsistence hunting or fishing. Although SARs are hampered by communications, transportation, weather, temperature extremes and distances, they most often end successfully. There were 144 lives saved in C Detachment in 2008, a 20 percent increase over 2007, as a direct result of SAR-related activities. Search and Rescue operations in the detachment are facilitated by local village volunteer SAR teams that, when called upon, are motivated to assist both those within their community and from other villages. Search operations are usually initiated on a local level in conjunction with trooper assistance for logistical support. Almost all search operations are successfully concluded with the missing person located and returned to the nearest village within the first eight to 12 hours. Assets that are normally associated with SARs in the rest of the state and the Lower 48, such as trained and organized search teams, helicopters equipped with thermal imaging infrared cameras and trained search dog teams, are not available in this region. Locating and transporting these tools into the search area can take substantial time.

Flying – The majority of the flight missions in 2008 were SARs, prisoner transports and investigative trips to villages. All flights during 2008 were conducted without incident. This is a credit to C Detachment pilots, their training and good judgment and the aircraft section that maintains the aircraft. An incredibly important mission was undertaken by the state pilots assigned to C Detachment during 2008. During the economic crisis of 2008, several villages were in dire need of food and supplies. C Detachment personnel made several trips to local villages in the Bethel region to deliver the much needed supplies using state aircraft.

Dedicated support staff – The clerical staff within C detachment that stay with the department is as dedicated and loyal to the mission as the troopers with whom they work. The workload placed upon them at times is incredible, yet they choose to stay. They epitomize the meaning of what a public servant stands for.



Equipment & Training

– With assistance of federal COPS grants, the detachment provides troopers and VPSOs with some of the latest technology such as arctic clothing, satellite phones, personal locator beacons, updated computers, digital cameras and recorders, snow machines, boats, ATVs and fire fighting equipment. Troopers and VPSOs receive a variety of training, such as Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education, Reid Interrogation Skills, Street Survival, alcohol and drug awareness classes and child abuse and elder abuse identification.

Support of people in region – Keeping detachment troopers relatively injury free is a phenomenal feat with all of the hazards facing troopers within the region. Potential hazards include the extreme climate, high-risk modes of transportation and the lack of back up. Part of this success is attributed not only to troopers' sound judgment, training and equipment, but also to the support of the people in



Barrels of fuel wait to be flown out via the state's 208 Cessna Caravan and State Pilot Earl Samuelson. The fuel is dropped off at remote locations in the Bush to be used by both Alaska Wildlife Life and Alaska State Troopers on patrol.

the region. Troopers who have gained the respect of the community realize residents look after their well being and provide them the knowledge needed not only to help with investigations, but to keep troopers safe. It's common for village elders to order a possible suspect within the community to obey a trooper's authority. The department wants troopers to continue to foster and develop these types of relationships. Working in Western Alaska can be the most rewarding experience of a trooper's career. Although there are many challenges, troopers and staff manage to find a way to accomplish the mission and provide public safety through public service.

AN "AVERAGE" C DETACHMENT TROOPER

If there were such a thing the average C Detachment trooper would have been assigned or completed the following in 2008:

- Responsible for approximately 4,321 square miles – an area over twice the size of Delaware
- Responsible for serving approximately 804 year-round members of the public
- Assigned or received 241 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 31 cases which resulted in an arrest or a report being referred for prosecution
- Investigated 2 sexual abuse of minor cases
- Investigated 3 sexual assaults
- Handled 1-1/2 search and rescue related events
- Investigated 2 death cases
- Handled 16 domestic violence related offenses



Clerical Learning Curve



When Rebecca Roenfanz started working as a clerk for the Alaska State Troopers at the Dillingham post in March of 2007, she thought she pretty much knew everything about troopers and the law from being pulled over for speeding and watching Law and Order. She took the job thinking, “How hard can it be?” Working in other offices before, she knew she had the necessary skills – if anything new came up, she figured she’d just roll with it.

Roenfanz found that short of needing a degree in law and learning the 10-codes enough to know the difference between a 10-80 (arrest) and a 10-96 (mental

subject) and which version of SAR someone is referring to – search and rescue or supply action request – yes, the job is a breeze.

Perhaps her biggest hurdle was learning her way around the multiple versions of criminal justice databases where information needs to be entered. This daunting task includes learning how to enter case reports into the Alaska criminal database called the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN), which is constantly changing with updated technology and techniques. Additionally, Roenfanz needed to learn the federal version, called the National Crime Information Center (NCIC). NCIC is used by law enforcement agencies nationwide.

“Anything entered there (NCIC) has to be very specific. If stuff is entered wrong, the system rejects it,” Roenfanz said. “When I first started working at this job I didn’t know who anyone was. I’d blindly call people and guess who would be able to help.”

Once she found the Department of Public Safety directory online, life got considerably easier. However, some days she spoke with APSIN specialists in Anchorage more than she spoke with her own husband.

There’s a bit of a learning curve for the clerical staff scattered throughout the remote posts in C Detachment. Often they are the only administrative person working at a post, secluded from their clerical counterparts by hundreds of miles and learning to do their job by trial and error. Roenfanz is a prime example of the dedication it takes to be a member of the detachment’s clerical staff. The staff that stays with the department is as dedicated and loyal to the mission as the troopers with whom they work. The workload placed upon them at times is incredible, yet they choose to stay. They epitomize the meaning of what a public servant stands for.

When Roenfanz hit her three month mark with AST, she had enough confidence to begin questioning why things were done a certain way at the post. If it wasn’t defined by the DPS standard operating procedure manual or various clerk’s manuals laying about the office, she started revising.

Regrettably, she harassed the sergeant and trooper at the post with a thousand questions – “What is this form for?” “Why does this go here?” “Wouldn’t it be easier this way?” She was streamlining and developing new procedures. She tried to get rid of overkill documentation and to minimize the size of what seemed like ridiculously large files.

Eventually, Roenfanz stumbled onto the evidence files. When she started, she had a stack of property forms – known as 12-210s – that she said, “could choke a horse.” Before long, her temporary evidence file cabinet was stuffed full of items, plus new items were coming in weekly.

Shortly after Roenfanz started with troopers, she had the good fortune of spending a day with Criminal Justice Technician Jennifer Griggs in Anchorage. Grigg has logged 19 years as an evidence clerk. She is considered an evidence guru by many in the Department and has trained countless clerks on the finer points of filing and tracking evidence.

Griggs showed Roenfanz how to handle evidence, processes and store the paperwork and how to set up files. While Roenfanz knew the importance of maintaining the integrity of evidence and which forms to fill out, she didn’t realize how important the weapon’s file paperwork was. When she needed to log a bunch of weapons found by a trooper



Dillingham post Supervisor Sgt. Randel McPherron, on left, and Office Assistant Rebecca Roenfanz, on right, receive C Detachment awards from Detachment Deputy Commander Lt. Dave Tracy, in the middle. Also pictured is Roenfanz’s son, Porter.



visiting a VPSO post, the reality hit hard. Most of the guns had been seized more than five years ago by a trooper who was no longer employed by AST. Only one or two guns had evidence tags. To sort through the remaining weapons, she had to query the VPSO on what he was told when he took over the post years before. It was a mess to say the least.

It wasn't until Roenfanz actually had to create a weapons file for these undocumented guns that she understood the true importance of keeping detailed files. Some case reports from the post didn't mention a weapon. When a report did, it wasn't clear who owned the weapon. In rural Alaska, people often don't have any type of proof of ownership for their guns. This makes it extremely difficult to document who has the right to claim it. With the case officer no longer available, filling in the holes is even more tedious and complicated.

"If I can't look at that 12-201 weapons form and know everything I need to about the weapon then I know I need to add more information," she said. "What I thought was overkill, I have learned was just the right amount of paperwork."

After sorting out the files, Roenfanz ran across a memo from the 1990s underlining the reasons for the new evidence custodians as to why the weapons file documentation is so important. Roenfanz learned a very valuable lesson the hard way. Her weapons files went from a few pieces of paper stapled together to taking up a third of one of her file cabinet drawers. Everything is documented – the more information the better.

"No matter how much a trooper complains about filing out paperwork or forms, make them fill it out with as much information as they can," she said. "Cutting corners now will only make more work for you in the future. Even if it means you generate the form for the trooper and let them proof it to get the information documented."

Her weapons files now reside in red file folders and are never destroyed – even if a weapon is forfeited to the state and can no longer be claimed. The files complete the circle for seized weapons and clearly states where they came from and why. Now, whoever follows in Roenfanz's footsteps won't have to experience the same pain of sorting through evidence without a documented past.

VILLAGE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER



Village Public Safety Officer Class No. 34 after graduation in Sitka.

C Detachment is responsible for overseeing the operation of the Village Public Safety Program (VPSO). The VPSO program began in the late 1970s as a means of providing rural Alaskan communities with needed public safety services at the local level. The program was designed to train and employ individuals residing in the village as first responders to public safety emergencies such as search and rescue, fire protection, emergency medical assistance and law enforcement support.

Since the program's inception, the number of communities served by VPSOs has fluctuated from 124 funded positions to 69 funded positions at the end of 2008. Of those, 14 positions were vacant at the end of the year. The presence of these officers has had a significant impact on improving the quality of life in the participating villages.

Village Public Safety Officers are generally the first to respond to many calls for help from community members, hence their motto:

"FIRST RESPONDERS – LAST FRONTIER"





Village Public Safety Officer Sgt. Roy Jones, in the middle, on duty in Larsen Bay.

The program was designed to facilitate local control over public safety services. Management authority actually resides with three entities: the village itself, the 10 regional nonprofit Native corporations and the Alaska State Troopers. This number of nonprofits increased from nine, with the addition of Central Council for Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, which resumed oversight for southeast Alaska in 2008. The program receives all of its' financial support from the state, and all program costs are contained in a single line item in AST's budget. The nonprofit manages day-to-day operational costs through a designated VPSO coordinator. The primary purpose of working with regional nonprofit Native corporations is to place local administration of the program in the hands of an organization more aware of specific needs in those areas being served. They are also able to negotiate with each of the villages within their regions.

Law enforcement in most rural areas is the

primary responsibility of troopers. From rural outposts, troopers attempt to respond immediately to emergencies, as quickly as possible to felony cases and as soon as possible to misdemeanors. These efforts, however, are often hampered by delayed notification, long distances to respond, the uncertainties of both weather and transportation and limited manpower.

In communities associated with the VPSO program, citizens are afforded immediate response to all emergencies without delays caused by weather or distance. Although VPSOs are not expected to handle high risk or complex investigative situations, they do act as a valuable communications link and asset with troopers. Their immediate action, as directed by an oversight trooper, can resolve many potentially volatile situations and often protect important evidence until troopers arrive.

Part of the conceptual design of the VPSO Program is to provide a long term career ladder for the rural, often Native, individuals seeking advancement in the public safety field. The Department of Public Safety provides advanced training to those qualified individuals recommended by their nonprofit and oversight trooper, thereby enhancing opportunity for employment in municipal



Village Public Safety Officer Sgt. John Peratrovich on temporary duty assignment to White Mountain.



Village Public Safety Officer Sgt. Max Olick, far right, and other members of the community cut the ribbon opening the new Public Safety Building in Kwethluk



police and fire departments, as a trooper, Alaska Wildlife Trooper or corrections officer, or in a private security position.

Funding in 2008 for the VPSO Program was set up under two separate funding sources. State funds within the DPS budget are managed by the Division of Alaska State Troopers. A second federal source was through Indian Health Service (IHS). Both funding sources are administered by the state with individual contracts between the state and each of the regional nonprofit native corporations on a cost reimbursement basis. IHS funding was handled by DPS and passed on to the nonprofits, but dried up altogether in 2008 and is not anticipated to return. The VPSO Program does still receive other forms of federal funding, however, that are used exclusively by DPS and not passed on to the non-profits. One prime example is in procuring equipment, whereby such funding augments existing resources. The state needs to increase funding to support this program at the level currently established.

In 2008, 11 VPSO recruits began 10 weeks of intensive training at the VPSO Academy. Five of the recruits graduated from the academy conducted at the Department of Public Safety Academy in Sitka.

VPSOs went to other training courses, to include:

- Pathway to Hope in Anchorage
- Drug Abuse Resistance Education in Anchorage
- Crime scene investigation in Bethel
- Advanced defensive tactics in Bethel community.

Glennallen Trooper Josh Heibnough provides assistance to Copper Center Village Public Safety Officer Ava Greybear.



Village Public Safety Officer Sgt. Dan Decker during a patrol in Ekwok.



VPSOs also attended week-long regional training sessions in Dutch Harbor, Anchorage and Bethel. This training was funded by the U.S. Justice Department's Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants. Corresponding topics included:

- First aid
- Safety and justice
- Arson awareness
- Juvenile Firestarter Intervention I
- Defensive tactics
- Baton
- Pepper spray
- Taser
- Scene investigation for first responders
- Digital camera and recorder operation
- Probation and parole
- Report writing
- Global positioning orientation
- Tribal justice
- Search warrants
- Driving under the influence offenses
- Risk management
- Workmen's compensation
- Juvenile justice
- Drug and alcohol interdiction
- Sexual harassment,
- Critical incident debriefing
- Truancy

Highlights for 2008 included the presentation of prestigious awards to Kodiak Area Native Association VPSO Sgt. Roy Jones of Larsen Bay and Tanana Chiefs Conference VPSO Sgt. Mark Haglin of Ruby. Jones, in conjunction with the Ninth Annual Red Cross Real Heroes Breakfast held in Anchorage, was honored in the category of fire rescue for saving the life of a member of that community. Haglin received the Commendation for Meritorious Service after providing vital assistance to AST's Northern Special Emergency Reaction Team during a multi-day operation to apprehend an armed and dangerous suspect living on the Yukon River. Furthermore, in conjunction with the dedication and grand opening of a new public safety building in Kwethluk, VPSO Sgt. Max Olick was formally recognized by Alaska State Trooper Director Col. Audie Holloway for 25 years of service. Also worthy of mention was the commendable performance of Chignik Bay VPSO Cpl. Guy Ashby for his efforts in responding to a major fire at the local cannery, which caused millions of dollars in damage as well as the significant loss of income and jobs within that

Village Public Safety Officer Sgt. Mark Haglin of Ruby was awarded a Commendation for Meritorious Service after providing troopers valuable assistance when



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

D Detachment



Detachment Commander
Capt. Burke Barrick



Deputy Commander
Lt. Lonny Piscoya



Deputy Commander
Lt. Ron Wall

services for over 70 Interior Alaska communities including 30 Alaska Native villages and over 20 highway-linked communities. Approximately 103,550 people, or roughly one in every six Alaskans, live,

work, travel or recreate daily within the boundaries of D Detachment. This includes an estimated 89,890 residents of the Fairbanks North Star Borough. Year in and year out, D Detachment is one of the leading detachments of the Alaska State Troopers in the following categories: total motor vehicle crashes; total fatal motor vehicle crashes; total drug and alcohol cases investigated; total arrests for driving under the influence (DUI); domestic violence related assault cases; total traffic citations issued; death investigations; search and rescue missions; and total property crimes reported including burglaries, thefts and vehicle thefts.

D Detachment encompasses approximately 170,575 square miles – an area slightly larger than California and almost one-third of Alaska. D Detachment includes the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the city of Fairbanks that acts as the hub for the economic, medical and governmental services of dozens of villages and

DETACHMENT COMMAND

- Detachment Commander – Captain
- Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Patrol)
- Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Rural Unit)

DETACHMENT STAFF

- 1 Administrative Assistant
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Of the five trooper detachments within the Alaska State Troopers, D Detachment has the largest number of personnel with 93 employees, including 32 civilians, 51 commissioned troopers and 10 Court Service Officers. There are eight different trooper posts in the detachment. These posts cover most of Interior Alaska, stretching from the Alaskan-Canadian border in the east to the village of Kaltag in the west, from Atigun Pass in the north down to milepost 147 of the Parks Highway near Byers Lake in the south. D Detachment posts are located in Fairbanks, Galena, Nenana, Healy, Cantwell, Delta Junction, Tok and Northway. These posts provide the primary law enforcement





Troopers Jason Pugh waits for his turn at the range in Fairbanks. Interior Troopers routinely deal with extremely cold weather. Temperatures can dip as low as 50 below zero in the Fairbanks area and 70 below zero in the Tok area during the winter.

Ester, Evansville, Eureka, Fairbanks Rural Unit, Fort Yukon, Fox, Livengood, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, Moose Creek, Olnes Pond, Rampart, Salcha, Stevens Village, Venetie and Wiseman.

thousands of Alaska Natives.

In 2008, there were 103,550 people living within the D Detachment boundaries. By way of comparison, in 2000 there were about 7,000 less people living in the area. Of the people living within detachment boundaries, 66,666 live outside the six various city police departments' area of coverage in the Interior and fall under Alaska State Troopers' jurisdiction. The Detachment is responsible for 4,730 miles of public roads – more than any other trooper detachment. Approximately half of the highway miles in Alaska are within the D Detachment boundaries.

D DETACHMENT UNITS AND POSTS

Fairbanks Post

- 4 Sergeants
- 22 Troopers
- 2 Evidence Clerks
- 3 Building Maintenance Personnel

Rural Service Unit

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Troopers (1 Vacant)

Fairbanks Communications Center

- Communications Center Manager
- 15 Dispatchers
- 2 Administrative Clerks

Detachment headquarters at the Fairbanks Post has a total of 33 commissioned troopers and 28 civilian personnel. The rural unit serves villages both on and off the road system to include: Altana, Allakaket, Arctic Village, Beaver, Bettles, Birch Creek, Central, Chalkyitsik, Chatanika, Chandalar, Circle, Coldfoot,

Judicial Services Unit

- 1 Sergeant
- 1 Trooper (Vacant)
- 9 Court Services Officers in Fairbanks and 1 in Barrow
- 3 Administrative Clerks

The Fairbanks Judicial Service (JS) unit is located in the Rabinowitz Courthouse at 101 Lacey Street, in downtown Fairbanks. Court Services Officers are primarily responsible for transporting prisoners to and from court appearances, local correctional centers and holding cells, providing courtroom security and in serving civil process.

In 2008, CSOs and JS troopers transported 4,506 in-custody inmates, including felony and misdemeanor defendants between the pre-trial jail facility and court hearings.

They also conducted 3,684 in-custody video arraignments, remanded 60 subjects into custody at the courthouse and served approximately 8,002 writs.

Cantwell Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 1 Trooper
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Cantwell has a static population base of approximately 200 people. Cantwell troopers are responsible for patrolling the Parks Highway from mile 147 to 213. Cantwell's economic base revolves around tourism and railroad activity. Denali Park tourism represents a dramatic increase in seasonal



population and activity within the Cantwell patrol district. An estimated 500,000 tourists visit Denali Park during a typical summer. A sergeant, based in Cantwell, oversees all three posts along the Parks Highway located in Cantwell, Healy and Nenana. Dispatch services for the Parks Highway Posts are provided by the Fairbanks AST Dispatch Center.

Nenana Post

1 Trooper

Nenana serves as the major population base of the region with a population of approximately 350 year-round residents within the Nenana city limits. More than 500 additional residents live in the area and in the nearby communities of Clear Air Force Station at mile 283 of the Parks Highway and in the town of Anderson, which is accessed from the Clear Highway. The region's courthouse is also located in Nenana. The trooper in Nenana is responsible for patrolling the Parks Highway from mile 276 to 328. In addition, the trooper services the town of Nenana after the community disbanded its police department a few years ago.

Healy Post

1 Trooper

Healy, located at mile 248 of the Parks Highway, has a year-round population of approximately 1,020 residents. However, during the summer tourist season, the population of Healy and the surrounding Denali Park area swells to several thousand with a significant amount of daily visitors traveling through the area. There is not a city police service in Healy and, with the exception of the Denali National Park and the surrounding federal lands, Alaska State Troopers are responsible for all law enforcement activities in the region and along the Parks Highway. The Usibelli Coal Mine sustains the local economy with seasonal construction activity producing fluctuations in population and activity. The Healy trooper is responsible for patrolling the Parks Highway from mile 231 to 276.

