

Amanda Price  
Commissioner

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STATE OF ALASKA



Department of  
Public Safety

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Public Safety Academy to Graduate 33 Law Enforcement Officers

*ALET Session #20-01 includes eight Alaska State Troopers, two Wildlife Troopers, and recruits from several city state, and borough police agencies*

**June 12, 2020, SITKA** — A full house is expected tomorrow afternoon as 33 newly minted law enforcement officers march across the stage to receive their badges. To accommodate social distancing, the large graduating class and their guests, this ALET graduation will be held at the Harrigan Centennial Hall in Sitka. The graduation ceremony, which begins at 1 p.m., will feature a class of eight Alaska State Troopers, two Alaska Wildlife Troopers, and recruits from several city and borough police departments from around the state.

“Public safety has been priority number one for my administration,” said Gov. Mike Dunleavy. “I am proud to see a new class of law enforcement officers graduating and deploying to every region of the state. These committed individuals have answered the call of service and sacrifice to protect their fellow Alaskans.”

Graduating recruits completed more than 1,000 hours of training over the course of 16 weeks of basic Alaska Law Enforcement Training. Schooling included intensive instruction in law enforcement-related topics, physical fitness, and many scenario-based exercises designed to prepare entry-level police officers and Troopers for successful careers in Alaska law enforcement.

“I am very proud not only of this graduating class, but also the law enforcement agencies statewide and the Alaska Law Enforcement Training academy staff. While they were all here focusing on the extensive training in preparation of their service to Alaska, circumstances they could never have planned for occurred; a global pandemic requiring significant change to our way of life challenged the schedule of their training, and the profession they are entering into has been under great scrutiny nationwide,” said Department of Public Safety Commissioner Amanda Price. “The training these graduates received will be of great value to them and their respective agencies as they selflessly serve the people of Alaska with dignity and fairness. The law enforcement family of Alaska welcomes them, appreciates them and their families, and thanks them for their commitment and their service.”

Tomorrow’s graduation signals the conclusion of Alaska Law Enforcement Training Session #20-01. The ceremony will stream live on the [DPS Facebook page](#).

Graduates include:

- Joshua Ballard, Seward Police
- Noah Belt, Alaska Wildlife Troopers
- Yuriy Bezzubenko, Hoonah Police
- Amber Blackmon, Sitka Police
- Nakeeya Bowman, Alaska State Troopers
- Kyle Butler, Cordova Police
- Michael Clauson, Wasilla Police
- Samuel Cooke, Alaska Wildlife Troopers
- Tony Del Rosario, Fairbanks Airport Police & Fire
- Gaven Eaker, Fairbanks Airport Police & Fire
- Jared Edenshaw, Alaska State Troopers
- Carter Forney, Alaska State Parks
- Brian Glenn, Alaska State Troopers
- Kelepi Hausia, North Slope Borough Police
- Gram Hood, Kodiak Police
- Jacob Ianacone, Alaska State Troopers
- Sean Imhof, Juneau Police
- Jonathan Jachim, Nome Police
- Austin Martino, Nome Police
- Roy Mitchell, Ketchikan Police
- Kodie Moss, Ketchikan Police
- Mark Pelia, North Slope Borough Police
- Jerod Perron, Alaska State Troopers
- Tyler Reid, Juneau Police
- Beckett Savage, Juneau Police
- Travis Schiaffo, Unalaska Police
- Brandon Spangler, Alaska State Troopers
- Kristen St. Amand, Alaska State Parks
- Kellen Stock, Homer Police
- Benjamin Strachan, Alaska State Troopers
- Tyler Waltemyer, Alaska State Troopers
- Tiffany Walters, Palmer Police
- Parker White, Sitka Police

Following graduation, the 10 Trooper recruits will continue their training at the academy for an additional two weeks. The “Trooper Basic” training includes tailored and advanced training in fish and wildlife investigations, boating safety, survival, commercial fisheries enforcement, search and rescue, and critical stress management. Recruits also participate in additional scenario-based trainings.

Upon completion of Trooper Basic, recruits will move toward their first duty assignments in either Fairbanks, Soldotna, or the Mat-Su Valley, and begin a 12-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. If successful, the Trooper recruits will be promoted to the rank of Trooper upon completion of their probationary period, generally 12 months from the start of the academy.

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