

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2009 Annual Report

Moving forward
Making progress
All options point
North



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

E

H

ABI

ABADE

ABJS

ABHP

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

For the Division of Alaska State Troopers, 2009 was a momentous year. We made some significant progress on some of our projects, as I outline below. We also continued a streak of officer-involved shootings that persisted as of the writing of this message in June 2010. We were already in the process of updating our policies regarding Use of Force and the Investigation of the Use of Force. These shootings caused AST to increase its efforts to put together a directive that addresses these incidents. This directive attempts to combine all the disparate policies, practices and understandings that relate to the investigation of use of force in to a single document to use while updating the operating and procedures manual. The directive is on schedule to be in place in 2010.

In 2009 we continued to hire new troopers and Village Public Safety Officers. The legislature made some significant changes to pay levels for VPSOs. After years of struggling with a high number of vacancies, almost all of the 72 VPSO positions statewide were filled. We continued to add positions for the multi-agency Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol that were paid for with federal funding from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. AST also increased efforts through the Alaska Bureau of Judicial Services to hire more Court Services Officers to build up our ability to respond to increased prisoner transport and court security issues, as well as freeing up troopers to fulfill their mission.

We started to make gains in our technological capabilities. In 2009 we were able to complete a proposal for an electronic Records Management System, which we hope to purchase in 2010. We were able to get our Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) project up and running with pilot projects around the state. We issued Toughbook laptops to troopers and police officers in several parts of the state so we could collegially complete our common mission to improve traffic safety on our highways. Part of this effort means we need better statistics for our own statewide needs and for federal requirements, all of which help us prove our statements of need to the public and the legislature. Despite these technological advances, we still have a way to go to ensure we are keeping pace with the 21st Century, and making the organization more effective and efficient.



Director
Col. Audie Holloway



Deputy Director
Maj. Matt Leveque



Deputy Director
Maj. John Glick

The Department of Public Safety partnered with Gov. Sean Parnell regarding the domestic violence and sexual assault and abuse initiative called "Real Men Choose Respect." This initiative will continue for at least 10 years. Alaska does not want to continue to be No. 1 in the nation for victimized women and children. Our part of this will require Alaska State Troopers to become the experts in law enforcement response, follow-up and training. We will need to add positions and effort to this initiative. Part of that effort will mean we need to continue the ongoing modification and improvement in the way we respond to domestic violence and sexual assault and abuse calls for service. Our strategy will be to imbue the organization with an ownership of our part of the problem and to look at each case as if it were our only case. This way we're making a difference not only one case at a time, but collectively changing the attitude of our partners with whom we work, the victims who see we care, and the perpetrators who see that there will be no escape from us.

The division owes a lot of gratitude to Commissioner Joseph Masters and Deputy Commissioner Bob Gorder for supporting it and the goals we seek to meet. Their dedication and business strategies, largely behind the scenes, allow AST to be progressive.

Finally, there must be an acknowledgment that we are building a good strong team, from the rank of troopers to the colonel. The mission of the command staff is to select some important objectives and then spend the rest of our time and effort supporting troopers, CSOs, VPSOs and our non-sworn staff to meet those objectives. If you take the time to review the Strategic Plan ([2008-2017 Strategic Compass](#)), I believe you will see that we are staying on track by filling positions, upgrading technology and business practices, and improving facilities. Progress may not always be fast, but we make advances because we keep the pressure on and our goals in sight. Perseverance and dedication to our mission will make Alaska a safer place to live because we, who have chosen to be guardians of life and seekers of justice, find our greatest accomplishments through exemplary public service.



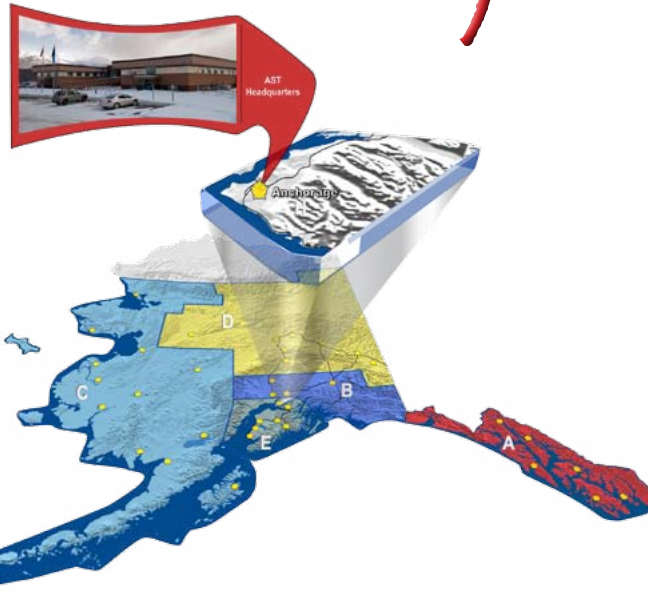
Audie Holloway

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations



Capt. Hans Brinke
Commander



Lt. Randy Hahn
Deputy Commander
FTEP
Special Projects

DIVISION OPERATIONS COMMAND

Division Operations Supervisor – Captain
Lieutenant - FTEP and Projects
Lieutenant - Public Information Office and Search and Rescue
Lieutenant - Technologies
Lieutenant - Recruitment
Lieutenant - Legislative Liaison (Ketchikan)
Lieutenant - Academy Commander in Sitka

The Division of Alaska State Troopers is headquartered in the Alaska Department of Public Safety building at 5700 East Tudor Road in Anchorage. The building houses offices for the director, deputy directors and Division Operations. The Division Operations staff is responsible for personnel supervision, special projects, operational assignments and support functions. These responsibilities are not limited to the five AST detachments and four bureaus, but extend department-wide to include the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Division of Fire and Life Safety, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory and liaison responsibilities with various local, state and federal agencies.

After the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol was developed at the end of 2008 to address traffic safety concerns statewide, the Division Operations Commander and Recruitment Unit Supervisor were serving dual roles by also operating as ABHP Commander and Deputy Commander.

In July, the Department of Public Safety Academy was relocated from under the Alaska

State Troopers' Division Operations command to the Office of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, where it was for many years in the past. The move was made because the mission of the academy is to provide statewide law enforcement training to all law enforcement agencies in Alaska. The decision behind the move was to re-emphasize the commitment of the DPS Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner to providing basic and advanced training to local law enforcement agencies as well as troopers.

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

- Division Budget
- Division Field Operations
- Recruitment
- Statewide Search and Rescue
- Field Training and Evaluation Program
- AMBER Alert
- Public Information Office
- Grant Application and Administration
- Felony DUI Vehicle Forfeiture Program
- ALMR Communications
- Training and Professional Development
- Technology Standardization and Research
- Personnel Services
- Vehicle Fleet Coordination
- Domestic Violence Training
- Emergency Operations and Homeland Security
- Employee Evaluation Standardization and Review



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

RECRUITMENT

FIELD TRAINING & EVALUATION PROGRAM



Lt. Jeff Laughlin
Recruitment

RECRUITMENT UNIT COMMAND

1 Lieutenant
1 Sergeant

RECRUITMENT UNIT STAFF

1 Criminal Justice Technician
1 Administrative Clerk
5 Background Investigators

for Judicial Services positions in Dillingham, Bethel, Nome and Homer after an absence of several years in these areas.

Recruitment Unit Statistics:

Trooper recruits

- 2,455 applications
- 598 identified potential recruits
- 74 interviewed
- 33 applicants hired

Lateral hires

- 138 applications received
- 13 interviewed
- 10 hired

Court Services Officer

- 163 individuals applied
- 21 interviewed
- 7 hired

Deputy Fire Marshal

- 4 applicants
- 1 hire

The Alaska State Troopers Recruitment Unit is located in the Department of Public Safety Headquarters in Anchorage. The primary responsibility of the unit is to recruit and evaluate applicants for the position of trooper recruit in both divisions 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 criminal history examination. After successfully completing a short written assignment and 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 number of trooper recruit applicants rose in 2009 by 758, and lateral hire applicants increased by 72 for 2009. Anecdotally, the increase was due to the National Geographic Channel's TV series "Alaska State Troopers." Another factor could be the downturn in the economy and the downsizing of police departments in the Lower 48. However, the end result for trooper recruits was much the same with only two more than last year being hired. Seven more lateral hires were offered a job than in 2008.

Also in 2009, the unit went through the application process to hire Court Services Officers

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

- 18-week training program at the DPS Academy in Sitka – 20 to 30 percent of 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 to 30 percent of FTET recruits either quit or are not acceptable (consistent with national statistics).
- 1-year probationary period

Successful applicants attend an 18-week Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET) session 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 (FTEP). 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





Jennifer Gordon, a Criminal Justice Technician with the Recruitment Unit, counts the push-ups completed by an applicant.

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. These current or former police officers must be in good standing with their present or past agency. The certifications are screened and must be approved by the Alaska Police Standards Council to ensure their training is commensurate with required police training in Alaska. This is considered a lateral hire and, in most cases, does not require attending another full academy. Lateral hires usually attend a seven-week Lateral Academy in Sitka. Four weeks of this coincides with the regular ALET session followed by the three weeks of trooper-specific training with other trooper recruits as required following graduation from the academy.

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, FTEP is frequently viewed as significantly more stressful than the time spent at the 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.

Fourteen recruits started the academy in the summer of 2008, but only five graduated in the fall. Of the five who entered FTEP in 2008, three troopers completed the program sometime in the spring of 2009. All 20 trooper recruits that graduated from the academy in the spring of 2009 completed their FTEP requirements. After graduating from the academy in December 2009, another 18 were set to begin the FTEP program in Palmer, Fairbanks and Soldotna at the beginning of 2010.

All trooper recruits go through the same standardized training program regardless if they were hired for an AST or AWT position. Trooper recruits hired for AWT positions don't transfer to AWT until they're off probation.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY



Lt. Jim Helgoe
Academy Commander

ACADEMY COMMAND
Commander – Lieutenant
Deputy Commander – Sergeant

ACADEMY STAFF
5 Corporals
1 Administrative Assistant
1 Administrative Clerk
1 Education Assistant
1 Maintenance Specialist

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

The Public Safety Training Academy has been located on Baranof Island in Sitka since 1967. However, the current campus was built in 1974. Campus 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 Public Safety Training 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 Academy. The basic 15-week Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET) includes more than 900 hours of training.

In 2009, the academy was relocated from under the Alaska State Troopers' Division Operations command to the Office of the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, where it was for many years in the past. The move was made because the mission of the academy is to provide statewide law enforcement training to numerous public safety agencies in Alaska.

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:

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 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 Public Safety Training 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 Trooper and Alaska Wildlife Trooper recruits continue their training at the academy for





At left, a recruit participates in a scenario-based training event at the academy. Above, recruits undergo early morning physical fitness training on the beach.

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 to commissioned DPS members.

SUCSESSES

The academy's continued success in training troopers, police officers, Village Public Safety Officers, Court Services 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

Staff vacancies – Due to the need to have a stronger presence of troopers handling calls for service, one of the full-time commissioned staff positions was vacated and reassigned elsewhere.

Facilities – Since the shutdown 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.

2009 ALET SESSIONS

ALET No. 09-01

38 from 13 different law enforcement agencies

Alaska State Troopers	16
Airport Police & Fire	4
Self-Pay	1
Park Ranger	1
Alaska Police Standards Council (Municipal Police Departments)	16



ALET No. 09-02

26 from 7 different law enforcement agencies

Alaska State Troopers	11
Alaska Wildlife Troopers	4
Airport Police & Fire	7
Self-Pay	1
Alaska Police Standards Council (Municipal Police Departments)	3

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

SEARCH AND RESCUE



Lt. Barry Wilson
SAR Coordinator

On any given day in Alaska, someone will go missing. In Alaska over the past five years, a person or group was reported missing or overdue on average once every 12 hours. Whether it is an overdue hiker familiar with the terrain or a first time visitor to Alaska unprepared for the capricious weather, emergency personnel in Alaska are on constant alert for search and rescues. AST had nearly 3,700 reported requests for search and rescue-related events such as overdue travelers in 2005-2009. Fortunately, not every person who is reported overdue requires a search and rescue. Of all the incidences reported, 1,778 of those incidences resulted in a search and rescue response. In 2009, AST responded to 383 search and rescues. Of the 805 people that were originally reported missing in 2009, 551 people were rescued in Alaska while 27 bodies were recovered. Ten people are still considered missing. All people still missing were lost in bodies of water.

Alaska's population is approximately 692,223 scattered throughout a land mass of 587,878 square miles. The state has a coastline of almost 34,000 miles, more than 3,000 rivers, three million lakes, rugged mountains, massive glaciers, tundra and forest. Alaska has five distinctive different ecological regions from rain forest to arctic climate.

Alaska is one-fifth the size of the Lower 48 states combined. It is larger than the next three largest states – Texas, California and Montana – combined. Only seven of the 16 existing boroughs and municipalities have government-run emergency services. These 16 boroughs and municipalities cover approximately 38 percent of the land mass. The rest is the responsibility of the Department of Public Safety and a dedicated volunteer search and rescue community. Alaska State Troopers, through the delegated authority under Alaska Statute § 18.60.120 by the commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, are responsible for search and rescues within the State of Alaska.

With so many searches across such a great distance, AST works very closely in cooperation

with military, federal and local agencies. Without the mutual aid agreements with these agencies and the very essential resource of organized volunteer search associations, this task would be daunting, if not impossible. The significance of volunteers and other agencies for troopers to perform search and rescues is extremely important. The value can be seen directly by both the monetary benefit to the people of Alaska and the indefinable value of the expertise, skill and dedication to Alaskans. The Department of Public Safety, with the cooperation of other agencies, military, civil air patrol and volunteers, expended over 28,288 hours in rescuing and recovering people across Alaska.

A tremendous amount of time is expended for search and rescues. With a commissioned count of less than 400 troopers, AST depends heavily upon the professional volunteer search and rescue organizations, as well as the military and local emergency service agencies. There are roughly 48 volunteer organizations statewide. These volunteers drop what they are doing to answer the call for help that often interrupts regular-day jobs and family life. In 2009, 2,265 volunteers joined Alaska State Troopers to spend a total of 20,158 hours of searching in Alaska. The number of trooper hours spent in active searching was less than 14 percent of the amount of time spent by volunteers and others. The amount of time volunteers contribute is easily doubled by adding training for the technical skills it takes to ensure search and rescues are conducted in a safe and successful manner, partially because this skill set needs up keeping.

Since 2005, more than \$1.6 million has been spent by DPS on direct search and rescue operations for services and expendable items used during search events. The largest percentage of expense to the State of Alaska is fuel. In 2009, the state began calculating its reimbursed fuel expenses differently, resulting in a larger percentage of fuel expenses being paid out of dedicated search and rescue funds.

However, the annual budget dedicated to search and rescue has increased to reflect this change. AST payroll costs for report writing and search hours, other agency expenses, volunteer hours or equipment that was not reimbursed and are not included in the \$ 1.6 million price tag. The average cost per person is \$7,000-\$9,000 for technical climbing gear they buy to aid in search and rescues. The more technical and



Corey Aist and his canine partner, Snap, help search for a snowmachiner lost in avalanche debris in the Turnagain Pass area. The pair are members of the Alaska Search and Rescue Dogs, or ASARD.



AS 18.60.120 SEARCH AND RESCUE PARTIES

Upon being notified that a person is lost, injured, killed, or is in need of immediate rescue, the commissioner of public safety or a designee may appoint a competent person to organize, direct, and guide a search and rescue party for the purpose of rescuing or retrieving the person or the person's remains.

advanced the skill set, the more expensive the gear. If a cost was calculated for these additional expenses, the estimated figure would be roughly 10 times the total expended by the Department of Public Safety.

Most search managers will always choose trained searchers over untrained volunteers. A manager can do more with one trained searcher than with 10 untrained volunteers. They will also do the job quicker, safer and more reliably than the untrained ground searchers. It is very important to keep a searcher from becoming a casualty.