Delta Post

1 Sergeant

4 Troopers

1 Dispatcher

The Delta Post is located near the intersection of the Richardson and Alaska highways. The Alaska Highway terminates at Delta Junction at mile 1422. The post is responsible for the Alaska Highway from mile 1422 to mile 1380 and for approximately 121 miles of the Richardson Highway from mile 194 to 315, and the Denali Highway from Paxson to mile 79. There are numerous agriculturally-based gravel roads in the area. The Tanana River flows to the north of Delta Junction.

Tok/Northway Post

1 Sergeant

3 Troopers in Tok (1 vacant)

1 in Northway

2 Dispatchers

The Tok and Northway posts of D Detachment are located near the Alaskan-Canadian border in eastern Alaska on the Alaska Highway. AST personnel are responsible for three highways within the area: the Alaska Highway, the Glenn Highway and the Taylor Highway. This area of responsibility extends from mile 1221 Alaska Highway to mile 1380 (Johnson River Bridge); mile 124 Tok Cut-off to mile 62; and from Tetlin Junction (mile 1302 Alaska Highway) to Eagle and Boundary at the Canadian border; and Poker Creek on the Taylor Highway (approximately 175 miles). Population within the area is approximately 4,310 with a large influx of people traveling through the area during the late spring through fall. Population estimates include the following communities: Tok, Tetlin, Mentasta, Tanacross, Dot Lake, Northway, Beaver Creek, Eagle, Chicken and Healy Lake. The



Trooper Dan Brom jokes around with a couple of kids during a traffic stop on the Johansen Expressway.



largest community in the area is Tok. It has a year round population of approximately 1380 residents.

Galena Post 2 Troopers

The Galena Post is the only detachment post located off the road system and is only accessible by air or by river. Galena is located on the Yukon River at Mile 530 and almost 240 nautical miles due west of Fairbanks. Galena has a population of approximately 580 year-round residents with the city divided into two sections referred to as new town and old town. Approximately three miles separate the two sections. All city functions and buildings are located in the new section. The city has a full-time police officer with two holding cells located at the city police department. The Alaska Court System maintains an office and has a magistrate posted in Galena.

or tips and track the stolen property. The same trooper assigned to investigate a high-dollar value residential burglary case is oftentimes the same trooper assigned to respond to violent in-progress crimes, vehicle crashes, search and rescue reports and citizen reports of impaired or reckless drivers. As time allows, patrol troopers work to solve property crimes, but property crimes often take a lower priority to in-progress crimes and violent crimes against people.

Adequate rural highway and village patrol – More than 30 rural communities and villages and five major road systems in Interior Alaska count on the troopers of the Galena Post and the Fairbanks-based Rural Patrol Unit for their law enforcement and emergency response needs. The Fairbanks Rural Unit consists of one sergeant and three trooper positions – one of which remains vacant. The Galena Post is comprised of two troopers. These troopers are responsible for primary law enforcement calls for service in communities and villages stretching from Kaltag in the west to Hughes and Coldfoot in the north to Fort Yukon and Beaver in the east to Manley and Minto in the south. In addition to primary law enforcement duties, the Galena and Rural Unit troopers support and assist village public safety officers and local police officers in communities like Tanana, Fort Yukon and Galena.



Erin Buchanan, left, and Misty Bowen, dispatch for troopers working out of the D Detachment headquarters in Fairbanks.

The Rural Unit troopers additionally assume primary responsibility for patrolling the Dalton, Elliott and Steese highways by road and use Fairbanks-based aircraft to visit outlying villages within the detachment boundaries. Due to weather and long distances between communities, trooper response to emergency calls can take anywhere from several hours to days. Additional trooper posts located in regional hubs like Tanana, Fort Yukon or along the Dalton Highway at Coldfoot would provide a greater law enforcement presence in the

more remote areas of the detachment, thus ensuring a more timely response to emergencies. An adequate turbine engine helicopter able to fly to high altitude during cold temperatures, and haul a useful load is also a critical need of the detachment. D Detachment frequently is called on to search for missing hunters, hikers and outdoor enthusiasts lost in rural parts of the detachment. The Robinson R-44 helicopter located in Fairbanks is ill-suited to the mission and needs to be replaced with a safe, reliable and effective alternative.



CHALLENGES

Property crime prevention and investigation — The high daily call volume and demand for D Detachment troopers makes it difficult to devote adequate time for crime prevention patrols or to devote adequate resources to investigate property crimes like theft, burglary, vandalism and stolen vehicle cases. Property crimes can be solved if the trooper assigned to the case has enough time to properly investigate the scene, interview witnesses, conduct neighborhood canvases for additional witnesses, follow-up on leads

SUCSESSES

Reduction in Traffic Related Fatal Crashes and DUI enforcement

– In 2007, there were 21 fatal motor vehicle crashes in Interior Alaska resulting in 23 fatalities which accounted for almost one-quarter of all traffic fatalities in the entire state that year. Approximately one-third of those crashes were known to involve the use of alcohol and others were suspected, but not proven. In 2008 there were only eight motor-vehicle related fatalities in D Detachment— a dramatic drop. The nationwide increase in the price of gasoline and diesel, as well as an overall decline in the number of tourist visitors to the state, and fewer road miles driven by the public in general certainly played a role in the decline in the number of fatalities from 2007 to 2008. However, the efforts of D Detachment troopers also played a significant role through dedicated efforts to detect and arrest impaired drivers and by conducting traffic safety patrols as time and manpower allow. Detachment troopers, particularly those troopers based in Fairbanks working during the hours of 10 p.m. to 6 a.m., as well as other law enforcement agencies in Interior Alaska consistently total roughly 1,000 DUI arrests each year. Troopers and local police are effective in locating, arresting, prosecuting and convicting impaired drivers.

Response to crimes of domestic assault

– In 2008 D Detachment troopers investigated 575 domestic violence related offenses, the second most of any detachment within the Alaska State Troopers. Every trooper receives training on how to properly investigate and properly document crimes of domestic violence. Investigating crimes against persons takes priority over all other types of calls for service. Every shift and post within the detachment are staffed by supervisors trained to evaluate domestic violence cases and to work closely with the local district

attorney's offices to ensure successful prosecutions of DV related cases.

Canine Unit – Canine Argo and his handler were a very important part of the overall success of D Detachment's patrol efforts in 2008. Police canines, like Argo, are trained to assist patrol troopers by tracking criminal suspects from crime scenes, conduct high-risk building searches, search for lost children or adults and detecting drugs. In 2008, Argo was called upon frequently to assist patrol troopers by successfully tracking six criminal suspects resulting in four misdemeanor and two felony arrests including one bank robber. Additionally Argo assisted Fairbanks police officers in tracking two criminal suspects. One of the suspects was ultimately convicted of felony crimes and sentenced to 47 years in prison. Argo was responsible for the detection and seizure of 20 grams of cocaine, 7 grams of methamphetamine and 40 grams of marijuana as well as \$1,000 in drug proceeds.

Adequate patrol-based traffic enforcement – In 2008, a separate Fairbanks-based Traffic Safety Team was created under the new Bureau of Highway Patrol (BHP) when three Fairbanks-based trooper positions from D Detachment were taken out of patrol and moved to the new BHP. These three troopers were assigned to full-time traffic enforcement duties under the command and supervision of a BHP commander based in Anchorage. The new BHP unit is able to devote most of their time and efforts to traffic enforcement, and their efforts have been largely successful in terms of the numbers of citations issued and fatal crashes prevented. This frees up the patrol troopers from D Detachment based in Fairbanks to respond to other types of calls such as assaults, domestic violence and thefts. Meanwhile, patrol-based traffic enforcement is conducted primarily in connection with state or federally funded overtime traffic enforcement programs like the "Click It or



Trooper Brian Zeisel talks to his canine partner, Argo, during training in Fairbanks.



University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Chief Sean McGee and Alaska State Trooper Lt. Lonny Piscoya race during quarterly training for the Special Emergency Reaction Team.



Ticket,” or the “Saturday Night Blues” enforcement programs, or while patrol troopers are traveling en route to or from other calls for service.

Special Emergency Reaction Team (SERT) – The Northern Special Emergency Response Team based in Fairbanks is one of three SERT elements operated by the Alaska State Troopers in Alaska. The three teams are located in Palmer, Soldotna and Fairbanks. Each team receives funding from the State of Alaska for equipment and training and each team is led by an Alaska State Trooper commander. SERT is used primarily in situations that are dangerous or require special training, equipment or tactics to resolve safely high-risk warrant arrests, situations involving barricaded subjects or hostages. Each of the teams is comprised of troopers and representatives from other local law enforcement agencies. Northern SERT consists of officers from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Department, the Fairbanks International Airport Police Department and the North Pole Police Department as well as Alaska State Troopers from patrol and the Alaska Bureau of Drug Enforcement (ABADE). In 2008, the Fairbanks-based team was very active in serving several high-risk warrants and in assisting the Fairbanks Police Department’s tactical team with several SERT calls involving arrests of barricaded subjects. All calls in 2008 involving SERT personnel were resolved without the use of deadly force and without injury to members of the public, SERT personnel or the criminal suspects.

ANNUAL AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

Arctic Man – Every year during early April, thousands of snowmachiners, skiers, and outdoor enthusiasts gather near Summit Lake north of Paxson at a site near the Richardson Highway to participate in the Arctic Man Ski & Sno-Go Classic. Arctic Man has grown from a small gathering of friends in 1985 to an event that now draws 15,000 to 17,000 people, creating a boom town virtually overnight. Alaska State Troopers, under D Detachment’s guidance, annually sends about a dozen troopers and accompanying support staff to Arctic Man to provide a law enforcement presence as well as to assist in search and rescues, arrange medical

evacuations, take citizen complaints and conduct DUI patrols of the surrounding areas. To deal with the week-long boom town, troopers must set up the equivalent of mini-criminal justice system.

In 2008, D Detachment received and or responded to:

- **21,281 calls for service, almost 23 percent of the reported activity for the division’s total calls for service**
- **284 total burglary offenses**
- **8 Robbery offenses**
- **305 Trespass offenses**
- **541 Vandalism offenses**
- **563 DUI violations**
- **2512 Offenses resulting in an arrest or referral for prosecution**
- **7199 Traffic citations issued**
- **28 Sexual Assault cases**
- **721 Assault**
- **22 Sexual Abuse of a Minor offenses**
- **414 Harassment offenses**

Other work that D Detachment members spent significant hours on in 2008 included:

Death investigation cases – By Alaska statute, all unattended deaths must be investigated by a law enforcement officer. In 2008, D Detachment troopers either responded to, or investigated 117 deaths including natural, accidental and suicide deaths.

Search and Rescue – Alaska statutes require the Alaska State Troopers to be the lead agency on all search and rescue operations that take place on land within AST’s jurisdiction. During 2008, D Detachment troopers managed, coordinated, and in many cases, paid for 88 separate search





President George W. Bush shakes D Detachment Deputy Commander Lt. Ron Wall's hand. Alaska State Troopers helped provide security during the President's landing at Eielson Air Force Base and during his visit to Interior Alaska.

and rescue related events including actual search and rescue missions as well as reports of overdue hunters, boaters, snowmachiners, pilots, hikers and others.

Motor vehicle crashes – The detachment either received reports of, or investigated, 1,309 separate motor vehicle crashes in 2008. B detachment, with

1409 collisions, was the only detachment to have more collisions reported than D detachment in 2008. In 2008 there were eight fatal motor vehicle crashes resulting in eight deaths. These numbers include crashes that involved single and multiple vehicles, to include automobiles, motorcycles, ATVs and snowmachines.

AN "AVERAGE" D DETACHMENT TROOPER

If there were such a thing the average D Detachment trooper would have been assigned or completed the following in 2008:

- Responsible for approximately 3,553 square miles – an area larger than the state of Delaware
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,388 year round members of the public
- Arrested 11 DUI drivers
- Issued 149 traffic citations
- Received, or been assigned, 27 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 443 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 52 cases which resulted in an arrest or a report being referred for prosecution
- Transported dozens of prisoners
- Spent dozens of hours testifying in criminal trials or at traffic court
- Assigned two search and rescue related events
- Investigated 2 death cases and 11 domestic violence offenses





Duty Never Rests

Whether it's to deal with a burglar lurking in the nighttime darkness or a semi-truck barreling down the Parks Highway with a driver bent on harming his wife, the need to protect the public never rests. One early morning in January, neither did several Alaska State Troopers and nine members of the Northern Region Special Emergency Response Team who were awoken out of a slumber to deal with a homicidal and suicidal truck driver.

Fairbanks International Airport Police first attempted to stop the 1999 Peterbuilt at 2:16 a.m. for speeding on the Mitchell Expressway near the start of the Parks Highway. The driver initially stopped, before almost ramming into the patrol car. The semi sped off down the Parks Highway. The police officer, realizing the severity of the situation after almost getting rammed by a semi-truck that was now driving 90 mph down the main thoroughfare between Fairbanks and Anchorage, called Alaska State Troopers for help. Grave shift troopers Sgt. Odean Hall, Charles Inderrieden and Ryan Tennis quickly responded to join the pursuit. About that time, Fairbanks dispatch received a phone call from a Wasilla woman who reported she had just hung up with her husband who said he was driving his semi-truck from Fairbanks to Wasilla to kill her. Between the pair was roughly 320 miles of roadway that is the one of the busiest highways in Alaska. In addition, due to the size of the vehicle and the mindset of the driver, Alaska State Troopers were extremely concerned of the potential risk to those he met on the highway.

Tennis and Hall were the first to catch up with the speeding semi around Mile 320 and took over the pursuit, relieving the Airport officer. Hall called ahead to Trooper Jeff Jones, who works out of the post in Nenana 15 miles ahead of them. Jones was roused from his sleep and set up a set of Stringer spike strips across the road. Trooper Shaw Miller's sleep was also interrupted so he could respond from Healy to block traffic near Bear Creek, 35 miles down the road from Nenana. Miller also had another set of spike strips in case the first set didn't work.

The truck hit the first set of spike strips and blew out the two front tires. The semi slowed down to 40 mph, but continued for another 20 minutes, trailing a cloud of dark smoke from the burning rubber and sparks. The semi veered off the road and into the ditch on the east side of the highway at Mile 305. The semi had traveled 30 curvy and hilly miles of the Parks Highway with police and troopers in pursuit. Troopers on scene received information that the driver told his wife he had gone into the ditch and had nothing left to live for. He said he was armed and was either going to take his own life, or have troopers do it for him. The driver's wife said he normally carries a shotgun, a revolver and a semi-automatic handgun with him in the semi.

Because troopers wanted the incident to end peacefully, Hall, who is a member of the SERT unit, decided a callout of his SERT comrades was in order to deescalate the situation. SERT team leader and D Detachment Deputy Commander Lt. Lonny Piscoya, who was also on-call at the time, got the call that woke him at 3:33 a.m. and was briefed about the situation.

The next phone call went to wake Detachment Commander Capt. Burke Barrick. Fairbanks then paged all seven SERT members that were listed as available. All seven answered and all seven, plus Piscoya, were soon on the road to Nenana. SERT members are trained to handle high-risk situations like standoffs and are required to be prepared to instantly respond to a call-out regardless of the time of day, or night. In this case, the call went out at 3:25 a.m.

"After years of getting phone calls in the middle of the night, you just deal with it," Piscoya said. He said it only took him 15 minutes to hit the road.

The SERT team arrived on scene within an hour of the call-out and over the course of the next two hours, troopers tried unsuccessfully to communicate with the driver.

"We tried cell phone, the PA system on the vehicle from the troopers that were there, a bullhorn," Piscoya said. "No contact."

To make it worse, the temperature was an alarming 45 below zero.

"I remember walking on the highway and my boots were frozen, literally frozen," Piscoya said. "There wasn't any flexibility in my boots."

The SERT team then fired a less-lethal round through the semi window that deployed OC powder into the truck to try and flush the driver into surrendering. There wasn't a response, so they tried contacting him through the speaker system on the trooper car, again without a response. At 6:30 a.m., the SERT members started a careful and deliberate approach. At 7:05 a.m., they entered the truck and found the driver dead from what appeared to be a self-inflicted wound. Unfortunately, the driver couldn't be saved. However, no one else, including those responding or a member of the public, was harmed during the almost five-hour ordeal. In addition, except for the handful of people who responded to deal with the situation, very few lives were interrupted that morning. The road was cleared of any dangers in time for the normal day to resume for everyone else along the Parks Highway. For Alaska State Troopers, the round the clock job of protecting and serving Alaskans is a mission that is more than worth the lost sleep.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

E Detachment



Detachment Commander
Capt. Pete Mlynarik



Deputy Commander
Lt. Dane Gilmore

DETACHMENT COMMAND

Commander – Captain
 Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Patrol)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Supervisor
 1 Administrative Clerk

E Detachment is located primarily on the Kenai Peninsula, an area that is increasingly becoming known as the recreational getaway spot for a large variety of people from both inside and outside Alaska. The detachment's area of responsibility covers 21,701 square miles and is twice the size of Massachusetts. There are 2,221 miles of roadway in E Detachment's enforcement area.

There are 34 commissioned troopers and 18 civilians working in the detachment. The Kenai Peninsula and the areas near Girdwood have a population of approximately 55,318 people. Six cities within E Detachment – Kenai, Soldotna, Homer, Whittier, Seldovia and Seward – have their own law enforcement. The troopers work closely with the six different police departments.



The detachment serves approximately 35,530 people residing outside the jurisdiction of these police departments. That equates to one trooper for every 1,049 people. Although E Detachment directly provides services to approximately 65 percent of the Kenai Peninsula's population, the remaining 35 percent of the people drive through, work, recreate or hunt in E Detachment's area on a weekly, if not daily basis. Most of the population resides in condensed areas leaving the majority of land mass undeveloped. The Chugach National Forest and the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge make up the bulk of these undeveloped areas. Troopers face the challenge of sometimes having to travel 30 or more miles to a call on the road system. They must also frequently travel off the road system into the wilderness to handle search and rescue operations.



There are six different patrol posts in E Detachment. Soldotna Post is the headquarters for the detachment. The satellite posts are Anchor Point, Ninilchik, Cooper Landing, Crown Point and Girdwood. All authorized patrol positions are staffed with the exception of one vacancy in Crown Point.

One of the three Alaska State Troopers' Special Emergency Reaction Teams (SERT) is located in E Detachment. This team has 14 authorized positions and is based out of Soldotna. It is made up of law enforcement and emergency medical personnel and is generally used for high risk events such as barricaded subjects or high risk search warrants. The team has members from the State Troopers, Kenai Police Department, Central Emergency Services and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Trooper Gordon Young shakes the hand of a woman who had an encounter with a bear on a trail near Soldotna. Young escorted the young lady back to her car.

along those roadways. The Soldotna Post also responds to calls on the west side of Cook Inlet to include Shirleyville, Beluga, and the village of Tyonek. The areas across Cook Inlet require aircraft access. Soldotna troopers work closely with Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Kenai and Soldotna police departments, State Park Rangers, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife enforcement personnel.

Anchor Point/Ninilchik Posts

- 1 Sergeant in Anchor Point
- 4 Troopers in Anchor Point
- 1 Trooper in Ninilchik
- 1 Administrative Clerk

These posts are not manned 24 hours a day. An on-call, or standby, trooper is assigned each day to handle calls that need a response after normal shift times. The Soldotna post also provides assistance after hours. Non-emergency calls received after hours are held until the next day. Standby can be an arduous task as the same trooper that had to get up to respond to a call in the middle of the night most likely will be required to work his or her regular shift the following day. This is a busy post. Due to most of the time being spent responding to calls for service, there is very little time to conduct proactive patrols.

The area of responsibility includes calls in the outside the cities of Homer and Seldovia and within the five Russian villages of Nikolaevski, Razdolna, Voznesenka, Kachemak Selo and Ninilchik Russian Village. Handling calls in the Russian villages is often challenging due to cultural and language barriers. Troopers also handle calls in Halibut Cove, Jakolof Bay, Happy Valley, Fritz Creek, Port Graham, Nanwalek and Kachemak City. Halibut Cove, Jakolof Bay, Port Graham and Nanwalek are all located across Kachemak Bay and require a boat or aircraft to access them. The posts also handle calls on the Sterling Highway from Homer to Clam Gulch (mile 118-170). The Anchor Point post is the only area in the detachment that has a police canine. The dual-purpose canine team, certified in both patrol and drug detection, is especially useful in drug searches. One Anchor Point trooper is tasked with overseeing two Village Public Safety Officers posted separately in Nanwalek and Port Graham.

