



Nov. 13, 2014  
DPS PR# 14-034

### **Public Safety Training Academy To Graduate 14 Law Enforcement Officers**

(SITKA, Alaska) – Fourteen enforcement officers from different state and municipal agencies including seven state and wildlife troopers will graduate from the Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka tomorrow. The 1 p.m. graduation ceremony at the Sheet’ka Kwaan Naa Kahidi Tribal Community House concludes Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET) Session No. 14-02. To get to this point, the 14 new officers and troopers went through 900 hours of training in the 15-week basic ALET. The training incorporates intensive instruction in law enforcement-related topics, physical fitness and many scenario-based exercises – all designed to prepare entry level police officers and troopers for a successful career in Alaska law enforcement. The graduates are:

Fabio Coartney, Anchorage Airport Police & Fire Department  
Gary Cranford, Sitka Police Department  
James Edson, Nome Police Department  
Amy Glatz, Alaska Wildlife Trooper  
Jacob Hayungs, Alaska State Trooper  
Nathan Kennedy, Alaska Wildlife Trooper  
Scott Nord, Juneau Police Department  
Shawn Norman, Alaska State Trooper  
Luke Parrish, Alaska State Trooper  
Matthew Presser, Anchorage Airport Police & Fire Department  
Daniel Rowe Jr., Alaska State Trooper  
Rian Schwab, Alaska State Trooper  
Thomas Slease, Kotzebue Police Department  
Patrick Taylor, Juneau Police Department

After graduation, the Alaska State Trooper and Alaska Wildlife Trooper recruits continue their training at the academy for an additional three weeks. This training session is often referred to as Trooper Basic. The trooper recruits receive 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 training and search and rescue. They are also exposed to additional scenario-based training events.

Upon completion of Trooper Basic, trooper recruits from move to their first duty assignment in either Fairbanks, Soldotna or the Mat-Su Valley and begin a 15-week Field Training and Evaluation Program. All 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. At that point, wildlife troopers will move to the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

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