Many volunteers are dispatched in what is referred to as a hasty team. These groups are small, lightly equipped teams that are sent into a search area to quickly check the high probability search areas where the missing subject might be found. They are usually the first searchers put into the field and hike, fly, snowmachine, four-wheel or boat along the missing person's intended route of travel. In many cases, a hasty team is able to quickly locate the person, thereby eliminating the need for larger scale search efforts.

Another valuable tool is experienced search and rescue dog teams. Dog teams are located in Anchorage, Mat-Su Valley, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kodiak and Sitka. Many search and rescue dogs in Alaska are trained to air scent. The dogs work by following scent particles in the air to find any human

within a specific area. Additionally, some dog teams train in trailing or tracking where the dog will search a specific scent trail or scent article. These dogs start from the missing person's last known location and utilize a scent article such as a hair brush, pillow case or shoe. Whether trailing a specific person from a scent article or looking for human scent within avalanche debris, these dogs will work through areas contaminated by other people's scents to locate the missing person. Some search dogs are trained to find people buried under the snow or debris. Others dogs can find people who are under water. Some are even trained to look for bodies. Many of the canines are trained in more than one of these specialties. Search managers realize that, like anything else, search dogs are not infallible. Dogs, like humans, have good days and bad days. As a whole, search dogs are responsible for a large number of finds in Alaska. Dogs are valuable even when they don't find anything. In these cases, the fact that the canine failed to alert sometimes means resources can deploy to other, higher probability areas.

Alaska is an enormous and remote state where individuals can become lost or disabled. For this reason, at any given time, there can easily be three or more separate search and rescue operations underway. Multiple operations can severely tax all the resources used by DPS – especially the volunteers conducting the searches. Given the magnitude of the state, the demand for trained volunteers is great.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations



Lt. Barry Wilson
PIO Supervisor

AMBER Alert Coordinator

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 Officer IIs. 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 inquiries from news media outlets in addition to calls from the public and other state agencies. This office produces the Alaska State Troopers Annual Report and 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 office coordinates with the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol (ABHP) 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. These commercials are produced by the media specialist assigned to ABHP. Furthermore, the office is the go-to location for multimedia presentations and displays in support of detachment functions and activities. The PIO runs the Alaska State Fair Booth and coordinates the Safety Bear Program within the booth and at outside functions.

During 2009, the PIO office was instrumental in the coordination of the National Geographic "Alaska State Troopers" television show, which highlighted the State of Alaska and the enormous task taken on by the members of the department to serve the residents of Alaska.

ALL-HAZARDS PLANNING

Alaska State Troopers are members of the All Hazards Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group and the Incident Management Team (IMT) for pandemic influenza. These groups are activated in the event of a large scale incident that disrupts a large number of people or infrastructures within

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

ALL-HAZARDS PLANNING

AMBER ALERT

PUBLIC INFORMATION
OFFICE

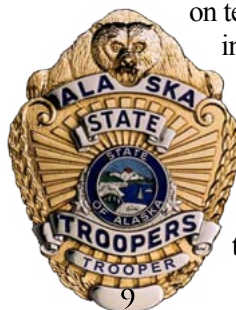
the state. The Department of Public Safety Commissioner or designee will serve as the representative of the department to direct and advise on all law enforcement issues in the event of an incident. One example is the 2009 Ice Dam on the Yukon River, which involved the evacuation of several villages and coordination of multiple air, ground and water assets to assist in the transportation of people and equipment in response to the event.

AMBER Alert

The Division of Alaska State Troopers is the statewide coordinator for the America's Missing: 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. 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. Involvement by the PIO is crucial in coordinating the release of information during AMBER Alert activation.

As of 2009, Alaska activated the AMBER Alert three times for separate events.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Division Operations

TECHNOLOGY



Lt. Kat Peterson
Technology

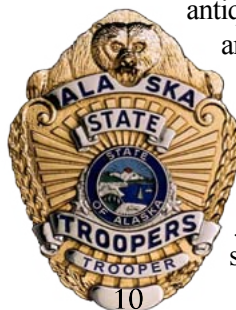
Law enforcement agencies thrive on information such as what type of emergency, what to expect when responding to a call or how to proceed with a case. That flow of information can greatly enhance or hinder Alaska State Troopers' job of providing public safety. For years, the Department of Public Safety's goal has been to streamline the flow of information using new technologies and making the work of Alaska State Troopers personnel more efficient and effective. After spending 2008 in the planning stages, many projects advanced in 2009. The year was also spent laying the groundwork for some major accomplishments yet to come. The plan is to obtain the technical components to capture and protect the information as well as to make it easier to share between the different law enforcement and other criminal justice partners. Part of that was accomplished in 2009, with more progress scheduled for 2010.

In June of 2009, the Department of Public Safety issued a request for proposals seeking to procure a records management system (RMS) to modernize the department's incident reporting capabilities. The current paper-based police reporting system has been in use in one form or another since the beginning of the department's existence and is severely outdated. It is limited in the ability to make use of information captured in the course of the department's work. The RMS is intended to provide DPS with the ability to electronically capture, store and utilize information related to the tens of thousands of incidents it responds to each year. Without RMS, incident information currently exists in paper files that are not readily searchable. Implementation of an RMS will allow instant statewide access to that information whenever it is needed to assist in solving crimes. Additionally, the RMS dramatically enhances the capability to share information with other law enforcement agencies and to mine the collected information for the purposes of better managing resources and informing public policy decisions. DPS hopes to have a system selected and deployed by the end of 2011.

Driven by the requirements of the ICOP in-car video systems designed to record video from patrol vehicles and installed in trooper vehicles patrolling the Mat-Su area, DPS designed and deployed a new Remote Office at the Mat-Su West Post in Wasilla. This includes support for virtualized servers, network storage, detachment-wide file services, and replaces Netware with Microsoft Active Directory. This model will be used to upgrade major department and trooper hubs in the following years.

Phase two of an online criminal justice information reporting system that eliminates the redundant entry of information into previously independent systems used by numerous agencies was completed in 2009. This phase took the needs assessment that was completed in 2008 and built the program that is being tested. This program will bring the different state entities – the Department of Law, Alaska State Courts, Division of Juvenile Justice, Department of Revenue, municipal police departments and some city attorneys together on the same operating level for sharing information. This system allows data sharing by taking the information entered in the different databases and making it readable for everyone, thereby eliminating redundant data entry by different entities. When one bit of information is entered in one participating system, the other systems, such as the Department of Law's CRIMES, the Alaska Court System CourtView and Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN), are all updated with the same information at the same time.

Another important tool that has been in the works for years and took a big step forward is an overhaul of APSIN, which serves as the main criminal justice information system for Alaska. This technology has been largely unchanged since its launch in 1984 and does not integrate with other applications well. The redesign will move it from an antiquated mainframe environment to a modern, open architecture environment. The new APSIN will have more functionality and a great ability to access more types of information in a more user-friendly manner. For instance, APSIN will be able to exchange criminal justice information with other criminal justice systems outside DPS. The new APSIN is scheduled for implementation statewide in late 2011.



Sgt. Eugene Fowler, supervisor of the Soldotna team for the ABHP scans the barcode on the back of a driver's license. The Traffic and Criminal Software program will automatic input the driver's information into an electronic form on his laptop.



On the road to expanding the patrol trooper's vehicle into a mobile work station, approximately 120 troopers throughout the state from Tok to the Kenai Peninsula were supplied with Panasonic Toughbook laptops. Troopers were trained on how to use the Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS) program to issue citations electronically and complete crash reports. This has allowed for a quicker completion of crash reports, many while the troopers are still on scene of the crash. It has also largely eliminated the need to hand write reports such that more legible documents are provided to insurance companies, courts and other agencies. Patrol troopers in B Detachment and the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol were also provided with computer mounts, scanners and printers were installed to make their offices truly mobile. The TraCS software allows a trooper to collect data electronically by scanning a driver's license or registration with a hand-held scanner while in the patrol car on the side of the road. The software reads the barcode and populates the form automatically with that information. 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. Eventually the laptops will allow troopers to connect to a mobile data terminal network, allowing them to send and receive information from their patrol vehicles instead of relying on dispatchers

to broadcast the information over the radio. Dispatchers will even be able to send individual troopers electronic messages regarding call for service requests.

In order to assist the department in maintaining a high level of professional standards, a new and cutting-edge software program has been procured and implemented by the newly formed Office of Professional Standards. This software enables the department to identify performance and disciplinary issues through a centralized reporting of employee behavior, flagging concerns such as complaints, firearms discharges, use of force situations and vehicle crashes and pursuits. This gives the department the ability to address potential issues early and often with a much less drastic action, resulting in a positive outcome for all. The data collection capabilities of this software allow the Public Safety Training Academy and command staff to identify trends, training needs and equipment performance along with providing recommendations for policy changes. This web-based application known as "Blue Team," allows employees to file reports online and route those reports to the appropriate supervisor. The software allows the Office of Professional Standards to capture data in real time and turn that same information into usable reports for the Commissioner's office and AST division directors.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

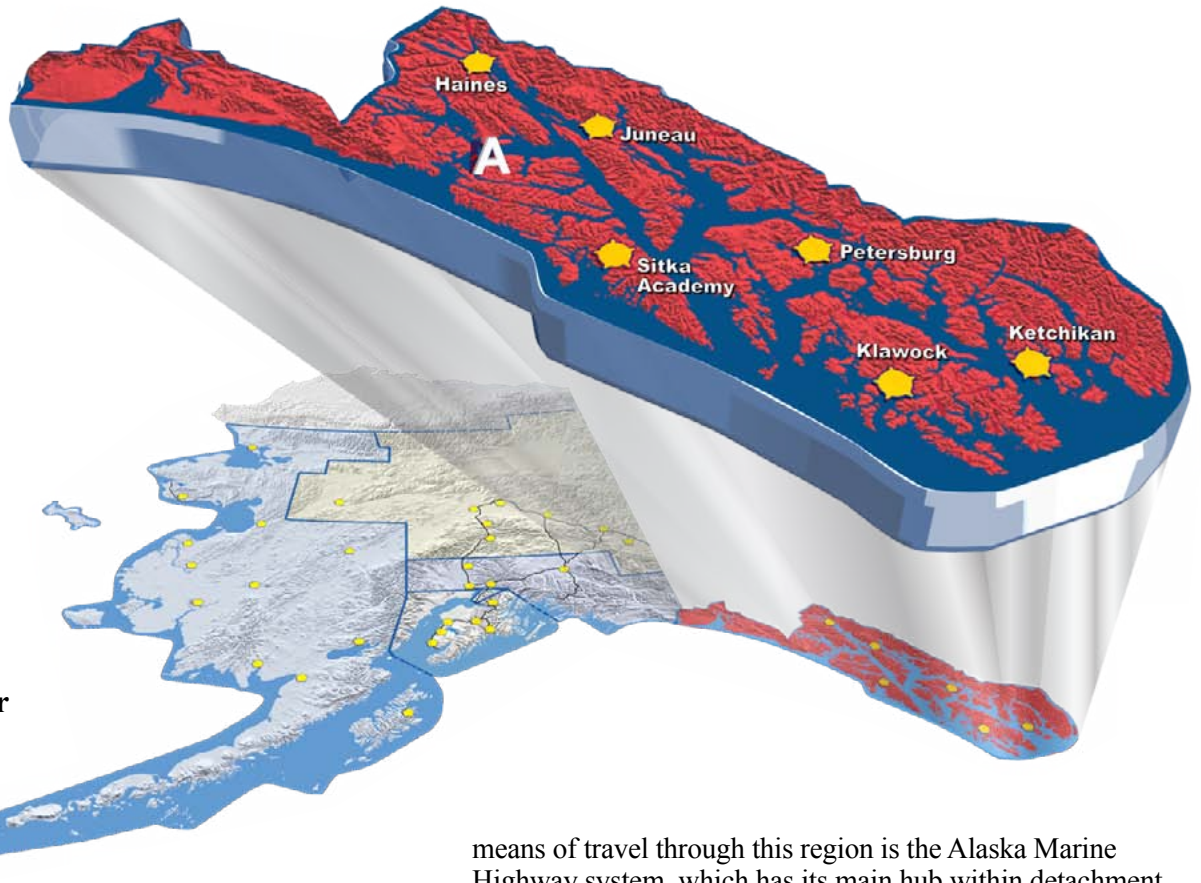
A Detachment



Commander
Capt. Kurt Ludwig



Deputy Commander
Lt. Rodney Dial



DETACHMENT COMMAND

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 not only beautiful, but 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. Southeast Alaska is the northern terminus of the Inside Passage, the protected waterway of passages between islands and fjords that winds up the coast starting with Puget Sound in Washington. A popular

means of travel through this region is the Alaska Marine Highway system, which has its main hub within detachment boundaries in Juneau. Juneau is the only American mainland capital that is not reachable by road. There are seven borough governments located in the detachment. There are a number of national parks, forests and monuments located in Southwest Alaska, including the Tongass National Forest – the largest national forest in the country. The area is home to Tlingit and Haida native groups.

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 53,283 square miles, which is larger than the state of New York. A Detachment consists of 24 employees assigned to four individual posts. These employees include 15 commissioned troopers, two of which are command positions, and 10 civilian staff personnel. Of these 24 positions, one patrol trooper position in Ketchikan is vacant, but scheduled to be filled in July 2010. There are an estimated 69,338 year-round residents in A Detachment. However, an estimated 10,234 residents live outside of communities with local police departments. These residents fall under A Detachment's immediate jurisdiction. Not counting detachment command, there is an average of one trooper for every 787 residents. Each trooper was responsible for roughly





Juneau Alaska Wildlife Trooper Sgt. Steve Hall, middle, and Juneau Alaska State Trooper Jeff Landvetter, on right, stand in formation with Juneau Police Officers for a Police Memorial Day Ceremony in Juneau. Photo courtesy Seanna O'Sullivan (www.seannaosullivanphotography.com)

4,098 square miles of area in 2009 – an area twice the size of Delaware. In addition, the area is flooded with approximately 1 million tourists during the summer months, increasing the number of search and rescues, deaths, thefts, assault investigations and the need to respond to other calls for service.

A DETACHMENT POSTS

Ketchikan Post

1 Sergeant
5 Troopers
6 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 5,500 residents who live outside the city of Ketchikan. The native village of Saxman, with a population of 434, 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
2 Radio Dispatchers

This post has five personnel assigned to serve an estimated 2,194 people living in 11 communities scattered throughout numerous islands and peninsulas in the Inner Passage of Alaska. The sergeant supervises the Juneau and Haines posts 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 inside 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. The primary communities served by the Juneau Post are Angoon, Elfin Cove, Gustavus, Pelican and Tenakee Springs. The Juneau Post also serves Whitestone Bay, Hobert Bay, Kake, Port Alexander, Kupreanof, Point Baker and at times, people living outside of Wrangell and Petersburg. Hoonah and Yakutat also fall within Juneau Post boundaries, but both towns have police departments that sometimes rely on Juneau troopers for assistance.

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 with an estimated 3,920 people living 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 that provide service for the estimated 2,182 that live in these two communities.

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



**Sgt. John Brown and
VPSO Charles O'Malley
make a school visit in
Thorne Bay.**



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. Customs and Border Protection 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. Both Skagway and Haines have police departments, but the Haines Post provides service for the estimated 662 people living outside these two communities separated by 15 water miles and 359 road miles.

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 (SAR) increased by approximately 26 percent from the previous year to 48. These SAR missions range from missing hunters, hikers and boaters, to missing aircraft. Alaska State Troopers in the detachment do not have aircraft or vessels. Patrol troopers must charter aircraft or rely on Alaska Wildlife Troopers to travel to 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 nine cruise ship deaths in 2009. 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. A Detachment troopers investigated 69 non-homicide deaths in 2009.

Service to public – The tourism industry has reported an 100 percent 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.

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 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 in the area 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 2009:

- 
- Responsible for approximately 4,098 square miles
 - Responsible for serving approximately 787 year-round members of the public
 - Arrested 4 DUI drivers
 - Issued 65 traffic citations
 - Assigned 10 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
 - Assigned or received 459 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
 - Handled 35 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 3 search and rescue related events
 - Investigated 5 non-homicide death cases and 11 domestic violence related offenses

Everyday Heroes

For Alaska State Troopers, acts of heroism don't seem like acts of heroism – it's just a matter of doing the job. But to Melissa Garrison, that part of the job was the difference between life and death for her and her 18-month-old daughter, Amber.