Soldotna Post

- 4 Sergeants
- 12 Troopers
- 2 Administrative Clerks

The troopers in this post respond to calls for service in the areas outside the city limits of Soldotna and Kenai. The Soldotna troopers handle calls on the Kenai Spur Highway from Soldotna to Nikiski (mile 2-3 and mile 14-30), on Kalifornsky Beach Road from Soldotna to Kasilof (mile 1-22), on the Sterling Highway from Jean Lake Hill to Clam Gulch (mile 65-118) and on Funny River Road from Soldotna to the end of the road (mile 1-16). This includes calls for service in all of the communities located

Anchor Point troopers work closely with the Homer Police Department. AST has a contractual agreement with the City of Homer for secondary dispatch services, facility use,



and prisoner transport and security at the Homer jail. The city of Seldovia also has a police department. The troopers assist the Seldovia Police in matters requiring in-depth investigations or situations where more manpower is needed.



Trooper Mike Zweifel, one of the few troopers certified on Total Station measurements of serious-injury of fatal vehicle crashes, surveys a scene of a fatal crash on the Seward Highway.

Crown Point/Cooper Landing Posts

- 1 Sergeant in Crown Point
- 3 Troopers in Crown Point
- 1 Trooper in Cooper Landing
- 1 Administrative Clerk

These posts operate in the same fashion as the Anchor Point and Ninilchik posts. There is a standby trooper assigned each day to handle emergency calls. They cover the Sterling Highway from the junction where the Seward and Sterling highway meet to Jean Lake Hill (mile 38-65) and the Seward Highway from Seward to Hope cutoff (mile 2-55). This post covers calls outside the city of Seward and in Cooper Landing, Moose Pass, Lawing, and the village of Chenega Bay. Chenega Bay is located on Evans Island in Prince William Sounds and is accessible only by aircraft or boat. This post was in Seward but it relocated to Crown Point in 2008. The Cooper Landing post also moved in 2008. It was first located at the Cooper Landing Elementary School property and subsequently moved to a building co-located with Cooper Landing Emergency Management Services. Both moves were an improvement in terms of space and working environment.

Girdwood Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Troopers
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Girdwood Post's area of responsibility includes the communities of Girdwood, Hope, Indian, Portage, Bird and the undeveloped areas of Prince William Sound. Additionally, the post takes care of calls outside the city of Whittier. Girdwood troopers patrol the Seward Highway from Hope to McHugh Creek (mile 55-112). A large majority of this post's duties consist of traffic enforcement and motor vehicle crash investigations. The

Seward Highway Traffic Safety Corridor falls within Girdwood's area of responsibility. All traffic traveling from the Anchorage area to the Kenai Peninsula goes through this post's boundaries. Girdwood troopers have developed a good working relationship with the local U.S. Forest Service enforcement personnel. This facilitates better overall delivery of public safety services. This post also utilizes standby as it is not manned 24 hours a day.

Judicial Services

- 1 Trooper
- 4 Court Services Officers
- 1 Administrative Clerk

E Detachment runs the Judicial Services (JS) unit out of the State Court building in Kenai. Judicial Services is responsible for the movement of prisoners to and from the Kenai Court building and with the detachment. They are also responsible for the service of criminal and some civil process.

In 2008, the unit:

- ★ Moved a total of 7,787 individuals
- ★ Handled 1,760 writs

Soldotna Public Safety Communication Center

- 1 Communications Center Manager (Borough Employee)
- 7 Full-time State Radio Dispatchers
- 7 Full-time Kenai Peninsula Borough Radio Dispatchers
- 1 Part-time Kenai Peninsula Borough Radio Dispatcher
- 1 Administrative Clerk

E Detachment supervises the Soldotna Public Safety Communications Center (SPSCC) located in Soldotna. The Center dispatches for the State Troopers, Soldotna Police Department, Central Emergency Services, Nikiski Fire Department, Ninilchik Fire Department, Cooper Landing EMS, Moose Pass EMS and Hope EMS. In addition, the center also provides limited dispatch services to State Parks,



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and Alaska Department of Corrections. The center handles all 911 land line based calls on the Kenai Peninsula except for the cities of Kenai, Homer and Seward. The center receives all cell phone based calls on the Kenai Peninsula and routes them appropriately if they originate in the cities of Kenai, Homer or Seward. The 911 calls in the Girdwood area and between mile 75-112 Seward Highway are also routed from the Anchorage Police Department to the SPSCC. The system was upgraded in 2008 to give the center the ability to identify the locations of wireless callers.

a significant increase from the one fatal collision that was reported to AST in this corridor for 2007. The years 2006 and 2005 each had three fatal collisions. E Detachment troopers wrote 1,328 traffic citations within the corridor in 2008. The Sterling Highway from Scout Lake Road to the Kenai Spur Highway is slated to be designated a safety corridor in 2009.

CHALLENGES

Calls for Service – The Kenai Peninsula grows by an estimated 100,000 people during the summer months. This number is primarily made up of tourists. The complaints from these tourists are primarily handled by troopers. This brings the service ratio to one trooper providing public safety services to almost 4,000 people. There is no additional manpower during these busy months with the exception of special events. Troopers find it hard to spend any significant amount of time on investigations that do not have a readily identifiable suspect. Most of Patrol’s time is spent responding to calls. According to standard prioritization, troopers respond most quickly to crimes in progress, assaults, traffic collisions, search and rescues and other threats to public safety. Most of these calls do not generate a report, but require a response. Because of the volume of calls that the detachment receives, there is very little time left for proactive enforcement. The call volume has increased significantly in recent years due to individuals having cell phones reporting problems from virtually anywhere.

There are numerous calls coming into the dispatch centers, reporting poor driving. Troopers are unable to respond to many of these reports due to the lack of manpower. There is very little time to do traffic enforcement in the Soldotna and Anchor Point post areas unless overtime is dedicated specifically to those efforts. There are routinely several vacancies at Soldotna Post which makes scheduling shifts with adequate personnel a challenge. Additionally there are inadequate personnel resources to handle major events such as a wildfire.

Proactive efforts – E Detachment does not have a regular program to actively seek out arrest warrants or conduct Sex Offender Registration compliance checks.

SERT Vehicle – The detachment has an aging SERT vehicle that needs to be replaced because its reliability is questionable.



Sgt. Bryan Barlow, supervisor of the Girdwood post, talks to reporters about Alaska State Troopers’ Fourth of July enforcement efforts on the Seward Highway.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS

Fourth of July – Seward may see an additional 14,000 people inside the city limits and an additional 5,000 just outside the city limits during the holiday event that coincides with the running of Mount Marathon. During the 2008 enforcement program, the Seward area was staffed with additional troopers. This enforcement period resulted in 52 total cases being generated, 61 citations written, three DUI arrests, two furnishing alcohol to minors cases and 43 suspects for minor consuming alcohol charges.

Seward Highway Safety Corridor – The Seward Highway Safety Corridor was established on May 26, 2006 and was extended one mile in 2007 to encompass a stretch from mile 87 to 117. The highway safety corridor was developed to improve safety on stretches of highway that experience a high number of serious injury and fatal crashes. There were five motor vehicle crashes which resulted in five fatalities in the corridor in 2008. This was



SUCSESSES

D.A.R.E. Program – One of the most significant areas of public outreach that E Detachment has is its Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. D.A.R.E. provides an excellent opportunity for troopers to teach children the dangers of drugs and alcohol. There are three D.A.R.E. instructors in the detachment. Those instructors are located in Soldotna, Anchor Point and Cooper Landing. The D.A.R.E.-certified trooper in Cooper Landing is also a mentor involved in D.A.R.E. training for other law enforcement officers across the state.

Response to domestic assaults – E Detachment troopers do a good job of handling priority crimes such as domestic violence assaults. This is due to quality training and a good working relationship with the District Attorney's Office. The detachment is proactive in regards to training and conducts as much as possible when finances and scheduling allow. Unfortunately, there are sometimes not enough troopers to cover the vacancies created when other troopers are sent to training.

Citizen Report Forms – A large part of the detachment's efforts are directed at response to property crimes. Victims of property crimes are asked to submit a Citizen Report Form (CRF) where there are no suspects or evidence of the crime. These forms are returned to the

trooper office where they are reviewed and filed. If any leads come up in the future, the case can be opened and a trooper report generated. The CRF was created to cut down on the routine paperwork troopers are required to do and thus give more time to handle other calls or be proactive. It is important that the public fills these out in a complete and timely manner. PAR (Participant Accident Report) forms can be filled out by drivers involved in crashes in lieu of a trooper filling out a report. The detachment has started using more PARs to free up time for other calls. PARs are generally used on vehicle crashes that occur on public roadways, have damage, have no injuries involved, and when no citations will be issued. The participants of the crash are given the crash forms to fill out, which they later submit to the State.

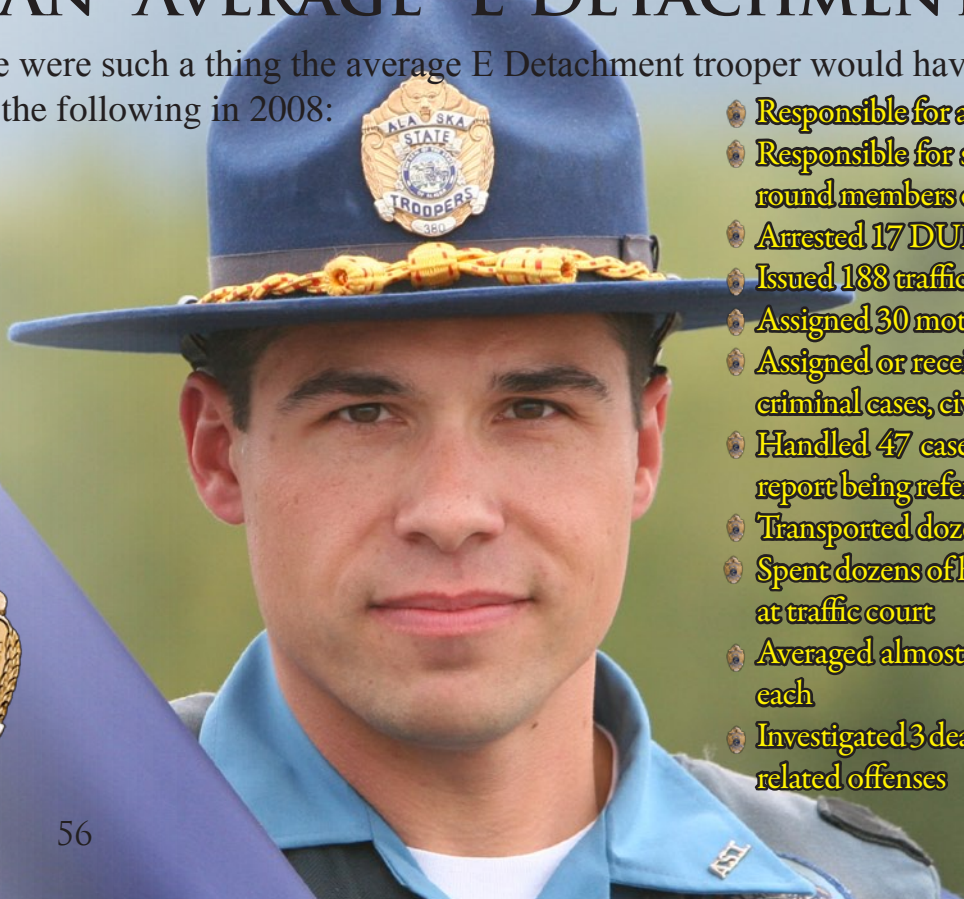
Assisting Rural Troopers – Troopers that are trained at the department consistently pick rural posts for their next assignments. This is due to proactive response in assisting other rural detachments with temporary duty personnel, especially in C Detachment.

Equipment – The detachment is steadily acquiring more training and gear such as snow machines, avalanche beacons and other avalanche rescue gear to aid in numerous search and rescue missions that the detachment is tasked with. There is evident improvement in search and rescue missions from past years.

AN "AVERAGE" E DETACHMENT TROOPER

If there were such a thing the average E Detachment trooper would have been assigned or completed the following in 2008:

- Responsible for approximately 657 square miles
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,076 year-round members of the public
- Arrested 17 DUI drivers
- Issued 188 traffic citations
- Assigned 30 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 499 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 47 cases which resulted in an arrest or a report being referred for prosecution
- Transported dozens of prisoners
- Spent dozens of hours testifying in criminal trials or at traffic court
- Averaged almost 2 search and rescue related events each
- Investigated 3 death cases and 125 domestic-violence related offenses



Beyond Turnagain Pass lies an extreme snowmachiner's paradise. The peaks and valleys offer snowmachine enthusiasts of the highest caliber a playground to seek an adrenaline rush on the back of a sled. While the conditions are prime for fun, they are also prime for danger.

Trooper Howie Peterson, based out of the Girdwood post, was on duty the afternoon of Nov. 29, 2008 when Soldotna Dispatch contacted him about an injured snowmachiner in the backcountry of Turnagain Pass. The man reportedly had a compound fracture and was bleeding profusely. There was no question that a rescue to extract him from the snowy terrain had to be planned and implemented immediately.

The injured snowmachiner was in the area of Repeat Offender Mountain – appropriately named for the multiple avalanches that strike its slopes every winter. Due to thick fog, a helicopter rescue was deemed impossible. Sgt. Bryan Barlow, the supervisor at the Girdwood post, arrived within minutes of the notification at the popular Turnagain Pass pullout while Peterson retrieved the post's snowmachines.

While poor visibility hampered the search efforts, two positive factors were in play. Peterson, who is an excellent snowmachine rider and very familiar with the area, was on duty. Also, the Girdwood Post recently acquired a new Polaris RMK mountain machine. The powerful sled allows troopers to reach areas that were previously inaccessible.

While the A-Star helicopter, Helo-1, is a true asset to AST when it comes to search and rescues, when the weather turns south and the chips are down, the best assets Alaska State Troopers have are the skilled and dedicated troopers, like Peterson, standing in its ranks. Peterson is often tapped for his snowmachining skills not only in the Girdwood area, but when he travels to the yearly Arctic Man Ski and Sno-Go Classic in the Hoodoo Mountains near Glennallen. Peterson uses skills not only honed by years of snowmachining and motorcross racing prior to becoming a trooper, but also when he rides on his off-duty time. Peterson's ability allows him to get to places unreachable to rescuers or even to other troopers, making him the person to have at the handlebars when lives are at stake.

Peterson met up with Barlow at the Turnagain Pass parking lot at Mile 69 of the Seward Highway a short time later. Barlow unloaded and prepped the snow machine while Peterson put on his snowmachine gear. Information came in from other riders on scene that the man's condition was getting worse. Time is always crucial in search and rescue missions, especially when the search subject is critically injured and out in the frigid wilderness with waning daylight. Because he'd move faster not having to guide in other rescuers or carrying a passenger, Peterson went in alone with the rescue sled.

Peterson met up with a rider on the trail to guide him to the injured man. When the rider took off full throttle, Peterson knew the situation was grave.

Peterson arrived at the Repeat Offender Mountain only to face a huge obstacle standing between him and the injured rider – a steep hill climb. About 30 snowmachine riders were grouped and taking turns attempting the climb. However, Peterson had the added burden of climbing the slope while pulling the rescue sled. After watching riders without hauling a load fail, he knew it would be a daunting task. On his first attempt, Peterson made it three quarters of the way up when his machine wedged into a snow overhang at the top of a ledge. On the second attempt, Peterson abandoned the climb after deciding he chose a bad route.

Meanwhile, Peterson's audience was very encouraging. The riders clapped, whistled and snapped photos. It was all the motivation Peterson needed. He made it up and over the incline on his third try with only a minor snag – an alder claimed the Polaris' windshield as its prize while Peterson zoomed by, an inconsequential price to pay in exchange for someone's life.

At the top, Peterson found the injured man surrounded by about 10 riders. The man's bone was sticking through his snowpants just below his knee. The group helped Peterson wrap the injured rider in blankets and a sleeping bag and secure him to the rescue sled. After stabilizing him as best they could, they started the difficult task of lowering him down the steep slope. They used a long rope and other riders formed an anchor line on the front, back and sides as they descended approximately 150 yards. The snow was wet and waist deep, which made the task even more difficult.

On the way down, the injured man told Peterson it all happened when he turned his snow machine around on the slope. He thought an alder hooked one of the snowmachine's skis, rolling the sled on its left side. Witnesses reported hearing the loud "snap" sound as a bone in his leg snapped and pushed through his skin and snowpants.

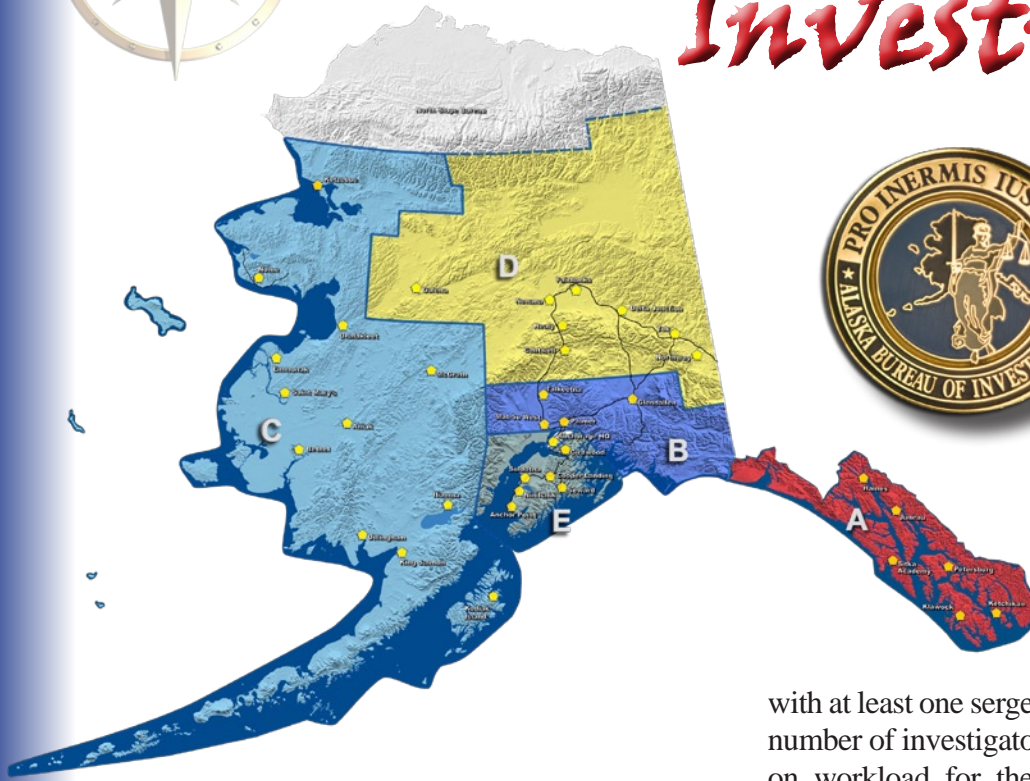
At the bottom of the hill, two Girdwood medics waited with snow machines. Since their machines had a proper rescue sled already hooked up, the medics towed the injured rider about a mile to a waiting ambulance. Luckily, a passing DOT truck created a safe pullout for the ambulance close to the trail. From there, the man was whisked away to a hospital in Anchorage where he was treated for a compound fracture to his femur.

Sledneck Trooper



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

ALASKA BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



**Bureau Commander
Capt. John Papasodora**



**Deputy Commander
Lt. Dave Tugmon**

BUREAU COMMAND

1 Captain

1 Lieutenant

BUREAU STAFF

1 Administrative Supervisor

7 Administrative Support Personnel

with at least one sergeant and a number of investigators based on workload for the region, however, all ABI personnel are prepared for deployment anywhere in the state as needs arise. At the close of 2008, two of the authorized commissioned positions within ABI were vacant.