Garrison had just put Amber to bed when a spark from a fire in the stone fireplace ignited some bedding placed around the stone structure to protect her toddler from the sharp edges. The flames quickly spread and smoke belled around into the living room. By the time she found the phone to make the 911 call, the house was full of toxic black air. She dialed the number and managed to say a few words before passing out.

Alaska State Trooper Zachary Huckstep was off-duty and driving home after dinner when fellow Ketchikan Trooper Jack LeBlanc called him asking for help on a call. LeBlanc had responded to a 911 phone call at a Ketchikan residence on Nov. 5, 2009. In the call that came in at approximately 10:22 p.m., a woman stated an address before the line went silent. LeBlanc, who was the only trooper working at the time, thought he might have a domestic violence dispute on his hands and called Huckstep who lived in the area. Huckstep, a six-year veteran of Alaska State Troopers, made a quick stop at his house to grab his bullet-proof vest and gun before meeting LeBlanc at the residence only about four minutes after he was called. LeBlanc told him the lights went off inside the house after his arrival and at one point he had heard movement inside. However, the residence had grown quiet after he did a precursory check around the house. During another check, Huckstep peered inside and noticed the living room up in flames and told LeBlanc there was a fire. As soon as he heard this, LeBlanc took a step back from the door and kicked it in. Once the door was open, LeBlanc saw an unconscious woman sprawled out on the floor about 10 feet inside the house. Meanwhile, the 30-year-old Huckstep, who had experience working as a young Explorer firefighter with a volunteer fire department in Boise, Idaho, wetted a rag to cover his face before going in. He knew about the toxic fumes a fire creates and knew the safest place was within a foot of the floor.

Regardless, the intense heat singed Huckstep's eyebrows as he entered the house. He had to shield himself when he crawled past the fireplace where the fire started. Almost immediately, he spotted what was Melissa Garrison's arm or leg emerging from around a corner in the house close to the doorway. He low crawled and grabbed Garrison. Both he and LeBlanc dragged her back through the door. Huckstep said Garrison was completely covered with black soot and she wasn't breathing. She was so hot from the fire, steam rose up from her body as she was pulled from a burning building and into a slight rain.

They put Garrison into a recovery position and he took out a CPR mask and accompanying breather. LeBlanc went to a nearby neighbor's house to call for help and to ask if anyone else was in the house. The home was in an area without cell phone or radio coverage and the radio inside the patrol car that was sitting at the bottom of a hilly driveway was the only way to reach other emergency responders. As part of a normal response to a suspected domestic dispute, they had parked both vehicles at a distance.





Melissa Garrison, far right, thanks Alaska State Troopers Jack LeBlanc, far left, and Zachary Huckstep for saving her and her daughter's lives at an event at the VFW in Ketchikan. Her husband, Garry Garrison, stands beside her holding their daughter, Amber.

The neighbor told LeBlanc she didn't know whether Garrison's husband was home, but knew immediately her 18-month-old daughter, Amber, was inside. After discussing what to do with LeBlanc and the neighbor's son to get Garrison breathing again, Huckstep went back into the house in search of Amber.

The thick, black smoke obscured his vision as he crawled around the house, looking for the little girl. The smoke was everywhere except for the rooms with closed doors. However, these rooms quickly filled with smoke after he opened them. In the main bedroom, Huckstep decided to take a quick breath after holding it during his search. The toxic smoke entered his lungs and he nearly collapsed. Luckily, he found a clean air pocket underneath the bed in the master bedroom, took a deep breath, and pressed on.

When he reached the back room in the house, he opened the door to find Amber standing in her crib, coughing and crying. He picked the girl up, tucked her into his jacket, and low crawled out of the house.

By the time Huckstep got out of the house and handed Amber over to the neighbor, Garrison had resumed her breathing. Huckstep could have been satisfied with saving the pair, but instead, he returned to the house to see what he could do about the fire. On the porch were several large buckets full of rain water. He took a couple of these buckets of water and threw them on the larger flames around the fireplace, calming the fire. There were still smaller flames licking out from the ceiling and furniture, but the monster had been tamed. Next he opened up the windows to let the air in and clear some of the thick smoke.

Firefighters arrived and quickly took over battling the blaze. Huckstep and the Garrisons were taken to the hospital. Amber had minor smoke inhalation, but her mother was flown to Seattle for treatment of her injuries. She has made a full recovery. Huckstep suffered minor smoke inhalation and burns to his hand. He was kept overnight for observation and returned back to duty within two days.

Garrison, who spent three years as a police officer with the Bethel Police Department, said the pair went above and beyond the call of duty, especially for Huckstep as he was off-duty that night. If it weren't for his efforts, she knew she or her daughter would have died in the fire.

"He's my daughter's guardian angel and mine, that's for sure," she said.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

B Detachment



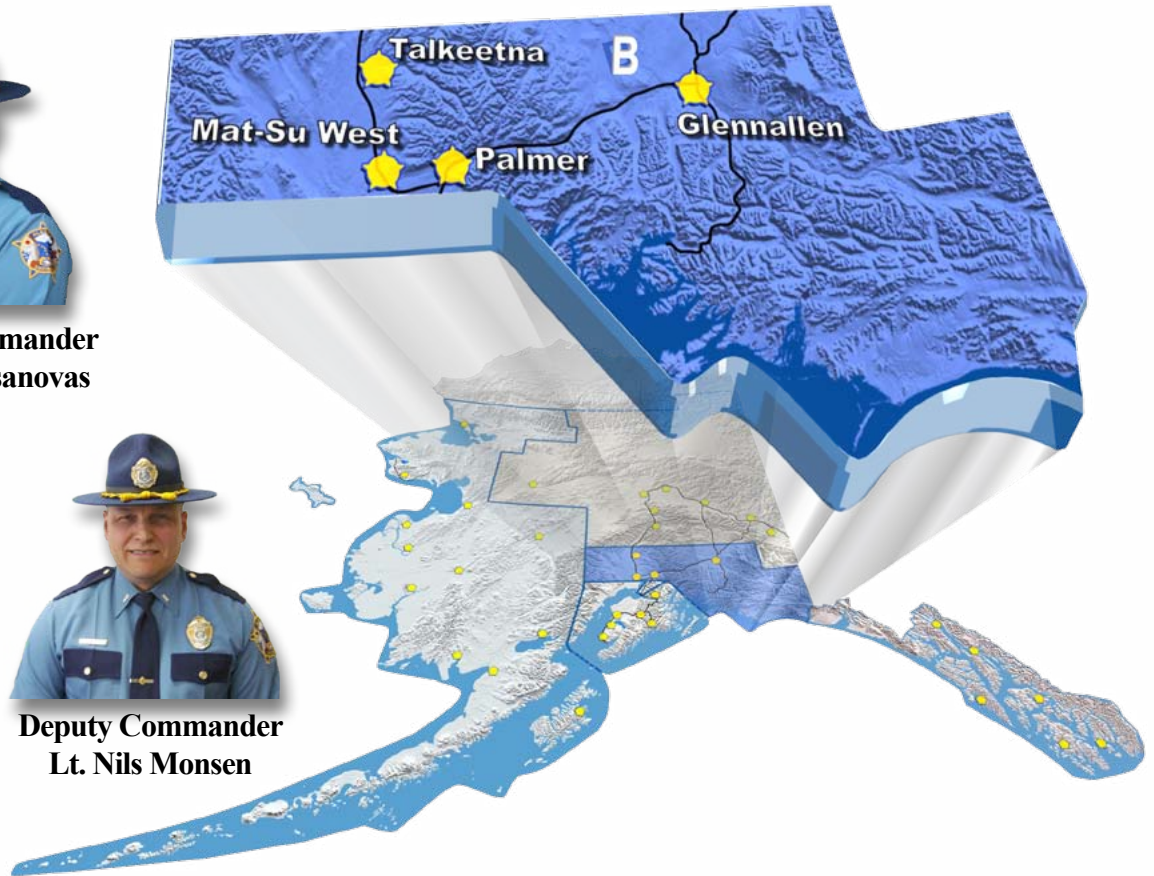
Detachment Commander
Capt. Dennis Casanovas



Deputy Commander
Lt. Patrick Davis



Deputy Commander
Lt. Nils Monsen



DETACHMENT COMMAND

Commander – Captain

Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Palmer Post)

Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Mat-Su West Post)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Assistant

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. The detachment covers approximately 52,465 square miles of territory, an area slightly larger than the entire state of Alabama. A large portion of B Detachment encompasses the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The borough's administrative building is located in Palmer.

Personnel wise, B Detachment is a medium-sized detachment. The detachment is authorized for 42 commissioned Alaska State Troopers and 10 civilian employees.

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 utilized by recreational traffic year-round.

In 2009, detachment troopers responded to 1,374 collisions on these roadways – an average of slightly fewer than four per day. Approximately one in five of these were a collision with a moose, caribou or even a bear.

POPULATION SERVED

There are an estimated 93,267 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





Palmer Trooper Jim Streicher kneels in a guard position while Trooper Chris Bitz talks to dispatch on the cell phone during an exercise at the Mat-Su Regional Hospital in Wasilla.

serve approximately 22 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 POSTS

Palmer Post

2 Sergeants
14 Troopers
3 Office Assistants
2 Criminal Justice Technicians

Mat-Su West Post

2 Sergeants
12 Troopers
2 Office Assistants

Troopers from Palmer and Mat-Su West posts 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 61, and respond to calls within the city limits of Houston, depending upon the availability of Houston Police Officers. Both trooper posts provide direct services such as sex offender registration and criminal background checks to the general public. Wasilla, Palmer and Houston are incorporated communities with police departments.

Glennallen Post

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers
1 Office Assistant

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 Valdez and running to Paxson. Coverage also includes 63 miles of the Tok Cutoff. Glennallen troopers are the primary law enforcement for Tatitlek and, upon request, serve as support and backup to Alaska Wildlife Troopers stationed in Valdez and Cordova. In 2009, the Village Public Safety Officer program added one additional VPSO to the region, requiring Glennallen troopers to provide oversight and training to three Village Public Safety Officers.

Talkeetna Post

1 Sergeant
4 Troopers
1 Office Assistant

The Talkeetna Post has primary responsibility for the Parks Highway from mile 61 to 147, to include other rural roadways such as Nancy Lake Parkway, Willow Creek Parkway, Long Lake Road, Willow Fishhook to Hatcher Pass, 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

Thirty-nine personnel from the ranks of trooper to sergeant assigned to patrol functions are responsible for responding to daily service requests from approximately 73,225 residents living outside of any city police department's jurisdiction. Excluding command staff, this is an average of one trooper serving every 1,877 people. With 28,661 requests for services – more than any other AST detachment or bureau – the detachment averages nearly 80 requests per day. Excluding command staff, on average, one trooper handles almost 734 calls per year.

There are approximately 675 inmates housed



Talkeetna Trooper Terrence Shanigan talks to a couple of tourists who flew up from the Lower 48 for the restart of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in Willow.



in the three Department of Corrections institutions located within B Detachment: the Mat-Su Pretrial 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 began in 2009. This facility is expected to be leased by the Department of Corrections and will begin accepting nearly 1,500 inmates in the spring of 2012.

Correctional institutions not only rely upon the Alaska Bureau of Judicial Services for support in moving prisoners to and from court, but also rely upon B Detachment 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 28,661 requests for service during 2009 some of the more frequent events reported were:

- 1,374 Motor vehicle collisions
- 1,061 Theft offenses
- 642 Vandalism offenses
- 586 Assault offenses
- 323 Burglary offenses
- 415 DUI offenses
- 222 Non-homicide death investigations
- 251 Trespass offenses

A Highway Safety Corridor from mile 44 to mile 52.5 of the Parks Highway was created in B Detachment in October of 2006. In July of 2009, a second Highway Safety Corridor was enacted on Knik Goose Bay Road from mile 0.6 to 17.2. Traffic violations within the corridors are subject to double fines. In 2009, B Detachment troopers wrote 189 citations within safety corridors.

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 recorded more than 30,000 vehicles using the highway during March in each of the years of 2007-2009. 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 number of items that are seized and held sometimes for years while criminal and civil litigation winds its way through the courts. In 2009, an additional 8,794 new items of evidence were received, nearly 15 percent more new items than the year prior. Some items were large pieces of furniture, tires, appliances, tools, firearms, as well as items that needed to be kept refrigerated such as blood, 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 responsible for the timely release and destruction of the evidence when it is no longer needed. This region is in need of a consolidated evidence facility and



Sgt. Kid Chan, a member of the Special Emergency Reaction Team, waits for a feedback session during a multi-agency exercise at the Mat-Su Regional Hospital in Wasilla.



adequate civilian personnel to address the increased evidence storage and handling needs.

Patrolling special events – Several other major community events took place in 2009 which taxed resources of the Alaska State Troopers: The world famous Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race restart in Willow in March; the Moose Dropping Festival in Talkeetna in July; the Fireweed 400 bicycle race from Sheep Mountain to Valdez and back in July; and Copper River salmon dip netting season, which attracts thousands of fisherpersons to the Copper Center area during June and July.

SUCSESSES

Highway enforcement – Troopers in B Detachment take driving safety very seriously. After all, the more bad driving habits that can be corrected the more collisions we can prevent, the less property damage that occurs and the less pain and suffering families have to endure when loved ones are injured or even killed. In 2009, detachment troopers wrote 5,713 traffic citations and charged 414 defendants for driving while their license was suspended. Troopers also generated 415 driving under the influence charges – an average of more than one DUI charge per day. Because of the affects drugs and alcohol impairment have on driving skills, there is good chance these arrests prevented more crashes from happening.

Recruit training – B Detachment is one of three field training locations for AST. In 2009, 16 Alaska State Trooper Recruits reported to the detachment for an intensive 19 weeks of training. During this time, more experienced troopers took the new employees under their

wings and provided them with training and evaluated the new employee's performance on a daily basis. It also takes a tremendous amount of energy and dedication, and even patience by the citizens we serve. New employees are ultimately molded into knowledgeable, objective and empathetic enforcers of the law.

Establishment of VPSOs – With a goal of expanding the Village Public Safety Officer program, two VPSO positions were placed in the Glennallen area in 2009. Troopers recognize the challenges associated with having VPSOs working on the highway system and work very closely with, and providing training to, these Copper River Native Association employees. Having VPSOs employed in this region seems to be paying great dividends and the VPSO program is expected to continue to expand during 2010.

Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival – The Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival occurred Aug. 7-9. The event was held on roughly 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 the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol worked extra hours during the event to assist with enforcement efforts.

Mat-Su Borough School District School Resource grant project – In 2009, B Detachment State Troopers from Palmer Post and Talkeetna Post began spending a portion of at least one shift each month in select schools in an effort to provide additional security training to school staff and students. The four select schools were: Su Valley High, Colony High, Colony Middle and Willow Elementary.





Field Training Officer Ron Hayes, on right, helps his recruit, Trooper Kevin Vik, go through paperwork while serving a search warrant in a theft case.