A captain and a lieutenant oversee the Bureau from AST headquarters located in Anchorage. ABI units stationed in Anchorage include the Computer and Financial Crimes Unit (four commissioned personnel and one Criminal Justice Technician), Missing Persons Unit (one commissioned person and one administrative support personnel), Cold Case Investigation Unit (two commissioned investigators in Anchorage and two in Soldotna) and Anchorage Major Crimes Unit (four commissioned personnel).

ABI also has Multi-agency Child Abuse Investigations Units in the Mat-Su Valley and Fairbanks areas; Property Crimes Investigations Units in Soldotna and Mat-Su; and regional Major Crimes Units in Fairbanks, Mat-Su and Soldotna. The Multi-agency Child Abuse Investigations Units included personnel from the Wasilla Police Department and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Department until mid-2008. The Property Investigations Unit in Soldotna was vacant for most of 2008.

The Alaska State Troopers (AST) consolidated the criminal investigative resources of AST into the Alaska Bureau of Investigation (ABI) in 2003 with the intent to build the investigative capacity, capability and expertise of the Division. The mission of the Bureau focuses on developing the investigative skills of personnel within the Department of Public Safety and building collaborative relationships with other law enforcement agencies. Through these efforts the Alaska State Troopers work towards increasing the effectiveness of investigative functions throughout the state.

ABI is composed of 43 authorized positions; 35 commissioned and eight clerical support personnel. These positions are assigned to ABI posts located in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Fairbanks and Soldotna and within a variety of specialized units. Each post location is staffed



Multi-agency law enforcement involved in serving two search warrants and recovered computer equipment stolen from Delta High School in Delta Junction. Those involved in serving the warrants are, from left to right, Delta Post Supervisor Sgt. Tim Tuckwood, Sgt. Tim Schoenberg and Sgt. Brian Wassmann of Fairbanks, Trooper Edward Halbert of Delta Junction, Computer and Financial Crimes Unit Investigator Nathan Bucknall, U.S. Postal Inspector Matt Hoffman, University of Alaska Fairbanks Officer Marc Poeschel and CFCU Supervisor Sgt. Derek DeGraaf.



ABI Major Crimes personnel in Anchorage and Child Abuse Investigation Unit personnel in Fairbanks are co-located with agencies with similar functions to promote cooperation and collaboration and to increase service to those in need. For example, the Anchorage Major Crimes Unit is co-located within the Anchorage Multi-Disciplinary Center, which houses members of the Anchorage Police Department, Office of Children's Services, Sexual Assault Response Team and Alaska CARES (child forensic services). The Fairbanks CAIU is co-located with Stevie's Place (child forensic services) and the Family Resource Center. Co-location in this manner allows ABI personnel immediate access to the myriad of services potentially needed by victims. The intent is to follow this pattern as much as possible in the future and to explore other places where co-location is viable.

The Bureau develops and deploys expertise necessary to effectively investigate serious crimes. While units are distributed across the state and have regional responsibilities, ABI resources are integrated. Regardless of where a primary duty station is for an investigator, they deploy anywhere in state to investigate serious crimes. This approach takes advantage of individual or unit expertise to enhance investigations anywhere the need arises.

Collectively, ABI provides the following services:

- Assist federal, state and local criminal justice agencies requiring specialized investigators and/or techniques.
- Participate in local, state and national programs such as the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC), Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) programs.
- Statewide investigatory support for all detachments and bureaus, and local law enforcement upon request by assistance with or by:
 - Documentation and investigation during autopsies
 - Search warrant applications and executions

- Interviews
- Scene investigation
- Training
- Investigate suspicious unattended deaths and homicides
- Investigate serious felony assaults and robberies
- Investigate sexual assault and child exploitation/sexual abuse of a minor cases
- Investigate burglary and other complex property crimes
- Investigation of complex financial and computer related crimes
- Investigation of cases originating in State correctional facilities
- Document and disseminate information regarding homicides
- Maintain state and national databases that document homicides and missing persons.
- Conduct forensic computer examinations and electronic evidence recovery for DPS and other agencies

Computer and Financial Crimes Unit

1 Sergeant
2 Investigators

Since its establishment in 2003, the Computer and Financial Crimes Unit (CFCU) routinely conducts investigations in conjunction with the Department of Law's Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals, District Attorney's offices throughout the state and various federal agencies such as the IRS, FBI, U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Attorney's Office. The use of computers to perpetrate, foster and conceal criminal conduct has become a reality as criminal use of computers constantly increases. In addition to online activity, the CFCU has the capacity to forensically analyze computers to document the possession and distribution of



child pornography. It also is able to recover electronic evidence from other forms of media.

Personnel assigned to the unit are highly trained and competent in the use and application of technology. They are capable of providing forensic analysis of electronic evidence seized from computers, cell phones, PDAs and other data storage devices. In addition to computer forensics, CFCU personnel investigate significant high-value financial crimes, fraud cases and crimes involving state resources, regardless of whether they were computer-facilitated.

Child Abuse Investigations Unit

Mat-Su

1 Sergeant
2 AST Investigators
1 Wasilla Police Investigator

Fairbanks

1 Sergeant
2 AST Investigators
1 University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Investigator

The first Child Abuse Investigations Unit (CAIU) was formed in 2003 in the Mat-Su area. A second unit was formed in Fairbanks in 2005. CAIUs focus on cases of child sexual and serious physical abuse cases. This unit works closely with the Office of Children's Services, Child Advocacy Centers, District Attorney's offices and other agencies in criminal investigations involving crimes against children. Within the parameters of Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) protocols and through the dedication of direct resources, the CAIUs are crucial to the effective investigation of these crimes. Because many cases concerning the sexual

abuse of children involve child pornography, CAIUs work closely with the CFCU to investigate child pornography and associated criminal acts committed against children.

Whenever possible, CAIUs integrate local police personnel with ABI personnel in the investigation of crimes against children. Investigators, regardless of agency jurisdiction, work together on all cases. CAIUs handle the majority of child-related crimes with the remainder investigated by personnel from regional investigation units.

Missing Persons Unit

1 Administrative Clerk

The Missing Persons Unit (MPU) falls under the Anchorage Major Crimes section and tracks all missing persons cases reported within Alaska. The Missing Persons Unit serves as the central repository for records regarding both juvenile and adult victims and serves as the gateway into the National Missing Persons Clearinghouse. The MPU manages both hard copy files and several computer-assisted programs that aid in the centralization of Missing Persons Clearinghouse information and information regarding unidentified human remains.

The Missing Persons Unit also manages the statutorily-required Alaska Homicide Registry and coordinates with the FBI's Violent Criminal Apprehension Program (VICAP) to provide Alaska-specific data for federal reports. Missing persons information can be viewed online at the <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/AST/abi/missingpersons.aspx>. The unit is staffed by administrative support

From bottom, going clockwise, Fairbanks ABI Investigators Yvonne Howell, Mark Eldridge Crime Scene Technician Kathi Young and Sgt. Jeremy Rupe sift through maggots at the scene of a death investigation near Fairbanks





Members of the Internet Crimes Against Children go through evidence while serving a search warrant at a house.

organized criminal enterprises, high-dollar losses and complex cases involving the loss of property. Units were established in the Mat-Su, Fairbanks and Kenai Peninsula regions. In 2008, the property crimes unit in Fairbanks was disbanded with the positions transferred elsewhere within AST.

Regional Major Crimes Investigations Units

personnel and unit is supervised by the ABI Anchorage Major Crimes sergeant.

Cold Case Investigation Unit

- 2 Investigators in Anchorage
- 2 Investigators in Soldotna

At the inception of the Cold Case Investigation Unit (CCIU) in 2002, there were 101 unresolved homicides cases within AST’s jurisdiction that had occurred between 1961 and the present. Recognizing that many of these cases are extremely complex and the investigation or review of these cases is time consuming, the department initiated a program of hiring experienced investigators to work these “cold” cases. Members of the CCIU work closely with state prosecutors and police agencies in other states to pursue these homicide investigations. In addition, these highly experienced and capable investigators act as a ready resource for mentoring less experienced personnel. They conduct case reviews and provide ideas and guidance for ongoing investigations. In addition to the cold cases from AST jurisdiction, CCIU investigators assist and conduct investigations upon request from local police agencies. As the CCIU became known within the Alaska law enforcement community, requests for assistance began to come in from various local police departments who do not have the resources necessary to carry out intense or complex investigations.

Property Crimes Investigations Units

Mat-Su

- 2 Investigators

Soldotna

- 1 Investigator (never been filled)

Property Crimes Investigations Units (PCIU) were established to investigate property crimes involving

Mat-Su

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Investigators
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Fairbanks

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Investigators (1 Vacant)
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Soldotna

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Investigators
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Anchorage

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Troopers
- 1 Administrative Clerk

Regional Major Crimes Investigation Units (MCIU) are located in Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Soldotna and Anchorage. The MCIUs investigate cases of homicide, sexual assault, robbery, sexual abuse of a minor, serious crimes against person(s), fraud and property-related crime. Regional MCIU personnel serve as a ready resource for patrol personnel who respond to suspicious deaths, burglaries and other types of crime. Integration of ABI personnel and patrol personnel proves to be highly effective in coordination and resolution of investigations. The MCIUs are the backbone of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation as they handle calls for assistance from nearly every law enforcement entity within Alaska. The unit’s investigative efforts are frequently initiated by the team members themselves. Personnel from any unit are subject to temporary deployment anywhere in the state to meet the needs of the Bureau.



In April of 2008, Palmer ABI consisted of (back row, left to right) CAIU Supervisor Sgt. Mike Burkmire, Inv. Curtis Vik, Major Crimes Supervisor Sgt. Craig Allen, Inv. Michelyn Grigg, Inv. Luis Nieves (middle row) Office Assistant Judy Cantey, Inv. Sherry Ferno, (front row), Inv. Chris Long, Inv. Bill Zamora and Wasilla Police Officer Rick Manrique who was a member of the CAIU at the time.



In addition to conducting investigative operations, the regional MCIUs provide a host of auxiliary services:

- Provide individuals trained to serve as crisis negotiators
- Provide personnel to staff the Special Emergency Reaction Teams (SERT)
- Coordinate the availability of polygraph examiners to assist troopers and other Alaska law enforcement agencies in conducting criminal and pre-employment polygraph examinations for DPS applicants
- Provide statewide support with major investigations, follow-up interviews and autopsies performed in Anchorage at the Medical Examiner's Office
- Provide certified instructors for crime scene investigation, motor vehicle crash investigation, interview and interrogation training, computer forensics and electronic evidence training, domestic violence and a variety of other training subjects
- Represent the Department on a variety of working groups and task forces to include Human Trafficking, Internet Crimes Against Children, Sexual Assault Response Team and the U.S. Attorney's Office Financial Crimes Task Force

CHALLENGES

The Alaska Bureau of Investigation is challenged by the vast number of cases it is tasked with handling as well as the distances that must be traveled in responding to events. ABI is further challenged by the evolution of forensic investigative techniques and maintaining training/experience to incorporate these techniques into investigative processes. While ABI primarily supports AST units, one of the critical missions of ABI is to support all police agencies across the state which means ABI personnel respond anywhere they are needed. Rapid response to

a crime scene is critical. Personnel must be ready and available on short notice for deployment at all hours of the day, every day of the week.

Travel to many locations can be difficult, time consuming and resource intensive. Challenges increase the farther investigators are from sources of management, additional personnel, expertise and logistical support. In order to reduce response time and decrease the chance of being at a remote site without the equipment investigators need, crime scene kits are kept at all major posts and available for immediate deployment. Technical issues are partially managed by using digital photography and digital audio recordings which can be transmitted via the Internet and examined by other investigators who may be hundreds of miles away.

SUCCESSES

Homicide investigations – The nationwide clearance rate for homicides is 63.6 percent as cited in the U.S. Department of Justice's "2008 Uniform Crime Report." The Alaska Bureau of Investigation and Alaska State Troopers consistently exceed the national closure rate. Homicide clearance rates for the last six years are:

- 2003**
17 cases resulting in 23 homicide offenses, 17 cases resolved
- 2004**
15 cases resulting in 17 homicide offenses, 15 cases resolved
- 2005**
13 cases resulting in 20 homicide offenses, 13 cases resolved
- 2006**
8 cases resulting in 16 homicide offenses, 6 cases resolved
- 2007**
10 cases resulting in 15 homicide offenses, 10 cases resolved
- 2008**
12 cases resulting in 12 homicide offenses, 12 cases resolved



Property crimes investigations – The Alaska Bureau of Investigation has property crimes units in Palmer and Soldotna. Property crimes personnel assist with a variety of criminal investigations including thefts and burglaries and coordinate pawnshop inspections within their areas. The efforts of the PCIUs resulted in solving numerous burglary and theft cases originating with both AST and outside agencies. In 2008, the PCU’s continued this trend with an aggressive burglary suppression effort and recovery of stolen property.

Cold case investigations – Cold case investigators have continued to work on several cases during 2008. As a result of their work, indictments were gained in the 1994 murder of Bonnie Craig and trial is scheduled in the 1982 murder of Toni Lister. In addition, significant investigative effort have been invested in the 1993 murder of Sophie Sergie, as well as four other cases that are moving towards resolution.

The CCIU personnel have traveled extensively to conduct investigations in all areas of the state. The efforts made in these cases will truly identify the viability of resolution. The CCIU continues to aggressively pursue cases that for a variety of reasons remained unsolved.

Missing persons – In 2008, the Missing Persons section added approximately 3,000 missing person notices to the statutorily-required Missing Persons Clearinghouse used to assist law enforcement when unidentified human remains are found.

ABI ACTIVITY

As a course of normal operations, members of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation invest significant time to

ensure that justice is served to victims and their families. Though no two cases are the same, the following depicts the “average” time invested in various classifications of criminal investigations:

- Homicide – 610 hours
- Sexual Assault – 75 hours
- Sexual Abuse of a Minor – 45 hours
- Interview Assists – 8 hours
- Background Investigations – 2 hours
- Correctional Institution case – 20 hours
- Autopsy – 8 hours

An average homicide investigation would account for 76 working days, or nearly four months for a single investigator. If an investigator did nothing other than homicides, they could complete three investigations in a year - if they were considered average cases.

From 2004 through 2008, ABI personnel attended and documented:

• 2004	84 autopsies
• 2005	58 autopsies
• 2006	80 autopsies
• 2007	51 autopsies
• 2008	48 autopsies

Average: 64 autopsies per year

This would account for 64 working days, or a little over two months of work for one investigator assigned to autopsies alone.

As part of our mission, the Alaska Bureau of Investigation provides expertise, consultation and technical support to all AST detachments and municipal police agencies as requested. The Alaska State Troopers and the Alaska Bureau of Investigation are committed to providing the best possible service to victims and their families. The work is difficult, but the rewards are great.

Palmer ABI Investigator Ramin Dunford uses an external hose attached to a vent inside the car during Total Station training. He and fellow investigator Rob Lawson came up with the invention that allowed them to keep their hands and equipment warm during an investigation in cold weather.



Universally a preconception exists that abusers of children are the visible dreges of society – creepy men that hover too close to where innocent and unsuspecting kids play. But that is not always the case. Many people sit idly in front of a computer screen surfing the internet for pornographic material. Many times that material involves minors.



Though people think viewing pornography, including child pornography, is victimless, harmless and has no impact on others, the reality is that person in the picture was victimized when the photo was taken. These images and movies are not simply “risqué” photos of teenage girls, but rather horrible graphic images of children being sexually abused. Each time that picture is traded, distributed or downloaded, the victimization continues. Pornography is often the fuel that drives people to escalate their behavior to something much more severe.

In Alaska, computers are present in nearly every home. People of all ages in the home have access to them. The home computer is used for everything from paying bills to doing homework. This also includes downloading and digesting mass amounts of all forms of pornography – to include child pornography through what’s called peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing. This puts millions of people across the world on the same network and capable of sharing music, movies and yes, even child pornography. It’s ranked among the top uses for peer-to-peer file sharing, after music, movies and adult pornography.

Just like crime reaches across state and international lines, so do the abilities of those investigating crimes. In 2008, the Alaska Bureau of Investigation computer/financial crimes unit (CFCU) was staffed by a sergeant and two investigators. The Alaska State Troopers and ABI participate in the Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce (ICAC) and work closely with 14 other ICAC agencies in the state. Investigations focus on child pornography and other technology-facilitated crimes against children.

In one such case, at the beginning of 2008, the Alaska Bureau of Investigation was notified of an active peer-to-peer (P2P) child pornography case that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was working. The offender, “James,” didn’t know that the child pornography images he loaded onto his P2P were being actively monitored, viewed and downloaded by members of the FBI not even stationed in Alaska. James also failed to recognize the gravity of what he was doing.

Investigators tracked the source computer for the child pornography images to James’ Palmer’s address. A search warrant for the residence was secured. Soon after, members of the ICAC Task Force showed up at the door, search warrant in hand, and continued to drive forward with the investigation.

James was contacted by investigators at the residence when the search warrant was issued. He admitted that he was involved in P2P file sharing of child pornography. James said that he had, at one time, in excess of 100 child pornography images in his shared file. When queried, he admitted to deleting the pictures – not because of some moral dilemma – but because he was being charged by his internet provider when others downloaded the images from his file and because of bandwidth issues. His files were very popular with other child pornography traders.

James showed investigators the family computer where he had kept the images. It was seized and processed, revealing 13 child pornography images.

During the course of the ensuing interview, James claimed he had formed a type of addiction to child pornography. He admitted to downloading images and hiding them on the computer so nobody else would see them. He said he viewed the images to meet his own gratification. He did not agree with the authorities that he should have any consequences for downloading and viewing pornographic images of children.

James was charged with Possession of Child Pornography and Distribution of Child Pornography. Both are felonies under Alaska law. In his court appearances, James pled to the possession charge but the distribution charge was dismissed. He was sentenced to four years in prison, with two years suspended and given five years of probation, during which time he will provide and submit to DNA testing for entry into the State DNA database. Another condition of probation is that he is prohibited from contacting anyone under 16-years old and from opening or using any internet account. The sum total of James’ limitations is too long to list. A part of his sentencing also requires him to register as a sex offender for 15 years following his unconditional discharge. This is a lot of requirements for someone who just entered adulthood by turning 18 two months prior to the initial report.

There is clear and convincing evidence that those who view and use child pornography to meet their sexual urges eventually move away from viewing and began victimizing actual children. However, it is unknown if James’ behavior will escalate or whether his arrest and conviction will completely turn his life around and change his opinion of his crime.

James doesn’t look like a dredge of society. He isn’t a creepy old man. James was seemingly, a normal 18-year old.