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 2009:

- Responsible for approximately 1,345 square miles.
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,877 year-round members of the public
- Arrested 10 DUI drivers
- Issued 146 traffic citations
- Assigned 35 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 734 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 57 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 5 non-homicide death cases and 19 domestic violence related offenses



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

C Detachment



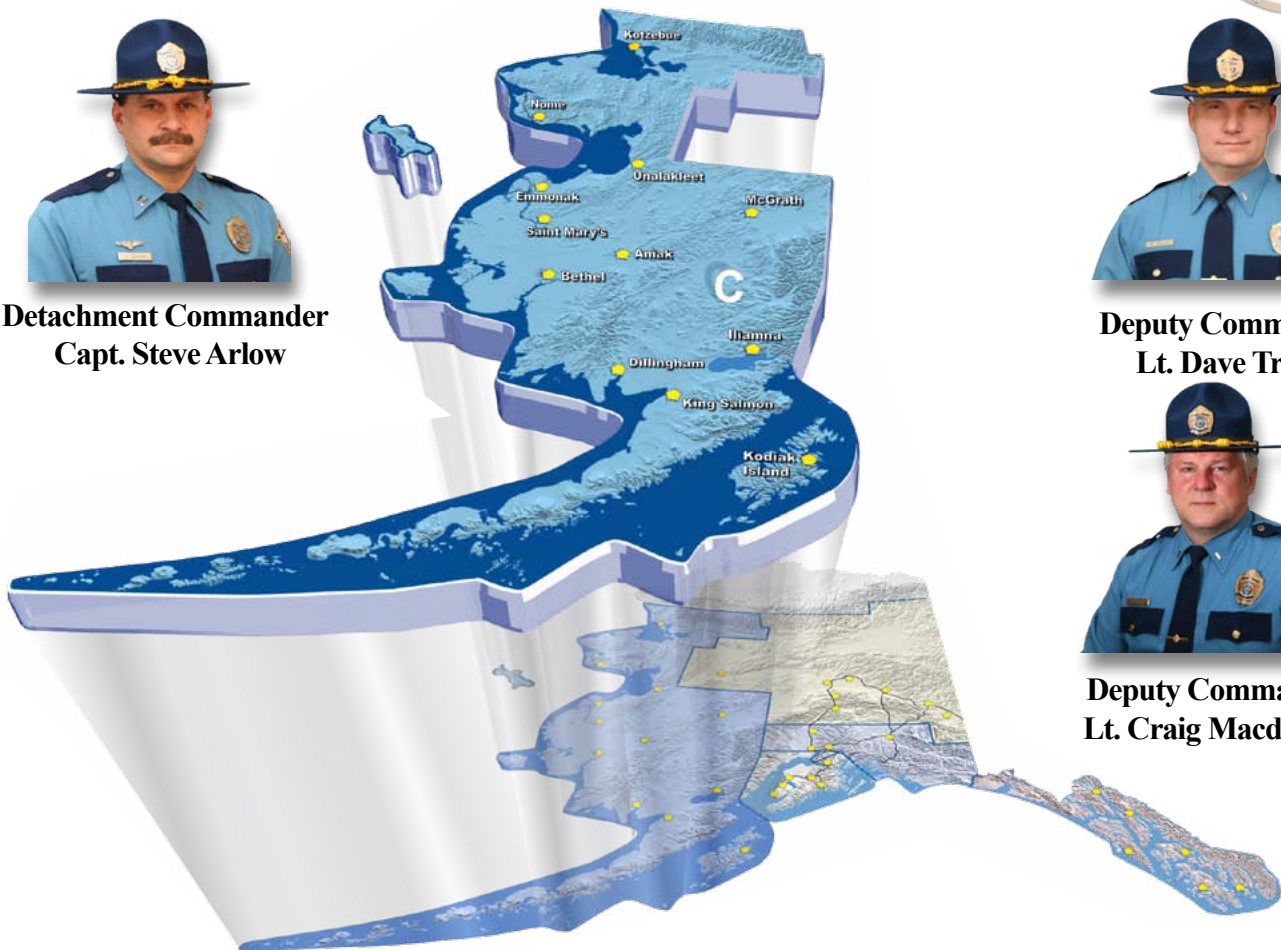
Detachment Commander
Capt. Steve Arlow



Deputy Commander
Lt. Dave Tracy



Deputy Commander
Lt. Craig Macdonald



DETACHMENT COMMAND

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

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Assistant
1 Accounting Technician
1 Office Assistant III

to serve the estimated 40,430 people that rely on Alaska State Troopers as their primary provider of public safety. Not counting the command staff, there is an average of one trooper for every 808 residents. Each trooper was responsible for 4,321 square miles of area in 2009. However, because there is a constant rotation of troopers and support personnel in this detachment, positions are rarely fully staffed.

C Detachment is not only the largest geographically, but is the most sparsely populated detachment 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 71,000 people living in the 216,077 square miles of land within detachment boundaries. In addition, there are 19,347 miles of coastal area within detachment boundaries. There are 53 commissioned troopers – including a captain and two lieutenants – allocated to C Detachment

Alaska State Troopers provide public safety to a majority of the residents. However, 13 communities have their own police departments and serve approximately 42 percent of the population concentrated in regional hubs within C Detachment boundaries. Troopers assist police departments when requested or in emergencies such as a domestic violence or crime in progress. Troopers also provide assistance for any major case investigations upon request. The rest of the population is 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



Anchorage Service Unit Trooper Vic Aye stands beside the welcoming sign during a routine trip to Adak.



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 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 troopers 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, temporary duty assignments at other detachment posts when needed and other special projects. The trooper assigned to this unit in 2009 conducted extensive travel and support to the communities within the area of responsibility, investigating criminal cases, search and rescue and providing Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education (D.A.R.E) within some of the schools on the Aleutian Chain. In 2009, this trooper made seven trips to the Aleutian Chain and 13 trips to other villages within the detachment to help support other posts when needed.

The detachment is also responsible for managing the Village Public Safety Officer Program. The VPSO program has 72 VPSO positions authorized statewide with 71 of them filled at the end of 2009. Forty-eight of these VPSOs



Bethel Trooper Mike Roberts walks down a dirt road in Atmautluak with two Village Police Officers during a routine visit to the village.



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.

C DETACHMENT POSTS

Bethel Post
 2 Sergeants
 10 Troopers
 1 State Pilot II
 3 Office Assistants (2 Vacant)

Bethel, with its own population of 5,803 residents, is the largest town in Southwestern Alaska. Bethel serves as a hub for the 56 surrounding Native villages scattered throughout the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, an area that is roughly the size of Oregon. 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 is also home to the Association of Village Council Presidents, the non-profit organization that supports the 56 federally-recognized villages in the region. The second largest of the 13 regional Native Corporations, Calista Corporation, and 46 individual village corporations are located in this region. According to Bethel Chamber of Commerce, Bethel has the third busiest airport in the state. It has two runways – the main runway is 6,400 feet long and 150-feet wide. The crosswind runway is 1,850-feet long and 75-feet wide. There is daily jet service between Bethel and Anchorage for passengers and cargo while smaller air taxis service surrounding villages. The air taxis are 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. A barge service based in Bethel transports goods to the Kuskokwim villages. In the winter, the Kuskokwim

River becomes a 150-mile ice road to surrounding villages. One or two of the Bethel troopers must cover the superior and district courts needs within Bethel. This includes daily prisoner transports to and from the jail to courtrooms and transporting prisoners into Bethel from outlying villages. In 2009, several Court Services Officers were temporarily assigned to the Bethel Post to help in these duties and one of the two new CSO positions assigned in Bethel was filled. Training of the CSO commenced at the end of 2009 with expectations of a full-time position being in place in early 2010. The Bethel Post serves the following 27 villages with an estimated 12,427 residents in the Y-K Delta:

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Akiachak | Napakiak |
| Akiak | Napaskiak |
| Atmautluak | Newtok |
| Chefornak | Nightmute |
| Chevak | Nunapitchuk |
| Eek | Oscarville |
| Goodnews Bay | Platinum |
| Hooper Bay | Quinhagak |
| Kasigluk | Scammon Bay |
| Kipnuk | Toksook Bay |
| Kongiganak | Tuluksak |
| Kwethluk | Tuntutuliak |
| Kwigillingok | Tununak |
| Makoryuk | |

Aniak Post
 1 Sergeant
 3 Troopers
 Office Assistant III

Aniak is a community with an estimated population of 485 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 southern bank of the Kuskokwim River at the head of Aniak Slough. The village encompasses five square miles of land. The total population in all villages covered by the Aniak Post is 1,890. The



C Detachment Deputy Commander Lt. Craig Macdonald, left, and Trooper Michael Carpenter of McGrath stand in front of the McGrath checkpoint for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.



economy is based on government, transportation and retail services. The Alaska Court System maintains an office and has a magistrate assigned to Aniak. The post serves the following 10 communities in addition to Aniak:

Chuathbaluk	Shageluk
Crooked Creek	Sleetmute
Georgetown	Stony River
Grayling	Upper Kalskag
Holy Cross	Lower Kalskag

McGrath Post 1 Trooper

This new position provided needed support within the region in 2009. The trooper is supervised by the Aniak sergeant. This assigned trooper happened to be a department pilot and operated the Cessna 182 during 2009. He provided aircraft support to the Aniak Post as well. McGrath has 322 residents and 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. It is located on the Iditarod Trail. Besides McGrath, the trooper provides service for 162 people living throughout four other small communities, and reached outside his boundaries, like D Detachment's Lake Minchumina, due to the mobility of having an aircraft assigned at the post provides.

Lime Village	Takotna
Nikolai	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 553. The community is located on the north bank of the

Andreafski River, five miles from its confluence with the Yukon River. The community participates in a commercial salmon fishery during the summer months. The community includes the main village and the neighboring Andreafski. A 22-mile road links the main village and Andreafski to the east, Pitkas Point to the west and an airport and Mountain Village to the north. The city police department disbanded a few years ago. The Alaska Court System maintains an office and has a magistrate assigned to St. Mary's. Due to vacancies in Emmonak, the two troopers in St. Mary's were tasked with providing service to the three villages in that area in addition to the 2,249 people within the five communities normally covered by the St. Mary's Post.

Marshall	Pitkas Point
Mountain Village	Russian Mission
Pilot Station	

Emmonak Post 2 Troopers (Both vacant)

The post is located in a community on the lower Yukon River with approximately 774 residents. The economy is based on government and commercial fisheries. The post is supervised by a sergeant in Bethel and services Emmonak and three other nearby villages. However, this post was vacant during 2009 and was covered by troopers from Bethel, St. Mary's and the Anchorage Service Unit. The Alaska Court System maintains an office and has a magistrate posted in Emmonak. In addition to Emmonak, the post normally provides public safety to the 1,460 residents living in the following villages:

Alakanuk
Kotlik
Nunam Iqua



Bethel Trooper Sgt. Teague Widmiller walks to his patrol vehicle while driving the ice road on the Kuskokwim River near Akiachak.



Dillingham Post

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers

Office Assistant III

Dillingham, a community with approximately 2,264 residents, is located at the extreme northern end of Nushagak Bay in northern Bristol Bay at the confluence of the Nushagak River. 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 Bristol Bay watershed is known to have one of the largest salmon runs in the world. The city has its own police department. The Dillingham Post was responsible for providing judicial services until the Alaska Judicial Bureau added a Court Services Officer position. A CSO was assigned to the post in June 2009. That CSO operated under the bureau, but was supervised by the Dillingham sergeant and a sergeant at the Anchorage Judicial Services Unit in 2009. In times where there was no CSO, troopers completed tasks for the superior and district courts in Dillingham by moving prisoners to and from court as well as back and forth from Anchorage. Troopers provided court security if needed and served 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. The post services the 1,619 residents in the following eight communities outside Dillingham:

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

Cold Bay Post

Vacant

Cold Bay, a community with roughly 84 residents, does not have a city police department or a DPS post. There are police departments in King Cove, Sand Point and Unalaska that are 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 VPSO program has a strong presence in this region with VPSOs in Akutan, Atka and Nelson Lagoon. The VPSO positions in False Pass and Nikolski were vacant in 2009. Adak has a police officer that like the VPSOs, receives support from the Anchorage Service Unit trooper. With the help from the Alaska Wildlife Troopers stationed in Dutch Harbor, the Anchorage Service Unit trooper and Dillingham Post service the following six communities with 1,216 residents in the Cold Bay region:

Adak	Nelson Lagoon
Akutan	False Pass
Atka	Nikolski

King Salmon Post

2 Troopers

Most of the King Salmon area, to include Naknek, and the 967 residents that reside in this area are served by the Bristol Bay Borough Police Department. The department is located on the U.S. Air Force Base in King Salmon. However, troopers provided direct public safety services to approximately 400 residents living right outside borough boundaries and nine other communities for a combined population of 1,087 people. The number of residents increases dramatically during the summer months due to the fishing industry. Tens of thousands of visitors pass





Kotzebue-based Trooper Luis Nieves pauses while driving the ice road from Kotzebue to Kobuk.

through the King Salmon airport each summer. The Alaska Court System maintains an office and has a magistrate assigned in Naknek. The King Salmon Post is supervised by the Dillingham sergeant. The post services the following communities:

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 91 residents. The Iliamna trooper shares the post facilities with an Alaska Wildlife Trooper. However, that AWT trooper was transferred in 2009 and the position has been vacant since. Tourism, sport fishing and commercial fishing are the economic base for this area. If the proposed Pebble Mine becomes a reality, this region may see a boom in mining like none other seen 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 752 residents.

Kokhanok	Pedro Bay
Igiugig	Port Alsworth
Newhalen	Pope-Vannoy Landing
Nondalton	

Kotzebue Post 1 Sergeant (Vacant) 5 Troopers 1 Office Assistant III

The post is located in Kotzebue, a town on a three-mile long gravel spit at the end of the Baldwin Peninsula. Kotzebue troopers cover the

10 villages scattered throughout an area about the size of Indiana. 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. Prisoner transports between this region and the Anvil Mountain Correctional Center in Nome occur weekly, often impacting trooper duties and responses to calls for service. The courthouse accommodates both a superior and district court. The 10 villages outside of Kotzebue consist of a total of 3,940 residents. Kotzebue has approximately 3,154 residents and its own city police department that also runs the city jail. The jail has limited capacity, requiring transports of prisoners back and forth between the courthouse in Kotzebue and the larger correctional facility in Nome. 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. The Red Dog Mine, one of the largest producers of zinc concentrate, is an open-pit, lead-zinc mine located about 90 miles north of Kotzebue. The mine produces jobs and other economic benefits for the region. Air travel is the primary means of transportation year round. The mine produces jobs and other economic benefits for the region. Snow machines are used in the winter for local transportation. The Kotzebue Post services the following communities that are not connected by roads, but rather by snowmachine trails or rivers.

Ambler	Noatak
Buckland	Noorvik
Deering	Red Dog Mine
Kiana	Selawik
Kivalina	Shungnak
Kobuk	

Nome Post 1 Sergeant 5 Troopers 2 Office Assistant I

The Nome Post provides coverage to an area on the Seward Peninsula and nearby Saint Lawrence Island. It also provides assistance to



Trooper Jonnathon Stroebele, on left, provides firearms instruction to fellow Nome troopers Sgt. Andrew Merrill and Trooper Anne Sears, on right. Photo courtesy Tyler Rhodes/Nome Nugget



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 DUI 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 Trail Sled Dog Race and during the summer months for bird watching of exotic species. The Bering Straits Native Corp., one of the 13 Alaska Native regional corporations, is headquartered in Nome. The Nome troopers provide oversight for five VPSO positions in the area. The Nome Post provides services to approximately 3,500 residents living in the following villages:

Brevig Mission	Port Clarence
Council	Savoonga
Diomedea	Shishmaref
Elim	Teller
Gambell	Wales
Golovin	White Mountain



Unalakleet Post 2 Troopers

Unalakleet is located on the Norton Sound along the coast of the Bering Sea at the mouth of the Unalakleet River. It 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. It is one of the last checkpoints for the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. It is also a central hub for outlying villages, providing a link to Anchorage. The town has a state-owned approximately 6,000-foot long runway. The post falls under the supervision of the Nome sergeant. The post serves the following villages with an additional 1,640 residents:

Koyuk	Shaktoolik
Saint Michael	Stebbins

Kodiak Post 1 Sergeant 5 Troopers 3 Radio Dispatchers

This post has C Detachment's only state dispatch center. Kodiak has a police department to serve the population of 6,626 residents that live within city limits. Approximately 1,321 people living on the U.S. Coast Guard's Kodiak Station, the largest Coast Guard base in the country, fall under the direct jurisdiction of the military police. At 3,588 square miles, 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 country. It has a large tourist and commercial fishing industry. The seat of Kodiak Island Borough is in Kodiak. The borough includes the entire island and a small strip of land across the Shelikof Strait on the western side of the Alaska Peninsula. Headquarters for Koniag Inc., one of the 13 regional Alaska Native corporations, is located in Kodiak. The AST post serves an estimated 5,913 residents scattered throughout

C DETACHMENT STATISTICS

Offense	2008	2009
Sexual Assault	161	132
Sexual Abuse of a Minor	121	102
Felony and Misdemeanor Assault	872	881
Homicides	3	6
Suicides	24	15
Calls for Service	12,050	14,404
Burglaries	240	227

the borough – most of which live right outside Kodiak city limits. Approximately 1,586 of those residents live in more remote communities located both on and off the road system and some on surrounding islands. The post provides service to the following communities outside of Kodiak:

Akhiok	Old Harbor
Aleneva	Ouzinkie
Chiniak	Port Lions
Karluk	Womens Bay
Larsen 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 2009 was no exception. In 2009, the number of some of the most violent crimes within C Detachment decreased from 2008 statistics. However, homicide doubled from three in 2008 to six in 2009. Total calls for service increased from 12,050 in 2008 to 14,404 in 2009. The number of suicides statewide under AST jurisdiction was 52 in 2009, of those, 15 were in C Detachment. This was a significant decrease in suicides from 24 suicides in C Detachment in 2008.

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 2009, a strong push in Kotzebue and Bethel from community members repealed the long standing restrictions on alcohol. This relaxing of the laws brought on a sharp increase of available alcohol within the region and a decrease in the cost of bootlegged alcohol. It is too early to determine the effects of these changes in the law or if they will stay in place. The practice of bootlegging or making homebrew equates to a large portion of case activities or has a direct correlation to the serious crimes being

committed. Taking illegal drugs or misusing prescription drugs is also prevalent throughout the region.

Suicides – Alcohol and drug use drastically contributed to the number of suicides within the detachment. Suicides tend to have a domino effect on a population. 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. The department and detachment have actively increased efforts in 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 percent preventable. Initial help for troubled individuals is a phone call away. It is somewhat encouraging to see a major decrease in suicides from 24 in 2008 to 15 in 2009. The department will not rest in its efforts until that number is zero.

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 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.

Public awareness – In 2009 two major projects enhanced the public's awareness of law enforcement in rural Alaska. The first being the National Geographic series highlighting Alaska State Troopers and the challenges of law enforcement in rural Alaska. The second project, produced but not yet released to the public in 2009, was a video on effects of choices by youth and adults in Alaska. The bad choices made as youth and adults



A blizzard envelopes Kotzebue-based Trooper Chris Long as he walks back to the post from his patrol vehicle parked about 30 feet outside the post.



are highlighted to show the effects on people's ability to live healthy lifestyles, limiting career opportunities and often resulting in criminal behavior and criminal records. The video highlights real people living in rural Alaska who share their stories in hopes that the following generations do not make the same mistakes. The video "Choices," narrated by the popular Native group, Pamyua, will be used in schools, public television and community events in hopes of changing the tide of alcoholism and drug abuse and the damaging effects it has in Alaska.

EVENTS

The Department of Public Safety often acts in a humanitarian role in remote villages that are hit by economic and environmental misfortunes. A combination of a bad commercial fishing season, high fuel costs and a frigid winter led to a fuel and food shortage in some villages at the beginning of the year. The situation gained national attention after a letter outlining dire conditions surfaced out of Emmonak in January. Alaska State Troopers flew several pallets of donated food in the DPS Caravan to Kotlik in February. The weight of goods was at least 5,000 pounds. Then in the spring, river levels rose and water invaded many villages in the Y-K Delta. This is a regular occurrence in the region during the spring. In June, troopers throughout the region did many village visits to support communities experiencing flooding. State Pilot Earl Samulson flew several hours of river watch and provided updates to the National Weather Service and the State Emergency Coordination Center that manages state response to the flooding.

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 2009, C Detachment continued to spend an exorbitant amount of state funds moving prisoners, which has a huge impact on the department budget. In 2009, Kotzebue troopers were responsible for transporting 1,556 prisoners between Kotzebue and Anvil Mountain Correctional Center in Nome for local court proceedings twice per week. A similar situation occurs in Kodiak, where prisoners are transferred to Anchorage jails due to overcrowding. Records indicate 4,542 prisoners were transported by just this detachment this year with 1,295 or 28 percent of those conducted by Court Services Officers. These numbers are considered to be inaccurate and should be considerably higher, but because of clerical staffing issues in Bethel, some monthly statistics are missing. With a detachment of only 50 troopers, these numbers equate to 12.5 prisoners transported each day in a 365 day calendar year. These statistics justify the need for more CSOs within the detachment, so the burden of transporting 62 percent of the prisoners by troopers is shifted to CSOs.

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 – In the beginning of 2009, C Detachment managed to have all civilian support staff positions filled. However, that was short lived. Toward the latter half of the year, the Bethel Post suffered a 66 percent loss in support



Nome Post supervisor Sgt. Andrew Merrill stands beside the Cessna 206 aircraft he routinely flies.



staff. 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 frequently recruited to the private sector, which often pays more. These vacancies directly affect the overall mission of AST. The detachment asked support staff from other regions to help fill in, but these requests are expensive, burdensome on staff that go to Bethel and disrupts the workplace of those locations who lose their staff to assist. The lack of support staff requires troopers to perform excessive clerical duties and requires command staff to go through time-consuming hiring procedures. Staff continues to work some 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 lower in 2009, but C Detachment troopers were sent on temporary duty assignments from their home post to support other 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, and three troopers within the detachment suffering long-term work related injuries, frequently forced troopers throughout the detachment to work overtime to fill in. On the other hand, the Kodiak dispatch center and headquarters staff positions experienced full staffing in 2009.

State housing – State housing units are available in different villages to house troopers in one central location within the community. However, they also provide additional unique duties for first line supervisors and command staff. These units include a 20-unit housing complex and recreation hall in Bethel; an eight-unit complex in Kotzebue; a five-unit in Aniak; a six-unit in Dillingham; a two-unit complex each in King Salmon, Unalakleet, Emmonak and Iliamna. With the exception of Aniak housing, the Department of Public Safety leases housing from private entities in those communities. The

statewide program is managed by DPS Supply. DPS subsidizes the trooper family's rent by paying the difference between what the trooper is charged and the actual rent. In some locations, DPS found existing structures and entered into an agreement with the owner. In other areas, like Bethel, a private company built the complex with the sole intent of having DPS take up occupancy. Ensuring units are cleaned and ready for the next trooper family falls on the post supervisor. They often work with the DPS supply section to assist remodel projects on units. State housing units themselves can be challenging to larger trooper families, since the standard unit is a three bedroom. Troopers are required to live in these units so looking in the local market for a larger home to accommodate their families is not an option and a source of contention in rare occasions for trooper families wanting to spend long tours of duty in rural Alaska.

Aviation support training – A considerable backlog for filling training requests to pilots often hampers the mission. This is no fault of the DPS Aircraft section, but can be attributed to limited availability of the department training pilots and aircraft being available to fulfill the needs of the department. There were two cases of this in C Detachment in 2009. The detachment had approval to re-assign a Cessna 172 to Bethel to provide two new trooper pilots evaluation flights and training to get them on flight status. However, this was never accomplished due to the department training pilot being so over tasked with other requests. The Nome sergeant, while trying to upgrade his flight status for the Cessna 206 assigned there, couldn't complete this requirement because once again the training pilot could not free up enough time to certify him until 2010. In addition, in order to get enough flying time required for certification, the sergeant resorted to hiring a training pilot from the private sector before getting his state certification. It would be a great advantage for this department to invest in acquiring more training pilots and aircraft to support the mission of public safety in rural Alaska.





Dillingham clerk Rebecca Roenfanz, second from left, asks a question during APSIN training in Anchorage. Pictured are C Detachment clerks, from left to right, Keith Kendall of Kotzebue, Roenfanz, Ronnie Schwakert of Kodiak; Brad Dittmar of Nome and Sandra Thummel of Kodiak, attended the week long administrative training.

SUCSESSES

Increased presence – In 2009, detachment troopers conducted 1,682 village visits with the 123 villages within the detachment, an increase of 8.5 percent from the 1,421 visits conducted in 2008. In 2009, the detachment averaged approximately 40 field troopers. These village visits equate to each trooper conducting 42 visits each year. 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 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 2009 statistics with 2008 numbers in the Alaska State Troopers 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. Certainly, the decrease in population plays some role, but it should be noted that the calls for service continue to increase. In 2008, the call volume increased by 20 percent and then again in 2009 by 8 percent. Major factors in the reduction in crime could be the increased presence of trooper personnel in the villages and increased cell phone coverage throughout Western Alaska.

Search and rescues – Search and rescue operations (SARs) have mostly been a success story in the past decades. In 2009, C Detachment had 117 documented SAR-related events, which is 30 percent of the total Statewide SAR (383) for the year. Most SARs are generated by 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. 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.

Aviation – The majority of the flight missions in 2009 were SARs, prisoner transports and investigative trips to villages. All flights during 2009 were conducted without incident. This is a credit to C Detachment pilots, their training, good judgment and the aircraft section that maintains these aircraft. Considerable training funds were spent in the private sector to enhance our fix-wing and rotor-wing pilots in 2009. The Bethel R-44 pilot was sent with two other commissioned R-44 pilots to Robinson helicopter training. The Nome sergeant was sent out of state and obtained his commercial fix-wing rating to fly the state owned Cessna 206 in Nome. Once he is certified on the 206 in 2010, he will share the 206 with the Alaska Wildlife Trooper and the ABADE investigator, both state-certified pilots working at the Nome office. Aniak's Cessna 182 was transferred to McGrath where a trooper pilot with considerable skills provided needed aviation coverage within both regions. There were five state-certified pilots working for C Detachment in 2009, including one civilian state pilot in Bethel, the Nome sergeant, the trooper in McGrath and two troopers in Bethel. Alaska Wildlife Troopers and ABADE also help with flying duties when needed.

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. In 2009, they have been asked to travel within the various remote locations of the detachment to help fill in at vacant clerical posts. They willingly left their families for weeks at a time to assist the detachment during these vacancy shortfalls. Their dedication to the mission is exceptional and most appreciated by command staff.

Equipment and training – The most significant advancement within the detachment in technology was the introduction of the cell phone in western Alaska. In 2009, this allowed troopers in this region to better communicate with all involved, since the vehicle and portable radio systems used in urban Alaska are not functional in all villages. Also in 2009, with assistance of federal COPS grants, the detachment provided 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 firefighting 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 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 2009:

- Responsible for approximately 4,320 square miles – an area over twice the size of Delaware
- Responsible for serving approximately 808 year-round members of the public
- Assigned or received 288 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 32 cases which resulted in an arrest or a report being referred for prosecution
- Investigated 2 sexual abuse of minor cases
- Investigated 2 sexual assaults
- Handled 2 search and rescue related events
- Investigated 3 non-homicide death cases
- Handled 18 domestic violence related offenses



Arctic Circle Manhunt

In the cold reaches of Alaska near the Arctic Circle, Alaska State Troopers were faced with an extremely challenging manhunt for a suspected rapist who was snowmachining over frozen tundra and through icy forests in the dark to stay one step ahead of the law.

The 26-year-old suspect used his knowledge of the area and personal connections in the different villages to keep out of reach of troopers in pursuit. Plus, he had a lot of land to play with. He traveled between three villages, using the snowmachine trails that crisscross the landscape and the occasional cabins that lined the trail. He was also reportedly walking into houses and demanding to be fed. Villagers feared the dangerous man armed with an AR-15 slung across his back, and were not in a position to argue.

At the time the original report of a rape came in from Kiana on Dec. 7, there were only three out of the normal number of five troopers working out of the Kotzebue Post. This post is located in a hub town located 33 miles north of the Arctic Circle. However, the area of coverage doesn't include Kotzebue, but rather the 10 other villages that dot an area the size of Indiana. Not long after troopers landed in Kiana, a small village 57 air miles east of Kotzebue, the suspect was reported to be in Noorvik, intoxicated and pointing the gun at people. When troopers moved on to Noorvik, the suspect was already causing problems in Selawik. By the time troopers got to Selawik, the suspect was nowhere to be found. Meanwhile, other unrelated crimes were cropping up for the troopers on the chase, slowing them down. Just in the first two days of the manhunt, troopers arrested four other suspects in unrelated cases and investigated another felony assault case.

Because of the seriousness of the situation – an armed, dangerous man terrorizing villages and other crimes in need of attention – troopers launched a manhunt like no other seen in that corner of Alaska, bringing in federal agents and troopers from around the state to the frigid Northwest Arctic.

Within the first couple of days, the lead trooper on the case, Luis Nieves, realized he didn't have enough troopers to deal with the armed suspect.

"He already threatened to shoot a Village Police Officer and said he didn't want to be taken alive," Nieves said.

Nieves then called an old colleague at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) that he knew from his days with the Alaska Bureau of Investigation in Palmer. Through the federal Project Safe Neighborhoods program, two ATF agents joined the manhunt on Dec. 9. It was the first trip to the Bush for either federal agent. They were soon in hot pursuit of the suspect, geared up not only to battle the bitter elements, but to deal with a dangerous man. They traveled between villages by snowmachine or riding in a sled pulled behind the sno-go – a new experience for the pair.

However, this is certainly not new for Alaska State Troopers, who utilize a number of alternative modes of transportation to get the job done. Still, the manhunt continued as the suspect stayed one step ahead of the troopers and federal agents in pursuit.

Meanwhile, for the first time in modern history, the Northern Special Emergency Reaction Team (SERT) from Fairbanks responded en masse to the Kotzebue region to provide serious support to the mission. SERT is a rapid response unit designed to handle situations involving a higher-than-normal degree of danger to the public or responding officers, and to provide a safe, tactical response to neutralize the threat. Also responding with SERT were several other troopers and investigators, some to work at the Kotzebue Post and handle calls unrelated to this case. Snowmachines and other supplies were airlifted into Selawik from Nome. The two largest state-owned airplanes – the King Air and Caravan – were used to transport people and supplies into and around the area. The Kotzebue Police Department and members of the Kotzebue Search and Rescue squad provided assistance by transporting other snowmachines into the village of Noorvik. Local schools opened up to house and feed the responding officers. Village residents helped with transportation, logistics and keeping the snowmachines maintained. In an effort to gain public support, a cash reward was offered through one of the local Native organizations. It was announced over the radio and through other media in hopes of garnering information leading to the capture of the suspect.

Once all units were in place, the first operational planning meeting took place in Selawik. It was decided that the teams would concentrate on searching Selawik and then branch out to the surrounding villages. They knew he had already been traveling between three villages, but there was fear he would continue on to Shugnak or even Kotzebue where he had friends and relatives. In between were hunting and fishing camps and cabins that weren't listed on any map.

Just as the team began to deploy from Selawik, the suspect peacefully surrendered to troopers in Noorvik, putting an end to the manhunt four days after it began.

The overwhelming and unprecedented police conclusion of this operation. Troopers and ATF ready to confront a well-armed suspect. Meanwhile, than the suspect wanted to challenge or continue to enhance the professionalism and image of the law Alaska State Troopers' motto of providing public safety



presence played a critical role in the successful

agents were on the ground at the earliest stages and SERT and other units in the villages proved to be more hide from. This type of teamwork further served to enforcement agencies in Alaska. It also highlights the through public service.

VILLAGE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER



Nine Village Public Safety Officers and a Village Police Officer graduated from the academy in Sitka in March of 2009. Pictured are, from left to right, VPSO David Slwooko, VPSO Clifford Moses, VPSO Winfred Olanna Jr., VPSO Harley Huntington, VPSO Gerald Otto, Department of Public Safety Commissioner Joseph Masters, VPSO Dorothy Alexie, VPSO Chad Hand, VPSO David Eneyuk, VPSO Glenn Farmer and St. Mary's Village Police Officer Curtis Francis.

The Village Public Safety Officer 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.

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. VPSOs are generally the first to respond to many calls for help from community members, hence their motto **"FIRST RESPONDERS – LAST FRONTIER"**

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.

Since the program's inception, the number of communities served by VPSOs has fluctuated over the years from the original 124 funded positions. At the end of 2009, there were 72 funded positions, most of which were filled in 2009.