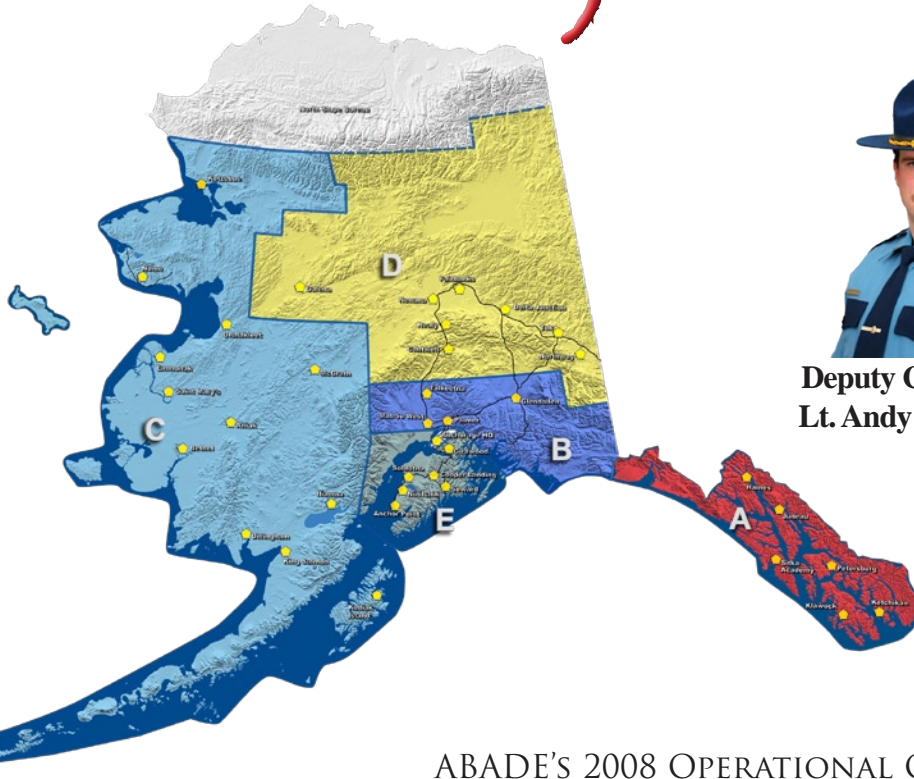


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement



Bureau Commander
Capt. Keith Mallard



Deputy Commander
Lt. Andy Greenstreet

BUREAU COMMAND

1 Captain

1 Lieutenant

BUREAU STAFF

1 Administrative Supervisor

1 Accounting Clerk

1 Administrative Clerk

The Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement (ABADE) provides a leadership role in coordinating law enforcement's efforts to reduce the availability of alcohol and controlled substances throughout Alaska. ABADE recognizes that a successful alcohol and drug program depends upon a unified effort blending traditional law enforcement techniques with demand reduction programs that address educational, social and community concerns.

ABADE'S 2008 OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW:

The Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement, working closely with its federal and municipal partners around the state, has the unique ability to interdict and investigate cases across the state. Recognizing that drug abuse is not confined to any one geographical location or any economic strata, the Bureau aggressively confronts drug and alcohol traffickers. Drug and alcohol abuse affects all Alaskans, despite social, ethnic, racial and economic status. Of the cases investigated by all of the Alaska State Troopers in 2008, 45 percent had either a drug or alcohol component, emphasizing the importance of a cooperative plan to address the illegal use of drugs and alcohol within the state. Battling drugs and alcohol in Alaska is an ever-developing struggle to identify smuggling trends and the pin down the adaptive nature of the trafficker.



MISSION OF ABADE:

Interdict and seize alcohol and controlled substances that are illegally distributed throughout Alaska.

Identify and arrest distributors of controlled substances and illegal alcohol.

Provide training and investigative support to criminal justice agencies.

Support and participate in public education programs.

In spite of the continually-changing trafficking trade, for the first time ever in a calendar year,

ABADE seized more than 1,000 gallons of bootlegged alcohol. To put it into perspective, the 1,029 gallons seized is the equivalent of 5,194, 750 ml bottles. The economics of the illegal sales of alcohol is staggering. For example, a bootlegger can purchase a 750-milliliter bottle of alcohol legally for \$10 or less in an urban liquor store. The same bottle of alcohol in Bethel, Kotzebue or Barrow may sell for \$50. In the more remote communities, alcohol can easily sell for \$150 to over \$300 per bottle, depending on the supply and demand. Using this formula, the estimated street value of alcohol seized in 2008 would be just over a half a million dollars.

ABADE has also seen significant increases in the seizures of imported heroin and methamphetamine. There has been a decrease in methamphetamine labs around the state, due in large part to outstanding precursor legislation instituted in 2006. That legislation established a database of people buying items such certain cold medicine to help stem the purchase of the ingredients used to make meth. As a result, ABADE

continued to see an increase in the methamphetamine imported into the state. In addition, ABADE

has also seen a significant increase in the amount of heroin imported into our more urban communities. In 2008, ABADE seized 4,970 grams of heroin with an estimated street value of 1.4 million dollars, four times the quantity of 1,129 grams seized in 2007.

In 2008 ABADE addressed 4,586 calls for services, resulting in over 54,000 hours worked, the service of 400 search warrants and the filing of over 2,000 charges for prosecution in either state or federal courts. In addition to the record setting illegal alcohol seizures, ABADE seized a total of approximately \$18.5 million in illegal narcotics.

STAFFING AND SUPPORT

Because of Alaska's geographical vastness and ethnic diversity, coupled with the limited number of law enforcement resources, no single law enforcement agency is capable of handling the drug and alcohol problems alone. Utilizing a combination of federal and state funding, ABADE participates in and funds a number of



An ABADE investigator holds cocaine and marijuana residue seized in a drug bust.





Bounty confiscated from a illegal drug operation.

located in Anchorage near the Ted Stevens International Airport, allowing the unit easy access to the airport and shipping companies where most passengers and parcels arrive.

multi-jurisdictional forces around the state. ABADE encourages cooperative efforts between federal, state and local law enforcement agencies and has taken a leadership role in fostering and developing many of these cooperative arrangements through multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency efforts. The ABADE headquarters office in Anchorage supports seven investigative teams throughout the state. These teams are broken down as follows:

Alaska Interdiction Task Force (AITF)

- DEA group supervisor
- 2 DEA agents
- 2 AST Investigators (canine handlers)
- 1 Anchorage Police Officer
- 1 Airport Public Safety Officer
- 1 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agent
- 1 from National Guard Counter Drug Support Program (CDSP)
- 1 AST Criminal Justice Technician

This task force is federally funded, sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration. The Alaska State Troopers turned over supervision of the task force to the DEA in July 2002. Prior to that the unit was known as the Airport Interdiction Task Force and the unit's primary mission was focused solely on airport interdiction efforts. The AITF is now responsible for investigations that involve drug trafficking at various ports of entry and includes interdiction of passengers and luggage arriving at airport terminals, packages and cargo shipped through parcel delivery services and commercial cargo carriers. The AITF is strategically

Fairbanks Area-wide Narcotics Team

- 1 AST Sergeant
- 2 AST Investigators
- 1 Fairbanks Police Investigator
- 1 North Pole Police Investigator
- 1 AST Criminal Justice Technician
- 1 CDSP Officer

The primary area of responsibility for the Fairbanks Area-wide Narcotics Team is Interior Alaska, which includes Fairbanks and the surrounding area, north to Barrow and east to the Canadian border. The ABADE Fairbanks team works closely with Chief Dan Hoffman of the Fairbanks Police Department and Chief Paul Lindhag of the North Pole Police Department and the uniformed patrol section of the Alaska State Troopers to educate, train and support their efforts related to drug enforcement. The Fairbanks team also works closely with agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco Firearms and Explosives assigned to the Fairbanks area. DEA and BATFE complement the team's investigative ability by providing additional manpower, resources and the possibility of federal prosecution of drug traffickers.

Their focus varies from the identification and investigation of street-level dealers of crack cocaine to the investigation of large distributors of powder cocaine. Of significant concern in the Fairbanks area is the continuing threat of manufacturing, use and distribution of methamphetamine – a trend that is unique to this area. Clandestine methamphetamine laboratories are prevalent in the Fairbanks





Marijuana is weighed as part of processing evidence in a pot grow operation.

area and are being operated increasingly in or near single and multi-family homes, where public health and safety is at an extremely high risk. Marijuana cultivation also continues to be a problem in the Fairbanks area.

Palmer Police Department and Chief Angela Long of the Wasilla Police Department and the uniformed patrol section of the Alaska State Troopers to educate, train, and support their efforts related to drug enforcement.

Major Offender Unit (MOU)

- 1 AST Sergeant
- 3 AST Investigators
- 1 AST Criminal Justice Technician
- 1 Prosecutor from Department of Law
- 1 CDSP

Southcentral Areawide Narcotics Team (SCAN)

- 1 AST Sergeant
- 1 AST Investigator
- 1 Soldotna Police Officer
- 1 Part-time Kenai Police Officer
- 1 AST Criminal Justice Technician

The Major Offenders Unit focuses on major alcohol and drug distributors statewide. The MOU works independently, but is often time called upon to support other ABADE units, the Alaska Bureau of Investigation, Municipal Police Departments and federal agencies.

Prior to 2005, this unit was part of the Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team (WAANT) and initially consisted of one AST investigator and one officer from the Soldotna Police Department. With the assignment of a new AST sergeant position in April of 2005, this unit now operates as a separate unit within ABADE. The unit includes a Soldotna Police Department Officer supplied by Chief John Lucking and a part-time Kenai Police Department Officer supplied by Chief Gus Sandahl. Communities within its area of responsibility are those located on the Kenai Peninsula which include Homer, Soldotna, Kenai and Seward as well as Kodiak Island, Girdwood and Whittier. The unit is dedicated to work closely with the local police departments in these communities and the uniformed patrol units of the Alaska State Troopers to educate and support their efforts in drug enforcement. The unit has also provided drug education to other agencies such as Juvenile Services and the Office of Children Services regarding drug endangered children as well as drug and methamphetamine clandestine lab identification.

Mat-Su Drug Narcotics Enforcement Team

- 1 AST Sergeant
- 2 AST Investigators
- 1 Palmer Police Officer
- 1 Wasilla Police Officer
- 1 AST Criminal Justice Technician
- 1 CDSP

The Mat-Su Drug Enforcement Team focuses on drug investigations within the Matanuska-Susitna region to include Palmer, Wasilla, Talkeetna, Glennallen, Valdez and Cordova. The ABADE Mat-Su team works closely with Chief Russ Boatright of the



This unit's enforcement duties range from the street level drug sales to the interdiction of methamphetamine manufacturing organizations. This year, the unit has had undercover operations in Seward, Homer, Kenai, Soldotna, Kasilof and Girdwood. Investigations vary from commercial marijuana grows to the manufacture of methamphetamine and the distribution of marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine and prescription drugs.

Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs (SEACAD)

- 1 AST Sergeant (in Juneau)
- 1 AST Investigator (in Ketchikan)
- 2 Juneau Police Officers
- 1 Criminal Justice Technician I (in Juneau)
- 1 Petersburg Police Officer
- 1 Sitka Police Officer

Formerly known as the Southeast Alaska Narcotics Enforcement Team, the group changed its name to the Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs to simplify some long-existing misconceptions about the task force arrangement in Southeast Alaska. In 2008, both Juneau Police Department and Ketchikan Police Department formed their own narcotics units that work independent of the SEACAD Task Force. Although both departments remain members of SEACAD board, each department is responsible for their particular unit's activity. Even

enforcement in Southeast Alaska remains with the SEACAD Task Force.

This team is comprised of four offices. The AST Sergeant oversees and works hand-in-hand with the Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs (SEACAD) project that is headed by Chief Sheldon Schmitt of the Sitka Police Department, who provides narcotics investigators to work alongside the AST investigators to focus on street-level dealers, major offenders and manufacturing. Some of the investigative methods used by this team include interdiction activities and undercover operations.

Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team (WAANT)

- 1 AST Sergeant in Anchorage
- 2 AST Investigators in Anchorage
- 3 AST Investigators in Bethel (one canine handler)
- 1 AST Investigator in Nome
- 1 AST Investigator in Dillingham
- 1 AST Investigator in Kotzebue
- 1 Kotzebue Police Officer
- 1 Dillingham Police Officer
- 1 Criminal Justice Technician in Anchorage
- 1 Criminal Technician in Bethel

This team's primary area of responsibility is Alaska's western region, to include: Kotzebue, Nome, Bethel, Dillingham and the Aleutian Chain. During all of 2008, a narcotics detection canine was primarily stationed in Bethel, but worked in many of the hub communities in Western Alaska.

Due to the vast number of local option communities in Western Alaska, a significant portion of this team's focus is on alcohol enforcement. They target smugglers and bootleggers through undercover operations and interdictions.

Two common methods of importing alcohol and illegal drugs into rural communities are via the U.S. Postal system and local airlines. Alcohol shipped legally to regional hubs such as Nome, Bethel and Kotzebue is then illegally distributed to local option communities that have banned



A mature marijuana plant in a marijuana grow operation ABADE investigators dismantled.

with the addition of the two police departments' own narcotics units, the primary responsibility for drug



alcohol or have limited the possession of alcohol under the local option laws of Alaska.

Because much of the alcohol and drugs being sold illegally in Alaska are shipped through the U.S. mail, the U.S. Postal Inspectors Service conducts interdictions with direct support from AST and CDSP. These efforts consist of U.S. Postal Inspectors assisted by AST and CDSP members monitoring packages en route to outlying villages and communities through postal facilities in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Bethel. Suspicious packages are brought to the attention of the Postal Inspectors who then decide how best to investigate the shipment.

The investigations of many of these seizures are coordinated through AST and/or other local law enforcement entities. The Postal Inspectors office relies heavily on support from ABADE. This support includes resources like scent-detection canines, intelligence information and follow-up efforts. Not only do these resources assist in the seizure, they also help successfully investigate and prosecute those involved in alcohol bootlegging and drug trafficking.

ABADE 2007 STATISTICS

Total cases:	4,586
Charges:	2,019
Alcohol Seized:	1,029 gallons
Total Alcohol Street Value	\$510,133
Cocaine / Crack Seized:	43.55 pounds
Heroin:	10.96 pounds
Marijuana Seized:	253.09 pounds
Marijuana Plants Seized:	4349 plants
Marijuana Grows:	73
Methamphetamine Labs:	12
Meth Seized/Purchased:	8.49 pounds
Prescription Pills per Dose:	3,043 doses
Total street value:	\$18,472,911

The cross deputation of eight AST WAANT team members by the Postal Inspectors Office occurred in 2007. This cross deputation has given WAANT investigators additional authority to conduct investigations involving postal parcels. The number of deputized WAANT team members has fluctuated since then.

In other WAANT operations, the team has conducted numerous investigations in Anchorage and in the

communities of Western Alaska. Investigations ranged from major bootlegging operations to marijuana grows and distribution operations. Criminal cases related to the distribution of illegal drugs including marijuana, psilocybin mushrooms, cocaine and prescription medications were also investigated.

Each year, ABADE publishes an annual drug report. In authoring this publication, ABADE endeavors to represent the drug situation in Alaska in a manner that provides the broadest possible picture of the true drug situation. This report can be located at www.dps.state.ak.us/ast/abade.



Investigators find a bindle of marijuana hidden in a soda pop can.



The Heartbreak of Alcohol

Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement investigators, who are on the frontlines of Alaska's war on drugs and illegal alcohol importation, see the devastating effects drugs and alcohol have on a family or community. However, one particular ABADE investigator has seen its consequences over and over again.

While many of us may know someone who has taken their life, this Alaska State Trooper, who grew up in Western Alaska, has personally known, in his lifetime, 19 people that have committed suicide. In all but one of those suicides, alcohol was a contributing factor. It's something he explains often while giving presentations on the uniqueness of the job ABADE investigators do in Alaska. It comes up when answering the question of why we collectively care about alcohol enforcement. By adding all the people that lost their lives early due to accidental death or violent crimes in which alcohol also played a significant factor, the topic turns from why, to what has taken us so long to address the problem.

In 2007, the Alaska Statewide Suicide Prevention Council, in conjunction with the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, released a study of suicides that occurred in Alaska from Sept. 1, 2003 to Aug. 31, 2006. The study indicated there were 426 suicides during this 36-month time frame. As part of the study, suicides were analyzed and interviews were conducted in as many of these cases as possible.

Results of the study were stunning. The study found the rate of suicides among Alaskans is twice the national average and the rate among Alaskan Natives is nearly five times the national average. The annual suicide rate for this three-year period was 21.4 per 100,000 people in Alaska and 51.4 per 100,000 Alaska Natives. This is compared to the national average of 16.9 per 100,000 people in the United States. In addition, toxicology results were received for 33 percent of all the suicide cases included in the study. In these, alcohol was involved in 44 percent and marijuana was found in 15 percent of the suicides. Other studies and anecdotal information illustrate that alcohol is not only a contributing factor in suicides in Alaska, but also contributes to accidental deaths as well as homicides and other violent assaults.

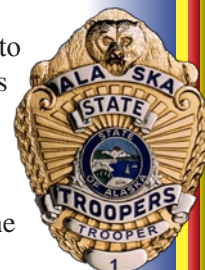
Alaska's criminal justice professionals recognize that alcohol is the primary substance of abuse in Alaska and is the leading cause of violent, suicidal and accidental deaths, especially in rural areas. Currently, 108 communities have voted in favor of local option statutes prohibiting the sale, importation, and/or possession of all alcohol. Because alcohol remains legal in many areas of Alaska, illegal bootlegging activities continue to be a problem in the local option communities. Alcohol is easily transported to the villages via the U.S. Postal Service, local air carriers, private aircraft, boat, snow machines and express mailing services. Bootlegging alcohol of all types has become a very lucrative business in rural Alaska.

The economics of the illegal sales of alcohol is staggering. For example, a bootlegger can purchase a 750-milliliter bottle of alcohol legally for \$10 or less in an urban liquor store. The same bottle of alcohol in Bethel, Kotzebue or Barrow may sell for \$50. In the more remote communities, alcohol can easily sell for \$150 to over \$300 per bottle depending on the supply and demand. The initial purchase for the bootlegger involves a minimal cash investment and a maximum cash return with little threat of being caught or criminally charged. A dollar-for-dollar comparison of alcohol and drugs purchased in Anchorage and then resold in many Alaskan villages results in illegal alcohol sales returning an astonishing \$15 for every dollar invested. The next closest return is marijuana at a \$4 return on every dollar invested.

ABADE is constantly re-evaluating the methods in which bootleggers are identified, investigated and captured. With this ongoing effort, we were fortunate enough to team with the U.S. Postal Service, cross deputizing eight ABADE investigators as federal postal inspectors. This program is the only one of its kind in the United States. Through this collaborative effort, for the first time ever, ABADE seized more than 1,000 gallons of illegal alcohol destined for villages in Western Alaska. This is the equivalent of more than 5,000 750 ml bottles of alcohol and has a street value of \$422,593.

Restricting the flow of illegally sold alcohol in local option communities is certainly not the sole answer to reducing suicides, accidental death and violent crime. However, by working in conjunction with other efforts already in play, the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council found that Alaska's annual suicide rate has dropped three percent to 18.4 per 100,000 people the following year. This is according to the council's annual report given to state legislators.

However, no study can show the devastation a single suicide does to a family and a community, let alone the 19 one ABADE investigator has witnessed.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

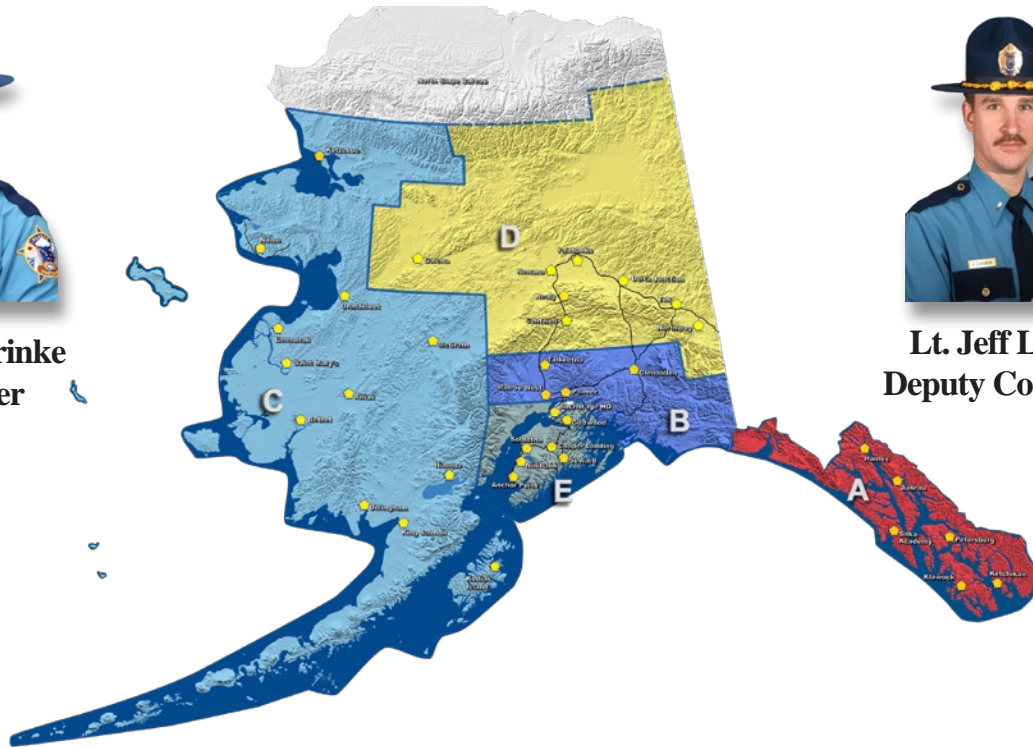
Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol



Capt. Hans Brinke
Commander



Lt. Jeff Laughlin
Deputy Commander



BUREAU COMMAND

- 1 Captain
- 1 Lieutenant

Mat-Su Traffic Safety Team

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Troopers

Fairbanks Traffic Safety Team

- 1 Sergeant
- 2 Troopers

Transportation and Public Facilities developed a Strategic Highway Safety Plan. The plan contained three focus points: enforcement, education and engineering.