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 involved in the program and the Alaska State Troopers. Funding for the VPSO



Native and public safety community members watch regional traditional chief Ben Neeley cut a ribbon opening the renovated Ben Neeley Public Safety Building in Gulkana Village. Pictured from left to right are Lorraine Jackson of Gulkana, Glennallen Post supervisor Sgt. Duane Stone, Copper Basin Native Association CEO Paulette Schuerch, Neeley, Copper Center VPSO Chad Hand, Gulkana VPSO Sgt. Dan Decker and VPSO Coordinator Sgt. Leonard Wallner.

Program is provided by the state legislature and managed by the Alaska State Troopers. The funds are awarded to participating regional Native nonprofit corporations through grant requests. The primary purpose of regional contracting is to place the local administration of the Program into the hands of an organization more aware of the specific needs of the areas to be served and to deal with a workable number of contracts while retaining a certain amount of regional flexibility. Each contractor, with the concurrence of the Division of Alaska State Troopers, selects which communities will participate.

Once the community has been selected, the local community, with the assistance of AST, is responsible for the selection and the daily activities of the VPSO. The contractor arranges for all salary payments based on the submission of time sheets from the communities. Group insurance plans, retirement plans, and maintenance of full financial accountability of contracted funds are also the responsibility of the contractor.

These contractors and their areas are:

- ✳ Central Council for Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska (CCTHITA) in Southeast Alaska
- ✳ Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) for the Interior
- ✳ Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) for the Aleutian Chain
- ✳ Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) for the Bethel region
- ✳ Bristol Bay Native Association (BBNA) for the Bristol Bay region
- ✳ Copper River Native Association (CRNA) for the Cooper River Basin near Glennallen
- ✳ Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA) for

the Kodiak area

- ✳ Kawerak, Inc. for the Bering Straits region
- ✳ Maniilaq Inc. for the Northwest Arctic region
- ✳ Chugachmiut Inc. in the Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet areas

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

C Detachment is responsible for managing the VPSO program. Of the 72 positions statewide, 48 of these VPSO 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.

TRAINING

In 2009, 19 recruits began 10 weeks of intensive VPSO training at the Public Safety Academy in Sitka, with 11 of them ultimately graduating.

Collectively, VPSOs also participated in other training opportunities, to include:



Jacob Tobeluk Jr., a Village Public Safety Officer in Nunapitchuk, patrols the waters surrounding the village in a skiff.



- ✳ Five days of AMBER Alert in Anchorage hosted by the U.S. Department of Justice
- ✳ Two days of Calibre Press Street Survival training in Soldotna
- ✳ Nine days of annual training in Dutch Harbor, hosted by APIA and attended by TCC VPSOs
- ✳ Five days of annual training in Bethel, hosted by the AVCP
- ✳ Five days of annual training at Camp Carroll, hosted by the BBNA and also attended by CCTHITA, CRNA, Kawerak, KANA and Maniilaq VPSOs.

Select VPSOs participated in additional training opportunities, to include:

- ✳ Two separate two week Basic Village Police Officer academies in King Salmon
- ✳ Two weeks of Drug Abuse Resistance Education at Fort Richardson
- ✳ Five days of community fire prevention training in Wasilla
- ✳ Nine-day Rural Firefighter course in Palmer
- ✳ Fire Chiefs Conference in Anchorage
- ✳ APIA VPSOs attended two separate domestic violence conferences, one in San Diego and the other in Anchorage
- ✳ CCTHITA VPSOs attended one day of clandestine drug lab awareness training in Juneau
- ✳ KANA VPSOs attended two days of aviation land and water survival training in Anchorage
- ✳ BBNA VPSOs completed cardiopulmonary resuscitation and emergency trauma technician training

Particularly noteworthy was TCC VPSO Cpl. Tim Beaucage of Eagle attended a Defensive Tactics (DT) Instructor course conducted at the Public Safety Academy, becoming the only DT instructor in the VPSO

Program. KANA VPSO Cpl. Glen Farmer of Ouzinkie completed a Taser Instructor course, joining AVCP VPSO Sgt. James Hoelscher of Hooper Bay as the only two Taser instructors.

Other VPSOs participated in recruitment opportunities at both the Alaska State Fair in Palmer and the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention in Anchorage.

In April, AVCP further hosted an annual VPSO banquet in Bethel. That same month, AST Deputy Director Major John Glick and VPSO Program personnel traveled to Gulkana to participate in the grand opening of the Traditional Chief Ben Neeley Health and Public Safety Building by CRNA. In September, VPSO Program personnel traveled to Kotzebue to participate in a two-day Public Safety Strategy Planning seminar, beginning the transfer of regional VPSO authority from Maniilaq to the Northwest Arctic Borough. This transfer is tentatively scheduled for completion in 2010.

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights for 2009 incorporated the presentation of several awards:

- ✳ Memorandum of Appreciation to Kawerak VPSO Sgt. John Peratrovich of Savoonga from Bethel Trooper Mike Roberts for exceptional performance as a TAC officer during VPSO Academy No. 18.
- ✳ Memorandum of Appreciation to CCTHITA VPSO Cpl. Charles Hartzell of Angoon from Juneau AST Sgt. Matt Dobson regarding his handling of a suicidal subject.
- ✳ Memorandum of Appreciation to BBNA VPSO Cpl. Guy Ashby of Chignik Bay from King Salmon Trooper Marc Hendrickson for the service of a warrant arrest.



Gov. Sean Parnell drops in during a regional training session for Village Public Safety Officers in the Bethel region.



★ Memorandum of Appreciation to AVCP VPSO Cpl. George Bright of Goodnews Bay from Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement Investigator Nathan Sheets of Bethel regarding an interdiction.

★ Letter of Appreciation to AVCP VPSO Cpl. Wassillie Gilila of Tuntutuliak from Bethel Trooper Ron Monigold in relations to a search and rescue.

★ Letter of Commendation to BBNA VPSO Sgt. Dan Decker of Ekwok and BBNA VPSO Sgt. Gusty Tunguing Jr. of Koliganek presented by Major Glick and C Detachment Commander Capt. Steve Arlow for their roles in responding to a call for service in New Stuyahok dealing with a felony assault.

★ Sgt. Gusty Tunguing Jr. had the honor of being chosen as the sergeant-at-arms for the national Drug Abuse Resistance Education conference held in Orlando, Fla. in July.

SUCSESSES

Recruitment video – One major accomplishment in 2009 was the completion of a VPSO recruitment video that featured many of the VPSOs around the state. This video was played at the Alaska Federation of Natives Conference in the fall.

Vacancies – After struggling with vacancies in previous years, the Village Public Safety Officer Program had all but three of the 72 authorized positions staffed at the end of 2009. The only vacancies were in the Northwest Arctic Region where the contractor, Maniilaq, choose to hire people from the area instead of filling positions with people from elsewhere in Alaska or the Lower 48. The high turnover rate is becoming a thing of the past due to better pay and benefits offered by the nonprofit organizations making the job more appealing in villages. In 2009, 27 VPSOs were hired and 16 were either resigned or were terminated.

CHALLENGES

Graduation rate – Of the 19 VPSO recruits that attended the Public Safety Academy in Sitka in 2009, only 11 graduated. One recruit was unable to continue the training due to medical reasons, one was expelled and the remaining six did not finish due to personal issues. In 2008, only five of the 11 that started graduated the academy. DPS is implementing modified medial screening practices, hoping to improve the academy success rate in the following years.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

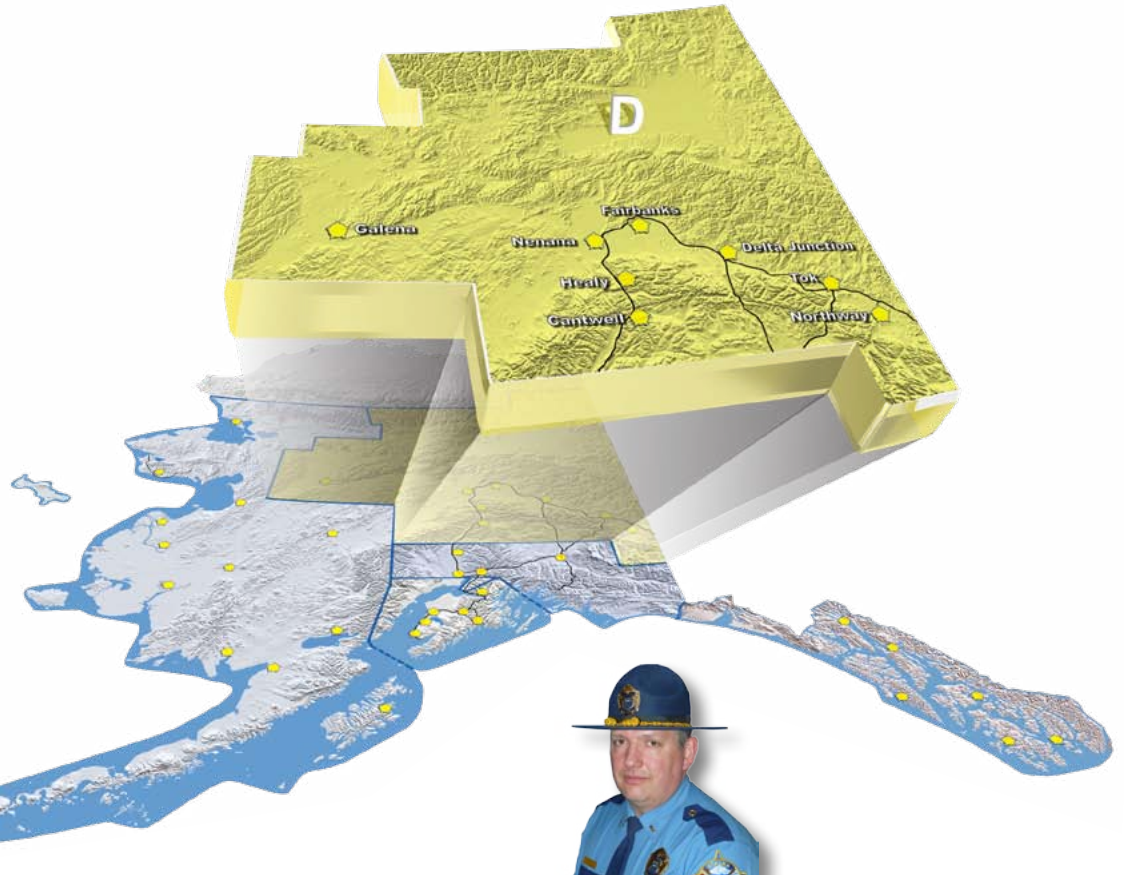
D Detachment



Detachment Commander
Capt. Burke Barrick



Deputy Commander
Lt. Lonny Piscoya



Deputy Commander
Lt. Ron Wall

DETACHMENT COMMAND

Commander – Captain
Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Patrol)
Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Rural)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Assistant
1 Administrative Clerk

D Detachment is the largest personnel-wise of the five trooper detachments within the division with 76 total employees divided into 29 non-commissioned civilians and 47 commissioned state troopers. The detachment covers most of Interior Alaska and stretches from the Alaska-Canada 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 in the south. Over 107,586 people, or roughly one in every six Alaskans, live, work, travel or recreate daily within the boundaries of D Detachment. There are eight different trooper posts in the detachment located in Fairbanks, Galena, Nenana, Healy, Cantwell, Delta Junction, Tok and Northway.

D Detachment encompasses approximately 170,575 square miles or almost one-third of the entire state – an area slightly larger than the entire state of California. D Detachment includes the Fairbanks North Star Borough and the City of Fairbanks, and it is the hub for the economic, medical and governmental services of dozens of villages and thousands of Alaska natives.

D Detachment plays a key role in the economic vitality and national security of the United States with four military installations, hundreds of miles of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline and its pump stations, Fort Knox goldmine, Pogo goldmine, a refinery complex and critical highway and railroad bridges all located within its boundaries. The only road access to Prudhoe Bay, which provides a sizeable percentage of the domestic oil produced by the country, also runs through the detachment.

Tourists, hunters, fishermen and outdoor enthusiasts have discovered Interior Alaska as more



In 2009, D Detachment members spent a significant number of hours on:

- Death Investigation cases – Responded to and or investigated 153 non-homicide deaths including natural, accidental, and suicide deaths.
- Search and Rescues – Managed, coordinated, and in most cases paid expenses for 28 separate search and rescue operations. Additionally, troopers received 76 reports of overdue hunters, boaters, snowmachiners, pilots, hikers, medical assists and others that did not necessitate a full-scale search and rescue operation.
- Motor vehicle crashes – Received reports of and/or investigated 1,237 motor vehicle crashes, including four fatal motor vehicle crashes resulting in four people killed. These include crashes that involved two separate single motor vehicle collisions and two involving ATVs.

people fly and drive to the heart of Alaska when they visit the state. With an increase in visitors to the region comes increased pressure on the detachment troopers to provide law enforcement services for ever increasing numbers of year-round residents and seasonal visitors.

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 conducted; and total property crimes reported including burglaries, thefts and vehicle thefts.

Interior Alaska is an important and growing part of the state and D Detachment has an important role to play in providing safe communities for the people of the region. However, Alaska State Troopers' ability to respond to the needs of the communities within the detachment is challenged by AST's efforts to keep up with the growth of the population, by the remoteness of the region troopers patrol, the growing expectations of the public troopers serve and by the growing complexity of law enforcement.

ROADWAYS AND HIGHWAYS IN D DETACHMENT

The 4,730 miles of state maintained highway miles, roadways and public roads within D Detachment are more than any other trooper detachment. Approximately one-third of the roadway miles in Alaska are within D Detachment boundaries. Most of these highways are relatively low volume and subject to seasonal travel, with the exception of those highways around Fairbanks.

POPULATION SERVED BY D DETACHMENT

There are 107,586 people estimated to be living within D Detachment. By way of comparison, there were 96,378 persons living in the area in 2000. There are 70 established communities in Interior Alaska both on and off the highway system and D Detachment troopers are the primary public safety provider for 65 of them. An estimated 68,835 people live in areas where AST is the primary source for public safety.

DETACHMENT POSTS

Fairbanks Patrol

4 Sergeants

18 Troopers

2 Administrative Clerks (Evidence)

3 Building Maintenance Personnel

The Fairbanks Post, the largest of the D Detachment posts, has a total of 29 commissioned troopers and 25 civilian personnel. The Fairbanks Post serves as the operational center for the detachment. The post houses records, communications, evidence, administration and the offices for Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Alaska State Troopers, Fire & Life Safety, Alaska Bureau of Investigations, Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and the Department of Motor Vehicles. The post is a modern structure located on the south side of Fairbanks on Peger Road.

There are a number of city, state and federal agencies within the Fairbanks Post boundaries that have overlapping jurisdiction with AST. Fairbanks patrol troopers regularly work with the Fairbanks Police Department; North Pole Police Department; University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Department;



Fairbanks-based trooper Sgt. Brian Wassmann waits for dispatch to relay information during a traffic stop.



Fairbanks International Airport Police and Fire Department; military police units on Fort Wainwright and Eielson Air Force Base; Alaska Railroad Authorities; and the FBI, U.S. Marshals, DEA and other federal law enforcement agencies. Rural unit troopers work with and support the Fort Yukon and Galena police departments.

Fairbanks and North Pole provide their own law enforcement services to the people within the core areas of their jurisdictions. Fort Yukon and Galena are the only outlying communities within D Detachment boundaries with their own police departments, however, Alaska State Troopers are called upon for assistance in emergencies in these communities. Although an estimated 38,751 people who live within D Detachment jurisdictional boundaries rely on a municipal agency for primary law enforcement, most of the people in the region drive through, work, recreate, hunt and own property in or transit through D Detachment on a weekly, if not daily basis. It should also be noted that the 107,586 population number does not take into account the large transient population of people who seasonally work, hunt, fish or visit Interior Alaska and D Detachment.

Fairbanks is the urban hub of the area, providing a base of operations for air and road travel. Travel to many areas in the detachment can take from several hours to days due to weather and logistics.