DOT&PF and DPS studied collision data and road data going back thirty years. Five stretches of road were identified that had unacceptable levels of fatal and major injury collisions over the years. DOT&PF would look at ways to reduce these types of collisions through engineering and DPS would focus on enforcement. The two departments would both collaborate of the education aspect of the plan.

Two of the five stretches of road were designated Highway Safety Corridors in 2006.

AST created two DUI Enforcement Teams – in Fairbanks and in the Mat-Su – to step up enforcement on Alaska’s Highways. These teams were created by shifting a multiple troopers from patrol work to

The idea to create a specific bureau within the Alaska State Troopers to focus specifically and completely on what occurs on Alaska’s roads was in the making for years before the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol (ABHP) materialized. In 2007, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of





Sgt. Steve Adams, supervisor of the Mat-Su Traffic Safety Team based in Palmer, stands next to his patrol car parked on the shoulder of the Old Glenn Highway near the Glenn Highway turnoffs.

specifically traffic enforcement. In 2008, the units were renamed Traffic Safety Teams and a few other troopers were added.

With the assistance of federal funding, on Dec. 1 the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol was officially formed. Troopers reached out to local police departments for added man power to the existing teams and plans for adding a third team on the Kenai Peninsula were well underway. ABHP's teams are mobile and will deploy to various parts of the state depending on special events or planned focused enforcements. Their traffic enforcement focus will mainly be on impaired driving, occupant protection (seatbelt and child restraint issues),

aggressive driving, speeding and youth driving issues. ABHP will also launch media campaigns to educate the public about correct driving behaviors and focused enforcement efforts.

With specialized training, troopers in ABHP will perform the majority of the investigations of crimes that occur on Alaska's roads. This includes investigations of crashes, the transportation of stolen goods, drug trafficking on the roadways, DUIs and much more. The ultimate goal for the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol is to help bring the number of major injury and fatal collisions down to zero. It is the bureau's position that even one death on Alaska's roadways is unacceptable.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units

CANINE UNIT



Capt. Keith Mallard

The Alaska State Troopers Canine Unit is comprised of four dual-purpose canine teams and four single-purpose drug detection canine teams. The dual-purpose canine teams are assigned in Anchor Point, Fairbanks, Klawock and the Mat-Su Valley. The teams function as patrol troopers first, and as canine teams secondarily. The dual-purpose canine teams work as both a patrol canine team and a drug detection canine team. As a dual-purpose canine team they are proficient in tracking people, suspect apprehension, building searches, area searches and drug detection searches. The single-purpose canine teams work solely as a drug detection canine team. The

drug detection canines are stationed out of Anchorage, Fairbanks and Bethel, but will respond to any location in the state.

In addition to training Alaska State Trooper's canines, in 2008 the unit supported and trained canine teams for Fairbanks Police Department, Fairbanks Airport Police and Fire Department, North Slope Borough Public Safety, Kenai Police Department, Kodiak Police Department, Valdez Police Department, Sitka Police Department and the Alaska National Guard Counter Drug Support Program. The Alaska State Troopers offer eight days of training every quarter that is open to all police departments with canine teams wishing to attend. In addition, the Alaska State Troopers Canine Unit offers annual certifications for canine teams for both patrol canine teams as well as drug detection canine teams.

In 2008, the Alaska State Troopers Canine Unit was directly involved in:

- 112 felony arrests
- 46 misdemeanor arrests
- Seizure of 685 grams of heroin
- Seizure of 14,512 grams of cocaine
- Seizure of 487 grams of methamphetamine
- Seizure of 37,762 grams of marijuana
- Seizure of \$973,371.00 cash from drug proceeds



At Trooper Aaron Mobley's orders, his canine partner, Yukon, runs after a suspect during a quarterly training session in Anchorage.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units



TACTICAL DIVE UNIT



Lt. Rodney Dial

The Department of Public Safety has two Tactical Dive Unit (TDU) teams with one based in Ketchikan and the other located in Kodiak. Eight troopers are assigned to the TDU, including one dive instructor. All authorized divers are posted in both Kodiak and Ketchikan, with the exception of one instructor posted in Fairbanks. All TDU divers are trained to a public safety dive standard set by the American Canadian Underwater Certifications, Inc. (ACUC).

The main mission of the TDU is to support search and rescue and body recovery operations and to conduct underwater investigations. Department TDU teams have the ability to detect, document and recover evidence located underwater. A wide array of equipment is utilized by the unit to include cable cameras, underwater cameras and video cameras, metal detectors and lift bags.

TDU assists Alaska Wildlife Troopers' dive

fisheries criminal investigations for sea urchin and sea cucumber harvests to name a few. The TDU also provides support to Alaska Wildlife Trooper marine vessels by conducting routine hull inspections and minor underwater maintenance. These efforts prevent or delay the need to haul the larger vessels out of the water, which can save as much as \$15,000 per occurrence if contracted out. Private dive entities charge several hundred dollars per hour and are often not available when most needed, such as for body recoveries or evidence gathering.

In 2008, DPS TDU conducted an ACUC basic and advanced open water dive course to bring in new members and provide advanced training to others. Numerous mission dives were conducted in 2008, including: body recovery, dive fishery enforcement, state vessel maintenance, search and rescue support and evidence recovery.

The DPS TDU continues to actively seek developmental training for all its instructors and to increase the experience level of members with monthly dive training sessions. The goals for 2009 include all divers making at least 20 training dives, and the scheduling of an Advanced ACUC dive class in the fall of 2009.



Members of the Tactical Dive Unit, Alaska Wildlife Troopers Sgt. Bernard Chastain and Trooper Jeremy Baum recover a weapon used in a shooting on the Prince of Whales Island. The suspect threw the weapon into the ocean to conceal the evidence, causing the gun to land barrel-down and embedded in the ocean bottom.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units

CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM



Lt. Nils Monsen

The Alaska State Troopers Crisis Negotiation component consists of 26 troopers of various ranks and locations throughout the state who received specialized training in the area of crisis negotiation. AST created the Crisis Negotiation program to respond to significant and prolonged events and to work

in concert with AST's Special Emergency Reaction Team (SERT). Critical incidents are often resolved through dialog with the person in crisis. A person trained in crisis negotiation can often de-escalate the situation and otherwise resolve the problem short of tactical intervention.

In addition to classroom and practical training, negotiators train biannually as a contingent of the SERT. At biannual training, negotiators work as a five-member team known as a Negotiation Response Team (NRT). A team most frequently deploys during protracted incidents. For example, a team responds when incidents involve barricaded subjects with hostages and where an expedient resolution is unlikely. A team includes a team leader, an intelligence officer, an equipment officer, a primary negotiator and a coach. The coach is also known as the secondary negotiator. This team works in conjunction with SERT. Although a full NRT response is warranted in some situations, it is more common for one or two negotiators to respond to events. This is due to logistical challenges often presented to this small, but highly trained group.

AST consistently invites other agencies to conduct joint-training operations. Some municipal police departments contribute to the NRT.

SUCSESSES

Throughout the course of 2008, members of the NRT responded to a variety of situations across the state including barricaded gunmen and suicidal individuals. Their presence and trained expertise in negotiations resulted in the resolution of the vast majority of these events without the need for an escalation of force.

CHALLENGES

At the beginning of 2007, the number of trained negotiators was at a historical low of 11. An additional 10 troopers attended negotiator training in 2007 to bring the total to 21. At the end of 2008 the number of negotiators is 26. Preferably, AST would have a minimum of 30 trained crisis negotiators, which would more likely allow AST to have adequate negotiating available for response to missions and training.



Lt. Jeff Laughlin negotiates with a subject on a throw phone.

Negotiators are stationed in each of the five AST Detachments and investigation units as follows:

• AST HQ	1	• C Detachment Nome	1
• ABI Anchorage	1	• C Detachment Kotzebue	2
• ABADe Anchorage	1	• C Detachment Bethel	1
• ABI Palmer	2	• C Detachment St. Mary's	1
• A Detachment Klawock	1	• D Detachment Fairbanks	6
• A Detachment Ketchikan	1	• ABI Fairbanks	1
• B Detachment Palmer	2	• E Detachment Soldotna	1
• B Detachment Talkeetna	1	• E Detachment Seward	1
• C Detachment Anchorage	1	• E Detachment Girdwood	1



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units

SPECIAL EMERGENCY REACTION TEAM



Lt. Randy Hahn

Alaska State Troopers Special Emergency Reaction Team is comprised of three different teams located in Palmer (Southcentral SERT), Fairbanks (Northern SERT) and Soldotna (Southern SERT). All three teams are multi-jurisdictional teams and could not exist without the participation of personnel from all divisions, detachments and bureaus

within Department of Public Safety as well as non-DPS agencies.

SERT is designed as a unit capable of responding to situations involving a higher-than-normal degree of danger to the public or responding officers, and to provide a safe, tactical response and resolution. SERT is intended as a rapid response unit – exercising principles of rapid deployment to the scene, and containment of the event. In this manner, the incident is isolated and tactical options are used to neutralize the threat.

In addition to the commissioned personnel who are assigned to each team, there are team medics assigned to SERT. These medical personnel are provided by the emergency services departments in their respective areas and undergo specialized Tactical Emergency Medical Services training in order to integrate into SERT and become fully functional as a Tactical Medic.

Team strength for each of the teams is as follows:

Southcentral Team

22 authorized with seven vacancies. There is one pending applicant for Southcentral SERT.

Southern Team

14 authorized with four vacancies. There are no applicants for Southern SERT.

Northern Team

14 authorized with one vacancy and no applicants for the team.

The vacancy rate for all three teams is consistently comparable and typically ranges between 25-35 percent.



Palmer Police Officer Jamie Hammons leads a room entry during SERT training.



The following Bureaus, Detachments, Divisions and agencies contribute personnel to SERT:

AST B Detachment
Wasilla Police Department
AST Alaska Bureau of Investigation
Palmer Police Department
Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement
AST E Detachment
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Kenai Police Department
Central Emergency Services
Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers
AST D Detachment
University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Department
Fairbanks International Airport Police and Fire
Fairbanks North Star Borough

MISSIONS UNDERTAKEN

The three teams combined completed 12 missions in 2008. These missions included assisting ABADE with the service of several high-risk search warrants, the service of multiple arrest warrants and the resolution of a number of barricaded gunman situations which resulted from crimes including domestic violence assault and homicide.

AST provides SERT support to local agencies that do not have their own tactical teams. In the event a SERT response is needed, the local agency typically contacts the detachment commander in that region who then will activate SERT. During any large scale event, SERT will also provide support to other agency tactical units to resolve critical incidents.

TRAINING

Each of the teams trains in their respective detachments two days per month. In addition, the teams will travel to another location periodically throughout the year to conduct small joint training sessions, particularly when the training involves a facility or instructors that are not available elsewhere. All three teams meet once per year for a combined, two-week training session. This is comparable to the training standards that most part-time SWAT teams utilize throughout the United States. However, unlike any other SWAT organization in the country, all three SERT elements can be combined seamlessly into one large unit with consistent operating tactics, training and equipment.



Members of the Southcentral Special Emergency Reaction Team in training.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

All SERT officers are required to maintain a high degree of physical fitness and qualification on special weapons systems and tactics. This requires dedication and donated off-duty time.

There is a continuing need to integrate other police agency personnel into SERT to ensure that mission requirements can be met – particularly in prolonged situations that are very personnel-intensive.

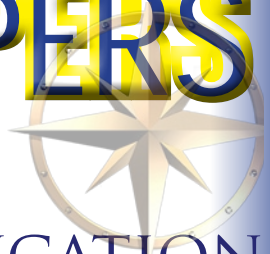
Specialized tactical equipment is expensive. In order to equip all three teams consistently, there is an ongoing requirement for dedicated funding for replacement of critical items such as ballistic entry vests, chemical munitions and replacement ammunition. There are no armored vehicles assigned in any of the teams and AST must rely on the availability and loan of an armored vehicle from another agency to safely carry out missions in some situations. There were two such events in the Southcentral area alone in 2008 – one of which was the containment and resolution of a barricaded, armed homicide suspect. Although these vehicles demand a significant dedication of funds, receiving such a valuable apparatus continues to be on SERT's list of critical equipment needs.

SERT continues to be utilized more effectively to assist ABADE in the recent years, with 2008 being no exception. This trend is very positive and needs to be continued as there are more violent encounters with drug offenders in Alaska and throughout the nation.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units



DRUG ABUSE RESISTENCE EDUCATION



Naomi Sweetman

The mission of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program is to teach Alaskan kids to resist drugs and violence. The D.A.R.E. curriculum is unique because it uses law enforcement officers to teach young students in the classroom before risky behavior starts.

D.A.R.E. officers bring a valuable drug prevention program to their communities. They not only teach

effective community policing strategy and a benefit to local police agencies and the entire community.

Of the 129,350 students in Alaska's public school system, 5,108 were involved in the D.A.R.E curriculum. Of that number, 776 were in the kindergarten through fourth-grade program, 2,402 were in the elementary program, 1,145 were in the middle school program and 785 were in high school. There were 70 D.A.R.E officers for the school 2007-2008 year. This includes 33 municipal police officers, 16 Alaska State Troopers, 12 VPSOs and nine federal officers taught the D.A.R.E. curriculum in their local school. The D.A.R.E program was taught in 16 of the 55 state school districts to include 57 schools. Sixteen communities added the D.A.R.E. program for the school year, bringing the total number to 43, a 53 percent involvement increase from the previous year.



Some of the Village Public Safety Officers that graduated from the two-week Drug Abuse and Resistance Education training in 2008 are Sgt. Ben Beaver of Akiak; Jacob Tobeluk of Nunapitchuk; Cpl. Alvin Brown of Mountain Village; Jay Levan of Akutan; Sgt. Dan Decker of Ekwok; Cpl. Wasillie Gilila of Tuntutuliak; Mike Lejarzar of Saint George; Sgt. Gust Tunguing Jr. of Koliganek; and John Pleasant of Bethel.

children to resist drugs and violence, the specially trained officers also impart critical decision-making skills to the students. The D.A.R.E. officer develops long-term relationships with children, parents and community members to make the program an

effective community policing strategy and a benefit to local police agencies and the entire community.

During 2008, two training sessions were

Expanding the D.A.R.E. program is achieved by training new officers through yearly two-week, 80-hour initial D.A.R.E. Officer Training sessions. During the course of this training, each of the attending officers from across Alaska is trained to teach the D.A.R.E. curriculum to students at elementary and middle schools within their community. The local police agency takes control of the program once the officer is trained and implements it based on the needs of the community.

Customizing the program to individual communities is how the D.A.R.E. program remains so effective in meeting the diverse needs found within Alaska.



Village Public Safety Officer David Eneyuk and a group of students gives him a thumbs up during his training to become a Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer.



conducted, one in Anchorage in February and another at Fort Richardson, the Army installation on the outskirts of Anchorage, in October. In February, 22 law enforcement officers including 10 Village Public Safety Officers, seven municipal officers, three military officers, the Togiak Chief of Police and a trooper, attended the training. In October, 19 law enforcement officers including nine military officers, five municipal officers, four VPSOs and a trooper attended the course.

Providing certified D.A.R.E. Officers with advanced training is achieved through collaboration with D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc. and Alaska D.A.R.E. Officers Association (ADOA). Historically, officers are selected each year based on specific criteria to attend the International D.A.R.E. Conference hosted by D.A.R.E. America. Unfortunately, due to a lack of funding for the D.A.R.E. Alaska Inc. office, only ADOA was able to sponsor and send one officer to the International D.A.R.E. Conference in San Antonio, Texas. This officer received advanced training in the prescription drug supplemental curriculum and the community programs. Advanced workshops were offered to enhance the officer's skills in a variety of areas. The state D.A.R.E. office and ADOA generally conducts a two-day in-service in October. However, timing was changed this year and the next in-service is planned for February 2009 with the ultimate goal of collaborating with D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc and the Alaska Student Safety Summit. The

summit is statewide conference, hosted by D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc in collaboration with the Department of Public Safety's D.A.R.E office and the Alaska D.A.R.E. Officers Association.

Challenges continue to affect the program, namely the tightening of funding in municipal departments. With cutbacks, the D.A.R.E. program is often dropped from a community. The state D.A.R.E. office continues to provide training and materials at no cost to law enforcement agencies throughout Alaska. By providing this service, agencies that otherwise would not participate due to budgetary constraints are able to train officers and implement the D.A.R.E. program within their communities. These D.A.R.E. officers bring a valuable drug prevention program to the communities and through the D.A.R.E. program successfully implement community policing strategies that benefit the entire community. The state coordinator is working with ADOA and D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc. to develop strategies to continue to provide the quality and affordable training to all police agencies throughout Alaska.