Personnel within the Fairbanks Post are assigned to various units depending upon area of responsibility. Specialized units include patrol and roving rural. In 2009, the Judicial Services Unit that operates out of the Rabinowitz Courthouse in downtown Fairbanks became a part of the Alaska Bureau of Judicial Services. The two troopers, nine Court Services Officers and two non-commissioned office assistants now fall under this bureau instead of D Detachment.

In 2008, the Fairbanks DUI Team was added to the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol when the bureau formed in December. ABHP troopers operating in D Detachment are sometimes sent to other areas of the state to patrol special events, taking these troopers out of the Fairbanks area and putting them on roads elsewhere. Likewise, ABHP troopers from elsewhere in the state travel to D Detachment to help with traffic enforcement during special occasions, such as Arctic Man near Paxson. Troopers on the ABHP's Northern Team focus on highway patrol and conduct fatal or serious-injury crashes

D Detachment is the base for the 14-person Northern Special Emergency Reaction Team, a unit capable of responding to situations involving a higher-than-normal degree of danger to the public or responding officers to provide safe, tactical response and resolution. This unit is comprised of Alaska State Troopers and officers from the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Police Department and Fairbanks International Airport Police and Fire. Members shoulder SERT responsibilities on top of their normal policing duties.

Fairbanks Communications Center

1 Communications Center Manager

15 Dispatchers

2 Administrative Clerks

The Fairbanks Communications Center is one of two, and the largest, all-AST dispatch centers that operate on a 24-hour basis. Here, dispatchers consistently assist troopers and dispatchers from other detachments with Alaska Public Safety Information Network and Department of Public Safety established procedures. This center normally receives calls from telephone operators both within Alaska and in the Lower 48 when someone is reporting an incident or has an emergency and routed to the correct AST post or police department jurisdiction. It is also the AMBER Alert center for the



Trooper Kevin Yancey, a pilot and member of the Rural Service Unit, tries to get radio reception while he and fellow pilot Dave Frey wait with the Caravan to pick up a prisoner at the airstrip in Manley.



state and the activation point for all AMBER Alerts statewide. The Fairbanks center also dispatches for Alaska Wildlife Troopers in Nome, Kotzebue, Aniak, Bethel, McGrath and St. Mary's. In addition, the communications center provides after hours dispatching for Tok and Delta Junction Posts and the Department of Environmental Conservation Oil Spill Hotline, and handles after hours deletions for all DPS warrants statewide. The center handles requests from troopers across the state asking for authorization numbers as required by the Transportation Security Administration when flying while armed. The Fairbanks center is the back-up dispatch for the State Emergency Coordination Center that directs and controls disaster emergency response operations across Alaska.

Rural Service Unit

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers

This rural unit serves villages both on and off the road system. This four-person unit's jurisdiction goes as far west as Kaltag and north to Arctic Village, 310 and 241 air miles from detachment headquarters in Fairbanks where the unit is based. Because unit troopers have to travel a great distance to respond to a call, getting to the location is time consuming. In addition, adverse weather conditions can at times hamper a trooper's response time. They provide public safety for 23 villages scattered throughout a sparse area. They are: Alatna, Allakaket, Arctic Village, Beaver, Bettles, Birch Creek, Central, Chalkyitsik, Chatanika, Chandalar, Circle, Coldfoot, Evansville, Eureka, Hughes, Fort Yukon, Livengood, Manley Hot Springs, Minto, Rampart, Stevens Village, Venetie and Wiseman. To do this, the members heavily rely on air travel to respond to the different calls. Some members of the unit are certified to fly a state aircraft. Otherwise, troopers rely on a non-commissioned state pilot or chartering a flight with a local aircraft service to fly to the villages off the road system. In 2009, this unit had three DPS pilots to fly the Caravan and Saratoga aircraft that operate out of Fairbanks. Also available for the unit's use are boats, four-wheelers and

snowmachines normally assigned to Alaska Wildlife Troopers and AST in the detachment. The unit sergeant also supervises the two troopers at the Galena Post.

Galena Post

2 Troopers

The Galena Post is located on the Yukon River and is almost due west of Fairbanks. Galena has a population of approximately 700 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. As the site of a prior Air Force installation, Galena has a runway nearly 7,000 feet long. The AST post is located on the installation. The population around Galena is approximately 564. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service and Federal Aviation Administration maintain year-round offices in Galena as do the state Department of Fish and Game, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities and the Alaska Wildlife Troopers. Galena is serviced by daily commercial air service with flights into Galena and surrounding villages – Huslia, Kaltag, Koyukuk, Nulato and Ruby. AST is primarily responsible for providing law enforcement services for these five villages in the Galena area. The two troopers at this post also assist the Galena Police Department in emergencies – such as a crime in progress or a domestic violence. Only three of the 14 villages in the Yukon River and Galena areas with authorized VPSO positions were filled in 2009. AST has a riverboat and two snowmachines assigned to the post for winter and summer travel.

Activity is generally seasonal, with the summer months busier than the winter. Hunting periods during the fall mark a dramatic increase in search and rescue requests and hunting related activity.



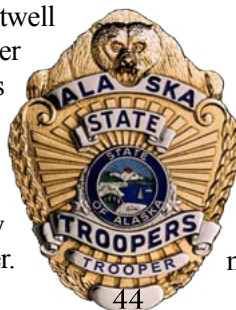
Trooper John Ryan conducts field sobriety tests to determine if a driver is impaired by drugs or alcohol.



Cantwell Post

1 Sergeant
1 Trooper
1 Administrative Clerk

Cantwell has a static population base of approximately 225 persons. The sergeant at the Cantwell Post supervises the three Parks Highway posts at Healy, Cantwell and Nenana. The Parks Highway posts are responsible for approximately 154 miles of the Parks Highway from milepost 328 to milepost 147, and 56 miles of the 134 mile Denali Highway. The Parks Highway is a major artery for vehicle traffic with heavy seasonal summer traffic. Tourist activity in the area is most prevalent in summer, with many of the lodges closing in late fall. 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, with the majority of Denali Park and hotels within the Cantwell area. It is estimated that 500,000 tourists visit Denali Park during a typical summer. The Cantwell troopers are responsible for patrolling the Parks Highway from milepost 147 to 231, and 56 miles of the 134-mile Denali Highway. This mostly-gravel road runs east of the intersection of the Denali and Parks Highway in Cantwell and terminates at Paxson on the Richardson Highway. The entrance for Denali National Park is located near the end of Cantwell patrol area at mile 239 of the Parks Highway and near Healy and Denali Village. The Parks Highway posts also serve Kantishna, a community located on private property surrounded by the Denali National Park at the end of the Denali Park Road. Traffic on this road is limited almost exclusively to Park vehicles and is closed to tourist vehicles. The post also serves McKinley Park, a year-round community along the Parks Highway between Healy and Cantwell. Cantwell experiences population influxes during the winter months as well due to snowmachine enthusiasts and caribou hunting. Search and rescue activity represents a sizeable portion of post activity. Vehicle travel on the Denali Highway is seasonal because it is not maintained in the winter months. It is heavily traveled by snowmachines and dog teams in the winter.



Healy Post

1 Trooper

Healy, located at milepost 248 of the Parks Highway, has a population of approximately 1,000 residents. There is no city police service. 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 milepost 231 to 276, however, troopers from the three Parks Highway posts sometimes overlap efforts or even take calls in the other posts' area of responsibility when needed. Dispatch duties are centralized in Fairbanks.

Nenana Post

1 Trooper

Nenana serves as the major population base of the region with a population of approximately 500 people who live within the Nenana city limits. The city has no police department. An additional 500 to 1,000 residents live in the area and in the nearby communities of Clear Air Force Station at milepost 283 of the Parks Highway and in the town of Anderson, which is accessed off the Clear Highway. The Nenana trooper is responsible for patrolling the Parks Highway from milepost 276 to 328. The Alaska Court System maintains an office that also serves other Parks Highway communities, some communities on the Dalton Highway north of Fairbanks and some remote Yukon River villages. There is a magistrate posted in Nenana.

Delta Junction Post

1 Sergeant
4 Troopers
1 Dispatcher

The Delta Junction 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 approximately

Swing-shift supervisor Sgt. Rick Roberts talks to a man while investigating a disturbance.



60 miles of the Alaska Highway from mile 1422 to 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 also numerous agriculturally-based gravel roads in the area. Fort Greeley is located near Delta Junction and serves as a cold weather survival school and training location for the military in the Interior. Fort Greeley is also home to the National Ballistic Defense (NBD) system and employs a large contingent of military and civilian contractors associated with the NBD system. While these military facilities have their own military and civilian police departments, the town of Delta Junction does not. Delta Junction and its estimated 1,128 residents rely on troopers for their public safety. Delta Junction troopers also service the communities of Big Delta, Deltana and Dry Creek that collectively have 2,442 residents for a total of 7,243 living in the area served by Delta Junction Troopers. Delta Junction serves as a crossroads for traffic between Interior Alaska, the Lower 48 and Anchorage via the Alaska and Richardson highways. The Alaska Highway, the only road that connects Alaska to the Lower 48, officially ends in Delta Junction, 1,422 miles after it begins in Dawson Creek, British Columbia and 200 miles after the U.S.-Canadian border. Seasonal traffic reaches its peak during the summer months. Seasonal recreational activities represent additional traffic pressure. Annually, the Arctic Man winter snowmachine event is held at Summit Lake near the southern border of the Delta Junction area. Two Alyeska Pipeline pump stations are located within the area.

Tok/Northway Posts

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers in Tok
1 Trooper in Northway
2 Dispatchers

The Tok and Northway Posts of D Detachment are located near the international border in eastern Alaska and on the Alaska Highway. AST personnel are responsible for three highways within the area. The area of responsibility extends from mile 1221 Alaska Highway to mile 1380; mile 124 Tok Cut-off

to mile 62. The area also includes the mostly gravel Taylor Highway from Tetlin Junction at mile 1302 Alaska Highway to Eagle and where the road breaks off and heads to Canada and the Poker Creek border crossing. This route is 175 miles of pavement and gravel road and is plagued with little or no way to communicate with the post. It is sparsely populated, but sees a fair amount of traffic during the summer, especially by large recreational vehicles and tour buses that travel this narrow and windy road from tourist destinations such as the historic gold rush towns of Eagle and Dawson City, Yukon. Mining operations still exist in and around the communities of Chicken and Eagle. The trooper in Northway falls under the supervision of the Tok sergeant. There are currently two dispatchers who work in Tok with periods of time covered by Fairbanks AST when no Tok dispatcher is on duty. There is one Village Public Safety Officer position authorized for the region in Tetlin, however, the position was vacant in 2009. Population within the area by these two posts is approximately 2,551, with a large influx of persons traveling through the area during the late spring and fall. Population estimates include Tok, Tetlin, Mentasta, Tanacross, Dot Lake, Northway, Beaver Creek, Eagle, Chicken and Healy Lake. The population center for the region is Tok with a static population estimated at 1,429. A U.S. Coast Guard Long Range Aide to Navigation, or LORAN, site is located near mile 1308 of the Alaska Highway, which is manned by seven military personnel. An inactive U.S. Army fuel tank farm is located near mile 1320 of the Alaska Highway. Travel to most locations within the post is by marked patrol vehicle, except the Taylor Highway in winter, which is unmaintained. Tok/Northway troopers are equipped with patrol sedans, four-wheel drive SUVs, and snowmachines. Air travel is supplemented through support from Alaska Wildlife Troopers and local air carriers.



SUCCESSES

DUI enforcement – D Detachment troopers and other law enforcement agencies in Interior Alaska have consistently accounted for a total of roughly 1,000 DUI arrests over each of the past several years. Troopers and local police are effectively locating,

In 2009, D Detachment received, responded to, and investigated the following crimes:

- 21,239 calls for service, 20 percent of the reported activity for the division's 101,429 total calls for service
- 282 burglary cases reported and 243 total burglary offenses
- 436 harassment cases reported
- 9 robbery cases, resulting in 7 violations
- *477 harassment cases, resulting in 475 charges
- 658 theft cases resulting in 646 theft charges
- 591 vandalism cases, resulting in 587 violations
- *497 driving under the influence, or DUI offenses
- *341 trespass cases, resulting in 336 trespass violations
- *94 leaving the scene of a vehicle collision cases, resulting in 93 violations
- 2,638 Cases referred to the Department of Law for screening and prosecution
- *highest number among AST Detachments

arresting, prosecuting and convicting impaired drivers. In 2009, D Detachment patrol troopers made 415 DUI arrests or about 22 percent of all arrests recorded by Alaska State Troopers.

Response to crimes of domestic assault – D Detachment troopers investigated 666 domestic violence related offenses in 2009, the most of any detachment within the Alaska State Troopers. Every trooper receives training in how to properly investigate and properly document crimes of domestic violence. Investigating crimes against people takes priority over all other types of calls for service. Every shift and post within the detachment is 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.

CHALLENGES

Lack of a turbine-engine helicopter – Although D Detachment is one of the largest detachments in terms of geography, population and workload, and even though D Detachment receives a high volume of search and rescue requests every year, there is no helicopter based in Fairbanks capable of flying at high altitude, in cold temperatures or carrying a useful payload. With the loss of the Fort Wainwright's Military Assistance to Transportation (MAST) agreement and with little or no civilian or private options for back country rescue or medical evacuation, the Alaska State Troopers in Fairbanks are increasingly being asked to provide assistance to lost hunters, boaters and hikers and to people experiencing medical emergencies. The

bulk of medical evacuation requests are handled by the 210th Rescue Squadron of the Alaska Air National Guard while AST handles most of the search and rescue calls. However, because the 210th is based out of Anchorage, they are not always available to respond to Fairbanks and increasingly more calls are being handled by the Alaska State Troopers. A piston-engine Robinson R-44 helicopter is assigned to the Alaska Wildlife Troopers based in Fairbanks, but it was largely unavailable in 2009 due to maintenance and other mission requirements. In addition, the R-44 is inadequate for flying at high altitude, during cold weather and it is incapable of hauling more than two or three passengers at a time. The R-44 is too small to accommodate a litter and a patient, is underpowered for search and rescue or medical evacuation missions, making it inadequate for the needs of the Alaska State Troopers.

Property crime prevention and investigation —

The high call demand for D Detachment troopers makes it difficult to devote sufficient resources to properly investigate theft, burglary and vehicle theft cases. Property crimes are solvable crimes if investigating troopers have time to devote to the case. However, the trooper investigating a burglary is also the same trooper responding to vehicle crashes, domestic violence calls, impaired driver reports, and other in-progress crimes that are of a higher priority. There is no dedicated property crimes unit in D Detachment and the lack of personnel to devote to investigating property crimes bears directly on our ability to properly investigate the cases, identify and prosecute suspects and recover stolen property. With prices rising for gasoline, home heating oil, and with the



Emergency responders, including Alaska State Troopers, wait for Helo-1 to shut down before loading an injured snowmachiner for transport from Arctic Man to Anchorage.



remote nature of Interior Alaska, burglary and theft are significant problems. The inability to resolve these crimes negatively impacts the public perception of the Alaska State Troopers. A dedicated burglary suppression unit or property crimes unit staffed by two or three troopers based out of the Fairbanks Post would be the first step in addressing this problem. A burglary suppression unit would monitor burglary trends, conduct case follow up, track down stolen property, interface with other police agencies and engage in some of the proactive anti-burglary techniques that have been successful in past years.

Rural highway traffic enforcement – Detachment troopers are responsible for patrolling all of the state highways and roadways within the detachment. D Detachment has more highway miles than any other detachment within the state and approximately 1,550 of those highway miles can be considered rural highways. Only the four-trooper Rural Services Unit based out of Fairbanks is tasked with patrolling the rural roads and highways north of Fairbanks. These roads include the Elliott, Steese and Dalton highways. The same Rural Unit is also responsible for law enforcement in the villages and remote communities not directly served by any of the other posts and not accessible by roads. Patrolling rural highways is often a second or third priority for the unit. Consequently, the overall shortage of personnel in the unit makes it difficult to daily, or even routinely, patrol these remote roads. These roads are extensively used year-round by commercial vehicles hauling large loads and increasingly for tourism and personal travel during the summer months. While the overall vehicle traffic is increasing, so are the calls for law enforcement services. The Rural Unit needs to be augmented by two or three more personnel or a new trooper post needs to be established along the Dalton Highway to provide a law enforcement presence along that vital highway.