Trooper Vic Aye, a trained Drug Abuse Resistance Education officer, tells a classroom full of students a story.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

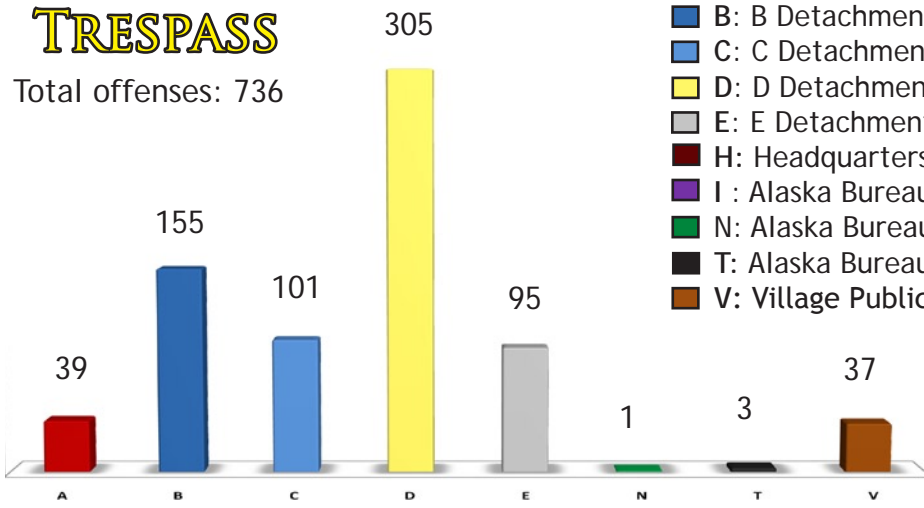
2008 Statistical Data



TRESPASS

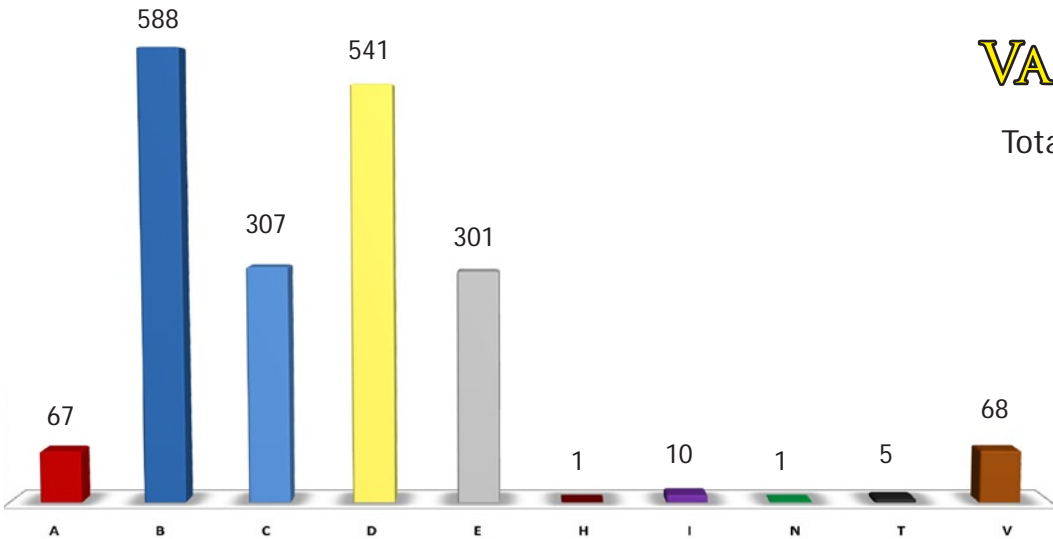
Total offenses: 736

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- B: B Detachment
- C: C Detachment
- D: D Detachment
- E: E Detachment
- H: Headquarters
- I: Alaska Bureau of Investigation
- N: Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement
- T: Alaska Bureau of Highway Enforcement
- V: Village Public Safety Officers



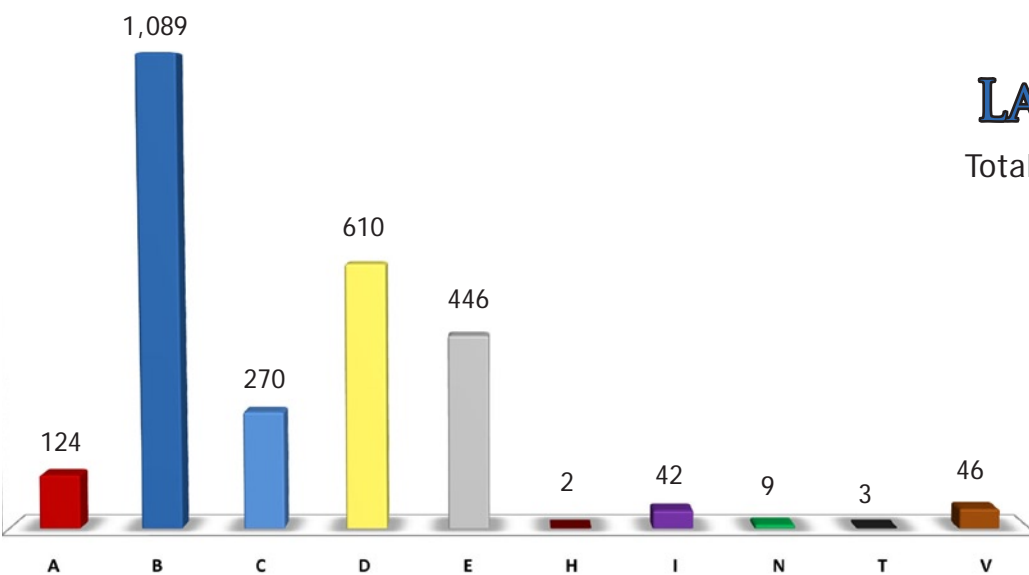
VANDALISM

Total offenses: 1,889



LARCENY

Total offenses: 2,641



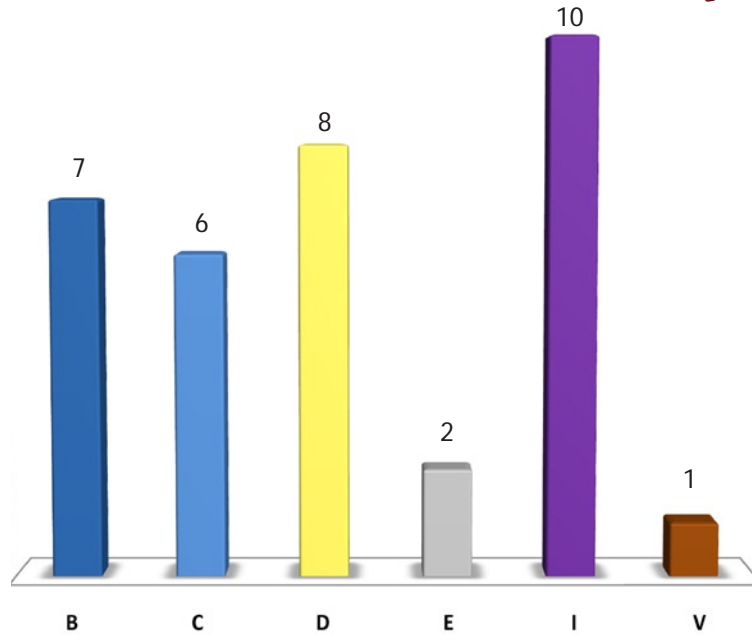
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2008 Statistical Data



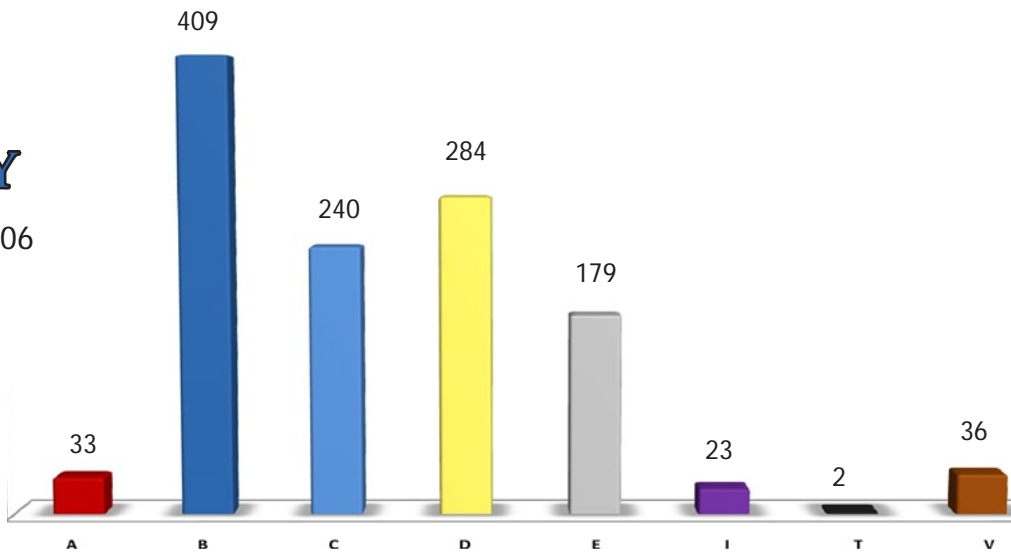
ROBBERY

Total offenses: 34



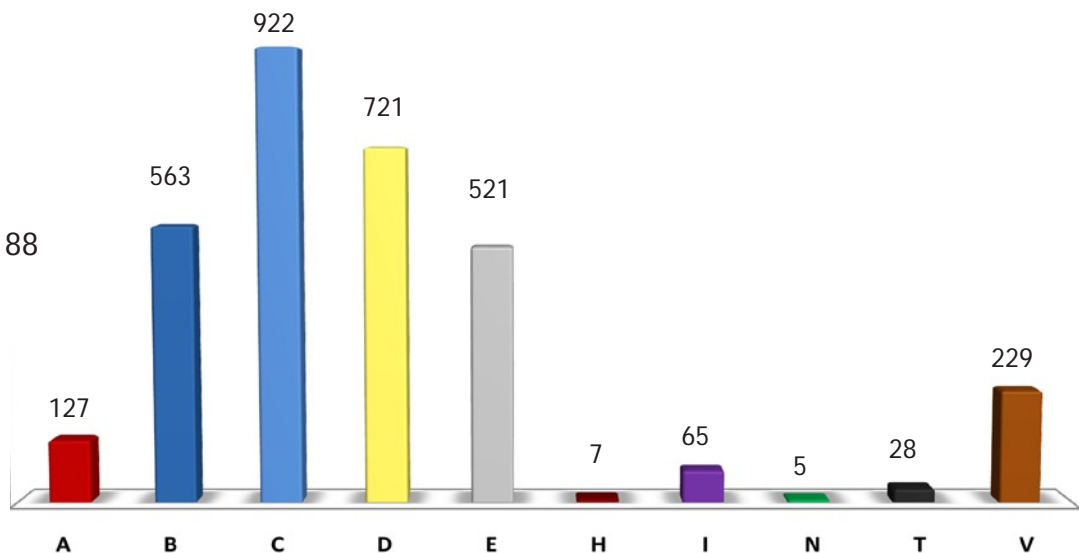
BURGLARY

Total offenses: 1,206



ASSAULT

Total offenses: 3,188



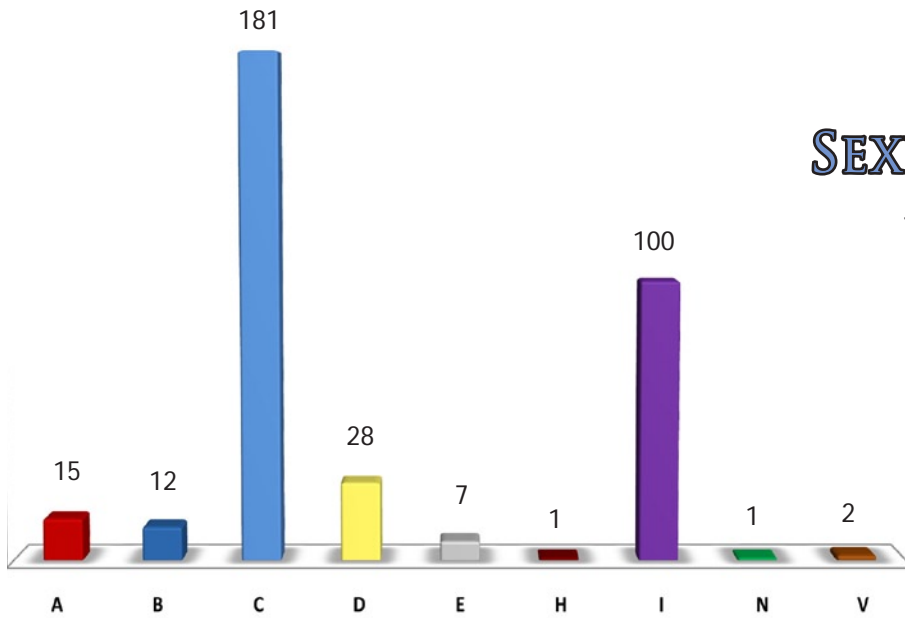
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2008 Statistical Data



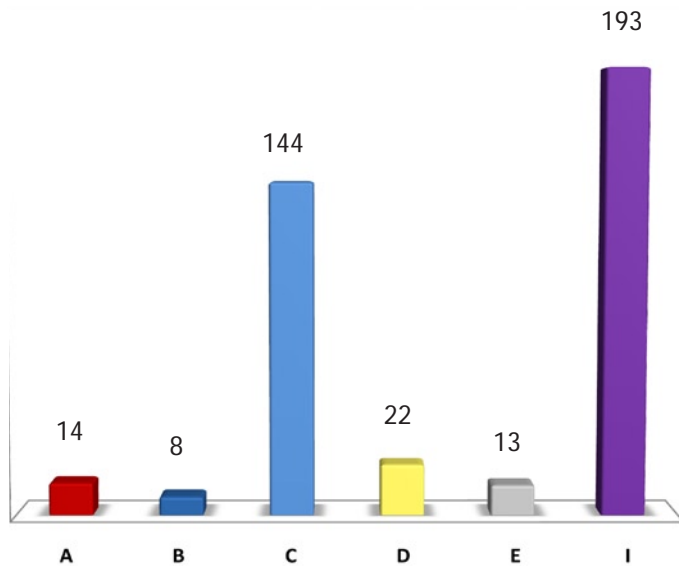
SEXUAL ASSAULT

Total offenses: 347



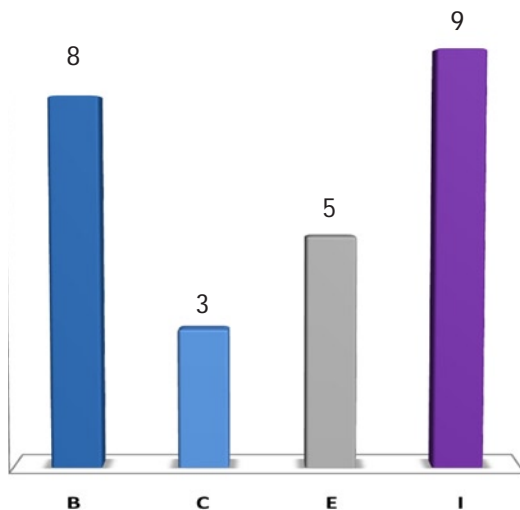
SEXUAL ABUSE OF A MINOR

Total offenses: 394



HOMICIDE

Total offenses: 25



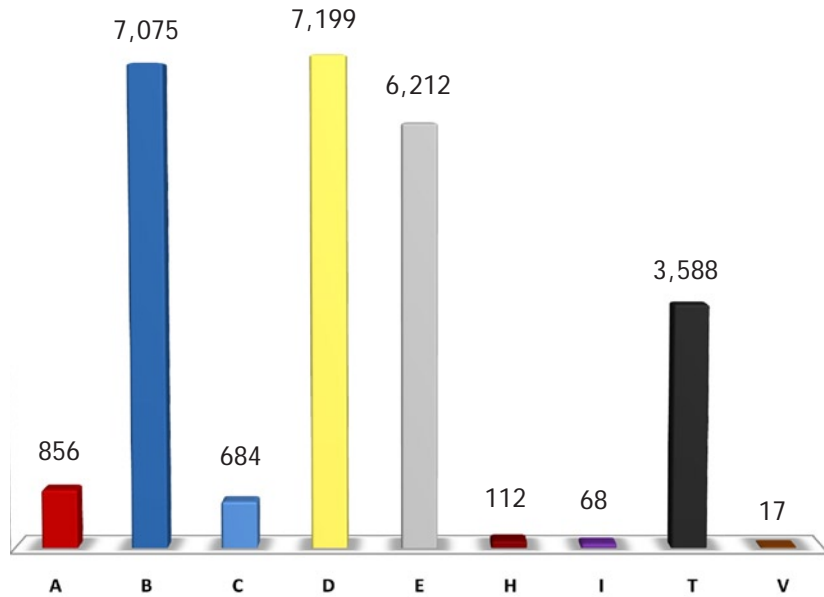
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2008 Statistical Data



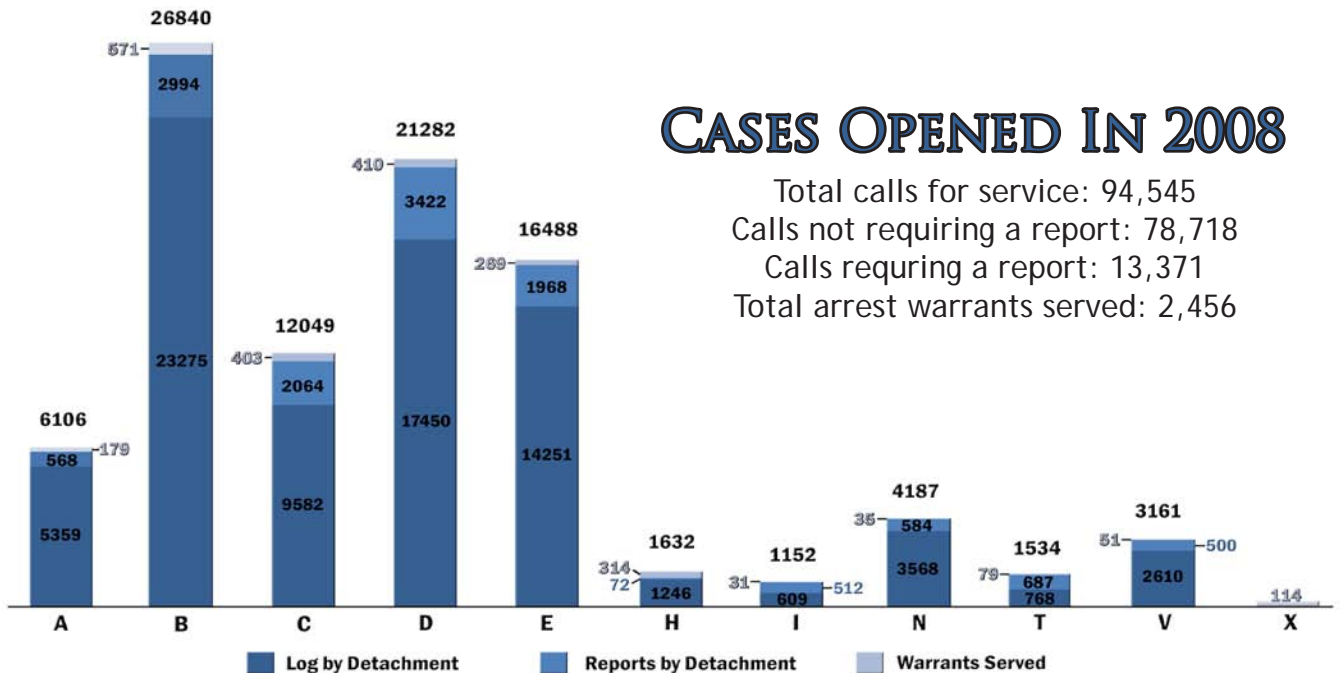
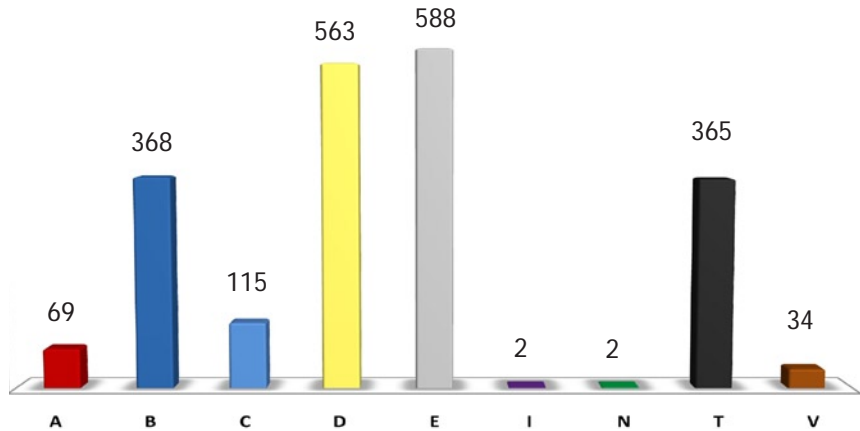
TRAFFIC CITATIONS

Total: 25,811



DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Total offenses: 2,106



CASES OPENED IN 2008

Total calls for service: 94,545
 Calls not requiring a report: 78,718
 Calls requiring a report: 13,371
 Total arrest warrants served: 2,456

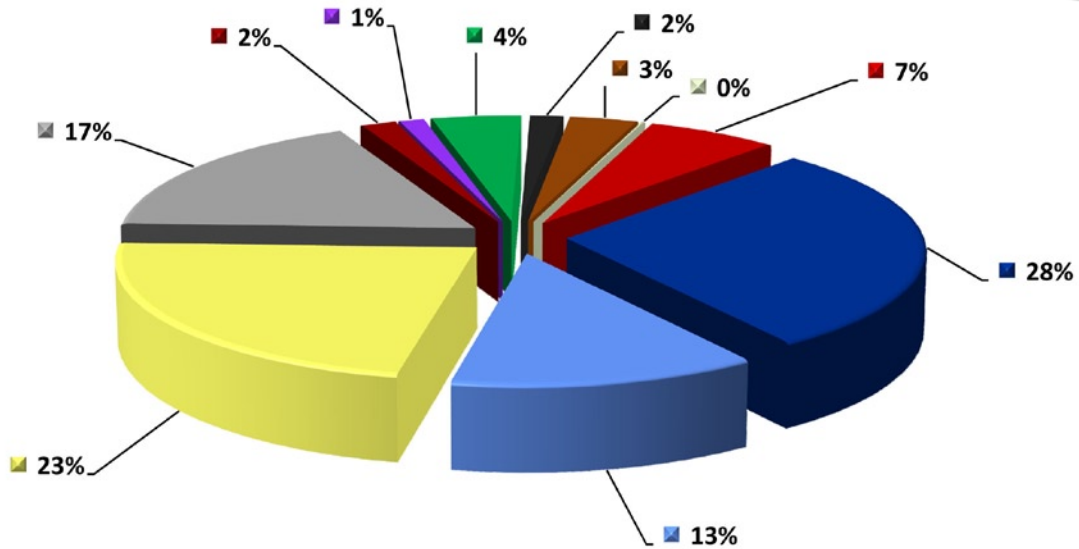


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2008 STATISTICAL DATA



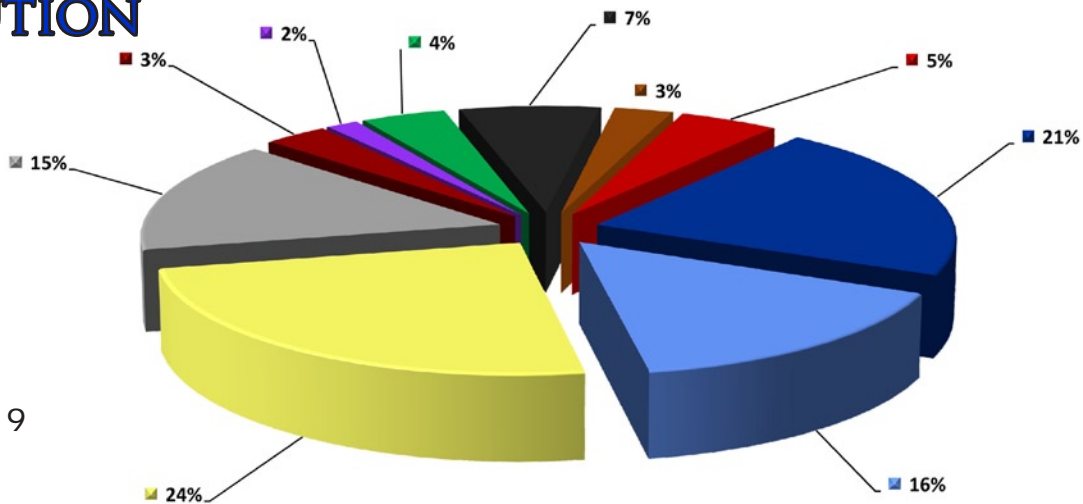
CALLS FOR SERVICE



Total= 94,546

- A Detachment= 6,106 ■ B Detachment= 26,835 ■ C Detachment= 12,050
- D Detachment= 21,281 ■ E Detachment= 16,488 ■ Headquarters= 1,633
- Investigation Unit= 1,158 ■ Narcotics Unit= 4,187 ■ VPSO Program= 3,161
- Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol= 1,534 ■ Other = 114

CALLS RESULTING IN ARREST OR REFFERAL FOR PROSECUTION



Total= 10,319

- A Detachment= 501 ■ B Detachment= 2,207 ■ C Detachment= 1,596
- D Detachment= 2,512 ■ E Detachment= 1,574 ■ Headquarters= 327
- Investigation Unit= 161 ■ Narcotics Unit= 429 ■ VPSO Program= 297
- Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol= 715

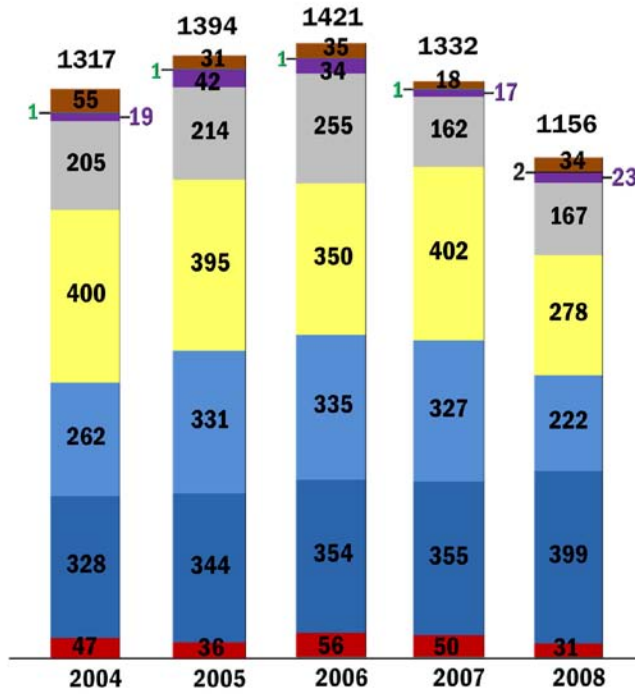


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

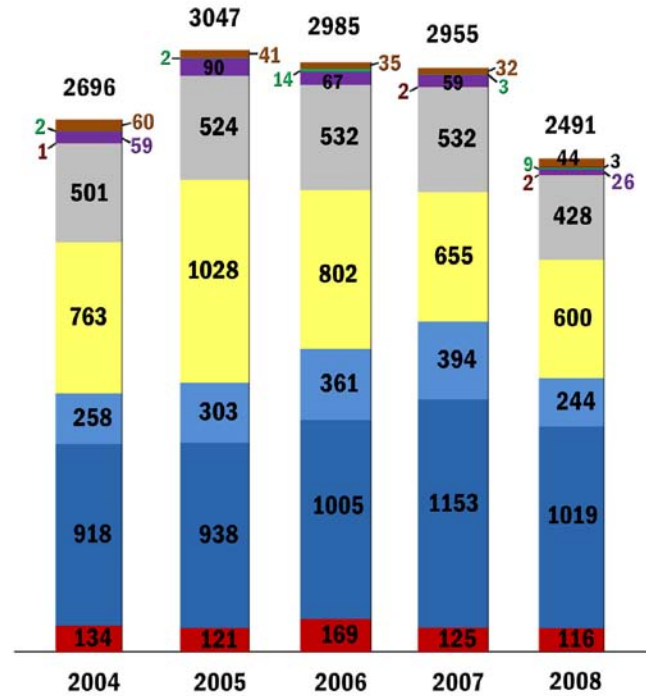
Historical Data



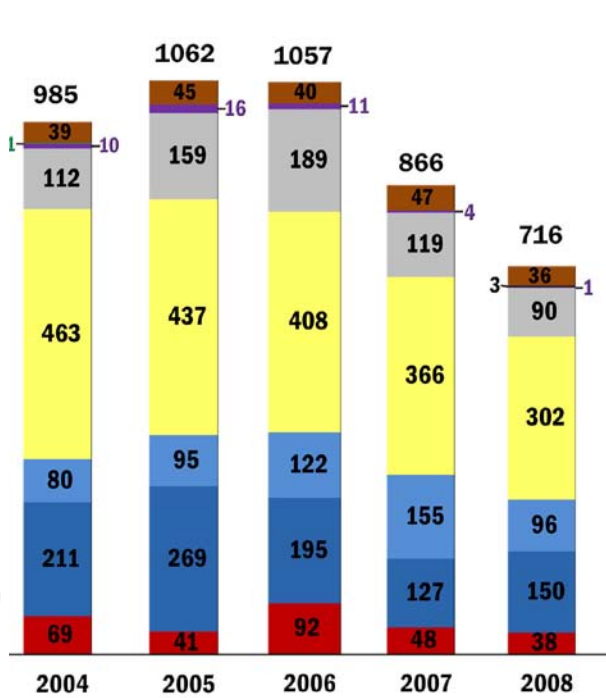
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- T: ABHP
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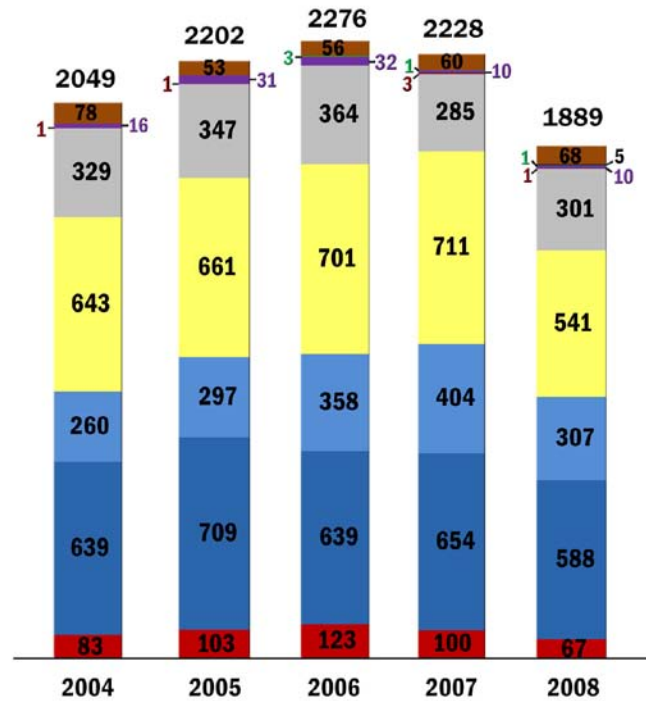
Burglary



Theft



Trespass



Criminal Mischief

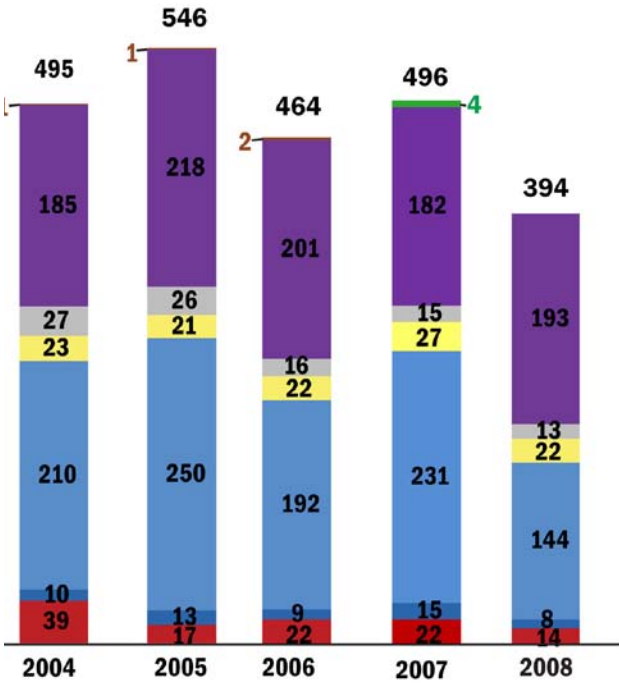


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

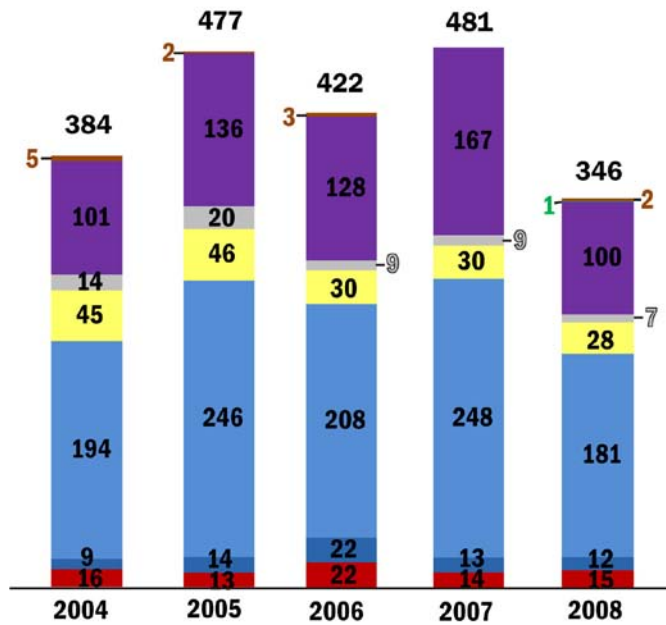
Historical Data



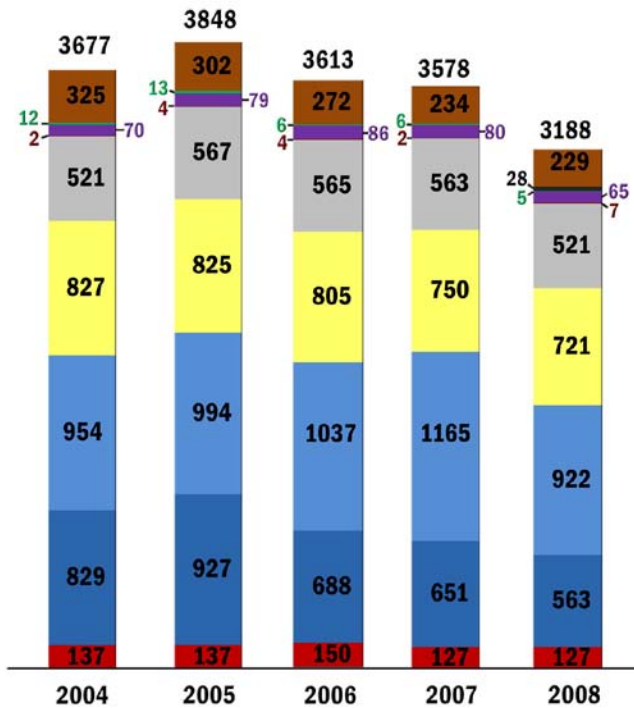
- A: A Detachment ■ B: B Detachment ■ C: C Detachment ■ D: D Detachment
- E: E Detachment ■ H: Headquarters ■ I: ABI ■ N: ABADE
- T: ABHP ■ V: VPSO



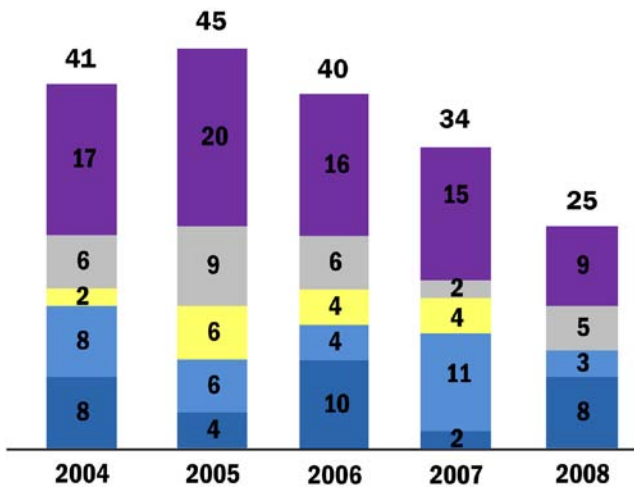
Sexual Abuse Minor



Sexual Assault



Assault

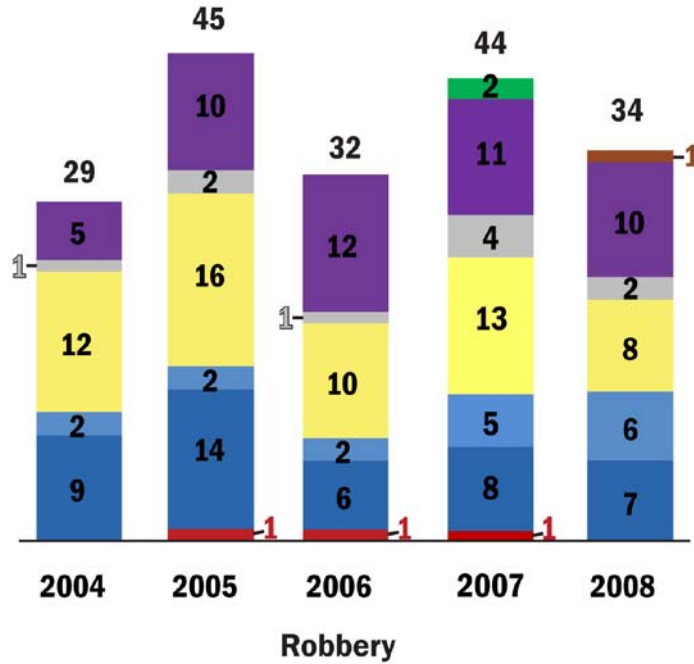


Homicide

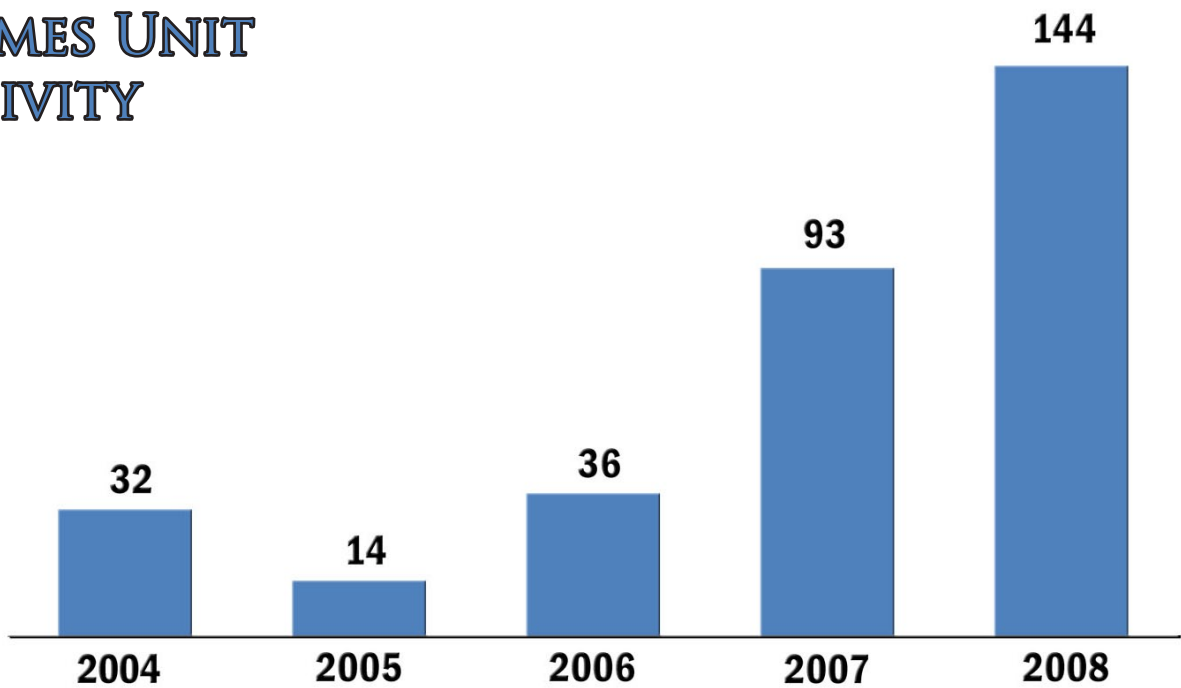


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Historical Data



COMPUTER AND FINANCIAL CRIMES UNIT ACTIVITY



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REFERENCES



- I. Population data was obtained through the State of Alaska, Department of Labor and Workforce Development and is adopted as U.S. Census data.
- II. Road mileage, land mass and coastal area information was obtained through the State of Alaska, Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Central Region Design and Engineering Services. The source data was the US Census Borough's Tigerline GIS files (www.census.gov/geo/www/tiger/tiger2006se/tgr2006se.html).
- III. Land mass and coastal areas were calculated utilizing GIS mapping applied to the boundaries which were provided for the Alaska State Trooper detachments. The base layer for this analysis was the Alaska Department of Natural Resources' GIS layer showing a representation of Alaska at a 1:63360 scale.
- IV. Road mileage includes only those roads which are classified as being traversable by standard passenger vehicles and trucks. Excluded segments include those accessible only by four-wheel drive vehicles, usually a one-lane dirt trail and found almost exclusively in very rural areas. Sometimes the road is called a fire road or logging road and may include an abandoned railroad grade where the tracks have been removed.
- V. Statistical data was extracted from the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) utilizing an established method and custom programs designed and used by AST. Numerous activity codes were utilized based on approved criteria and grouped by unit identifiers.





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