ANNUAL OR 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 and Sno-Go Classic. Arctic Man has grown from a gathering of a small handful of friends in 1985 to an event that now draws 10,000 to 15,000 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 rescue, arrange medical evacuations, take citizen complaints and conduct DUI patrols in the surrounding areas. To deal with the week-long boom town, troopers must set up what is equivalent to a mini-criminal justice system including a portable jail and prosecutor.

Field Training Officer program – D, B, and E detachments are the three main training detachments. Every year two cycles of recruits graduate from the Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka. Recruits complete a 18-week training course before moving on to the various detachments for field training. Each recruit undergoes a 15-week field training program once they reach the detachment. Each recruit requires three training officers and one field training supervisor to complete their training program. In 2009, D Detachment Field Training Officers trained nine recruits, of which seven successfully completed the training. Field training is time consuming, labor intensive and expensive. However, a well-run field-training program is absolutely vital to the long-term health of the organization and ensures that the State of Alaska will always have well-trained and competent troopers to protect the public.



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 2009:

- Responsible for approximately 3,876 square miles – an area larger than the state of Delaware
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,564 year-round members of the public
- Arrested 11 DUI drivers
- Issued 133 traffic citations
- Received, or been assigned, 28 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 482 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 59 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 3 non-homicide death cases and 19 domestic violence offenses



The Land of Extremes

Interior Alaska is a land of extremes. No one knows this better than the Alaska State Troopers who work within the boundaries of D Detachment.

The detachment covers an area that stretches west from the Canadian border and north to the boundary of the North Slope – an area larger than the third largest state in the nation, California, by almost 15,000 square miles. Temperatures can span 100 degrees in a short amount of time as it did in January 2009. That month, temperatures went from a frigid 47 below zero in Fairbanks on Jan. 8 to 52 degrees above zero eight days later. The daylight difference over the year can go from only three hours and 42 minutes on winter solstice to 21 hours and 49 minutes of daylight six months later on summer solstice. This almost constant daylight is why it's called the Land of the Midnight Sun.

Regardless of either the continuous daylight or 40 degrees below zero in the winter, D Detachment come with enforcing the law in the Interior, but providing public safety to people living in this

With its approximately 170,575 square miles Detachment has a lot of remote wilderness to cover C Detachment is more remote with all of its posts



darkness, 90-degrees above in the summer or more than troopers not only have the normal challenges that overcoming the environmental obstacles while sometimes harsh environment. of area, but only 4,730 miles of public roads, D by the eight posts within detachment borders. Only located off the normal road system. However, unlike

D Detachment troopers had the chance use the Black Rapids Cold Weather Testing facility south of Delta Junction to conduct winter driving training in 2009.



C Detachment, all D Detachment's posts but one, Galena, are on the road system, leaving the detachment's Rural Service Unit to respond from headquarters in Fairbanks to calls in remote villages that dot the northwest portion of the detachment. This four-person unit's jurisdiction goes as far west as Kaltag and north to Arctic Village, 310 and 241 air miles from Fairbanks where the unit is based. Of the approximately 65 communities that D Detachments troopers are directly tasked with covering, 25 fall directly under this unit's responsibility to include five Yukon River villages served by two troopers working out of the Galena Post.

Because of the remoteness, responding to one call could consume a trooper's entire duty day. On other days, weather could keep troopers grounded and from responding to a call. For Sgt. Jason Pugh, who supervised the Rural Unit in 2009, knowing a situation could take a turn for the worst in the time it takes to respond is the toughest part about the job.

"You're chomping at the bit to get out there and help the person," Pugh said. "And hoping that a domestic violence situation doesn't take a horribly bad turn in the hours or days it takes to get out there."

But logistic challenges are familiar to Alaska State Troopers across the state. For the Interior, however, the world takes on a whole different perspective when the mercury dips alarmingly low. During a cold snap, D Detachment troopers will sometimes fill a humanitarian role and patrol the less traveled roads making sure there are no stranded motorists or pedestrians left out in the cold.

Joshua Rallo, a trooper in Tok, had to help a truck driver when his semi-truck froze up shortly after he crossed the Canadian border into Alaska. Diesel engines are normally equipped with a tarp underneath the engine to keep it warm because they don't deal well in the extreme cold. This particular trucker from the Lower 48 didn't know what to expect and not only didn't equip his truck with this padded tarp, but didn't equip himself with the proper gear to deal with the frigid temperatures when his truck engine froze up. Dressed in only windbreaker jacket, a T-shirt and sneakers, by the time Rallo reached him, the trucker was showing signs of hypothermia. Rallo got him in the patrol car, cranked the heat and drove him back to Tok, located about 92 miles north of the Canadian border.

To keep himself warm Rallo gears up in the standard trooper attire for extreme cold weather called "fat boy" suits – thick snow parkas and pants and the white Bunny boots to keep warm in the extreme cold. The equipment is not easy to run in, but when temperatures dip as low as 60 degrees below zero or worse in Tok as they often do during the winter, there aren't many people to run after because most people stay indoors where it's warm. When it's that cold, troopers in this area often spend their 10-hour shifts without seeing anyone else on the road but other troopers.

Meanwhile, summertime is the exact opposite.

"You can't help but run into everybody," Rallo said. "In the summer time, there aren't enough of us here."

The Tok Post covers an area that starts at the U.S.-Canadian border and sees traffic come in from the border crossing the Alaska Highway and the remote Taylor Highway. The Alaska Highway, or Alcan as it's sometimes known as, is the only road connecting Alaska to the Lower 48. Because of its location as the first modern town for motorists as they enter Alaska, Tok's population swells during the summer to accommodate the tourists that come through the town. That means the calls for service also take a drastic spike with the onslaught of summer visitors.

During the summer, the detachment fields a lot of calls from people in the Lower 48 concerned they haven't heard from a relative making the drive to Alaska in a few days. Many times, the traveler can't use a cell phone while traveling through Canada, causing their family to worry.

Not only Canadians and Americans drive through the adventure treasures. Rallo, who learned Italian while when dealing with a couple of Italian tourists one

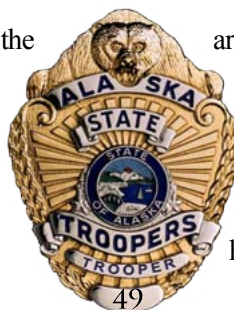
When Rallo stopped the driver for driving like some of its roads – the foreigners tried to tell him tourists.

"This is the last place I expected it to come in

area in order to reach Alaska's unsurpassable beauty and stationed in Italy with the military, found it useful summer.

they do in Italy – a country without speed limits on they didn't speak English. That didn't work for these

handy," Rallo said.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

E Detachment



Commander
Capt. Pete Mlynarik



Deputy Commander
Lt. Dane Gilmore

DETACHMENT COMMAND

Commander – Captain
Deputy Commander – Lieutenant (Patrol)

DETACHMENT STAFF

1 Administrative Assistant
1 Office Assistant

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 16 civilians working in the detachment. The Kenai Peninsula, Girdwood and the areas near Girdwood have a population of approximately 55,737 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 36,282 people residing outside the jurisdiction of these police departments. Excluding command staff, that equates

to one trooper for every 1,133 people. Although E

Detachment directly provides public safety 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. The Soldotna Post is the headquarters for the detachment. The satellite posts are in Anchor Point, Ninilchik, Cooper Landing, Crown Point and



Anchor Point Trooper Greg Pealatore gives a driver back his paperwork during a traffic stop outside Homer. Pealatore is also a K-9 trooper.



Girdwood. All authorized patrol positions were staffed in 2009.

In 2009, The multi-jurisdiction, multi-agency Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol formed the Soldotna Traffic Team, consisting of a trooper sergeant and a Kenai Police Officer. These members are sometimes sent to other areas of the state to patrol special events, taking these troopers out of the Kenai Peninsula area and putting them on roads elsewhere. Likewise, ABHP troopers from elsewhere in the state travel to E Detachment to help with traffic enforcement during special occasions, such as the Fourth of July celebration in Seward. ABHP team members focus on highway patrol and conduct fatal or serious-injury crash investigation. These teams fall under the management of the bureau, but operate out of the Soldotna Post.

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 Alaska State Troopers, Kenai Police Department, Central Emergency Services and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Soldotna Post

4 Sergeants

13 Troopers

2 Administrative Clerks

The troopers at this post respond to calls for service in the areas outside the city limits of Soldotna and Kenai. 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 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

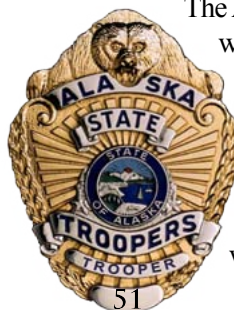
1 Trooper in Ninilchik

1 Office Assistant

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. 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 outside 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. The posts also handle calls on the Sterling Highway from Homer to Clam Gulch (mile 118-170).

The Anchor Point Post had a police canine until July of 2009 when the canine and handler moved to Soldotna. 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 located separately in Nanwalek and Port Graham. Anchor Point troopers work closely with the Homer Police Department.



Girdwood Trooper Howard Peterson helps with a probe line while searching for a snowmachiner buried in avalanche debris in the Turnagain Pass.



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 of one officer. Troopers respond to calls when the officer is not on duty and in matters requiring in-depth investigations or situations where more manpower is needed, which happens infrequently.

Crown Point/Cooper Landing Posts

- 1 Sergeant in Crown Point
- 3 Troopers in Crown Point
- 1 Trooper in Cooper Landing
- 1 Office Assistant

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 after hours. Troopers cover the Sterling Highway from the junction where the Seward and Sterling highways meet, to Jean Lake Hill (mile 38-65) and the Seward Highway from Seward to Hope Highway turnoff (mile 2-55). These posts cover calls coming from the estimated 2,903 people living outside the city of Seward and in Cooper Landing, Moose Pass, Lowell Point and the village of Chenega Bay. Chenega Bay is located on Evans Island in Prince William Sound and is accessible only by aircraft or boat.

Girdwood Post

- 1 Sergeant
- 3 Troopers
- 1 Office Assistant

The Girdwood Post's area of responsibility includes the estimated 2,091 people living in communities of Girdwood, Hope, Indian, Portage and Bird that are considered a part of the Anchorage municipality, but do not fall under the Anchorage Police Department. Additionally, the post takes care of calls outside the Whittier and other underdeveloped areas of the Prince William Sound. Girdwood troopers patrol the Seward Highway from the Hope Highway at mile 55 to McHugh Creek at

mile 112. This is where the Anchorage Police Department takes over patrol duties. A large majority of the Girdwood troopers' duties consist of traffic enforcement and motor vehicle crash investigations. The Seward Highway Traffic Safety Corridor, from mile 87 to mile 117, 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 and the Anchorage Police Department. This facilitates better overall delivery of public safety services. This post also utilizes standby because it is not manned 24 hours a day.

Soldotna Public Safety Communication Center

- 1 Communications Center Manager (Borough Employee)
- 8 Full-time State Radio Dispatchers
- 9.5 Full-time Kenai Peninsula Borough Radio Dispatchers
- 1 Part-time Kenai Peninsula Borough Radio Dispatcher
- 1 Office Assistant

The Detachment supervises the Soldotna Public Safety Communications Center (SPSCC) located in Soldotna. The center dispatches for troopers, the Soldotna Police Department, Central Emergency Services, Nikiski Fire Department, Ninilchik Fire Department, Kachemak Emergency Services, Cooper Landing EMS, Moose Pass EMS and Hope EMS. In addition, the center provides limited dispatch services to State Parks, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, National Marine Fisheries and Alaska Department of Corrections. The center handles all 911 land line based calls on the Kenai Peninsula except for calls within 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 miles 75 and 112 Seward Highway are 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. SPSCC is in



Soldotna-based trooper Sgt. Rob Hunter takes a quick stop during a routine patrol. Mount Redoubt is in the background letting off some steam.



the process of acquiring a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system. The new BHP positions add to the work load of the SPSCC without adding personnel to the center.

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. The Girdwood Forest Fair in Girdwood also occurs during July Fourth weekend. However, due to crime and public safety concerns, this event was cancelled in 2009, but has plans to resume in 2010 with more security measures in place.

Highway safety corridors – Two of Alaska's four safety corridors fall within E Detachment's jurisdiction. The highway safety corridors were developed to improve safety on stretches of highway that experience a high number of serious injury and fatal crashes. The Seward Highway Safety Corridor was established on May 26, 2006 and was extended a mile in 2007 to cover mile 87 to 117. There were three fatal crashes in this corridor in 2009 that left four dead. This is down from the five fatal crashes and five victims in 2008. The Sterling Highway from Scout Lake Road to the Kenai Spur Highway, or mile 83 to 93, was designated a safety corridor on July 1, 2009. E Detachment troopers wrote 1,227 traffic citations within the two corridors in 2009. A total of 2,156 were written within the four highway safety corridors in Alaska.

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Avalanches – The Chugach Mountain Range, running from the backside of Eagle River to the Kenai Peninsula, while highly popular because of their close proximity to Alaska's largest city, can also be deadly especially during avalanche season in the spring. At the end of March, efforts to recover the body of a snowmachiner who was buried in avalanche debris was placed on hold for days because of volcanic ash from nearby Mount Redoubt and additional snow from a weather system that moved in about the same time. After the avalanche danger was mitigated, trained and untrained volunteers were flown

into the area by AST's A-Star helicopter, Helo-1 to search for the body. Body recoveries of this nature are time and resource intensive. After four days of extensive searching with probes and search and rescue dogs, the body was recovered on April 2.

Volcano eruption – Mount Redoubt started intermittently erupting in January and culminated with an explosion of ash and plums in March that grounded aircraft activity throughout Southcentral Alaska. The detachment had a plan in place in case there was an adverse effect with the main communication system. However, even with one good ash fall, the problem never arose. The intermittent eruptions continued until June.

Fire in Homer – In May, a wildland fire erupted in a strand of trees near off of the East End Road on the far side of Homer. The fire quickly grew and threatened homes as firefighting resources flooded the area to battle the blaze. There were issues with the flow of communication because that stretch of road that was dead center for the fire had limited radio service for troopers. Alaska State Troopers from the Anchor Point Post were tasked with keeping the traffic limited to local residents and even closing it as the fire swept over the road. The road was closed for a few hours as crews worked on battling the fire. Anchor Point troopers manned the traffic control point, and as the time went on, other troopers from the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol and other posts came to assist from other units. There were areas identified as weakness in the response to the fire, inherent with multi-organization disaster responses. The incident command system was utilized to get through the issues as they arose.

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



Anchor Point post supervisor Sgt. Ted Nordgaarden helps with controlling the amount of people traveling on East End Road while a forest fire rages around him.



suspect. Most of the time on patrol is spent responding to calls. According to standard prioritization, troopers respond most quickly to reports of 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 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. Of the significant crimes, non-violent property crimes get the least attention because of the lack of time to investigate. 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 and Child Kidnapper Registration compliance checks.

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

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 interact with the public in a positive way and to teach children the dangers of drugs and alcohol. There are two D.A.R.E. instructors in the detachment. Those instructors are located in Soldotna 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.

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. Participant Accident Report (PAR) 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, do not involve injuries, 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.

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 by conducting 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.

Assisting rural troopers – Troopers that are trained at the detachment consistently pick rural posts for their next assignment. 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 snowmachines, avalanche beacons and other avalanche rescue gear to aid in numerous search and rescue missions that the detachment is tasked with conducting. This new equipment has improved AST's efforts in search and rescue missions from past years.

Training – We strive to provide our personnel with training appropriate to their mission such as Street Survival, search and rescue training, avalanche training and supervisory training.



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 2009:

- Responsible for approximately 1,656 square miles
- Responsible for serving approximately 1,133 year-round members of the public
- Arrested 11 DUI drivers
- Issued 180 traffic citations
- Assigned 30 motor vehicle crashes to investigate
- Assigned or received 577 calls for service including criminal cases, civil cases and calls for assistance
- Handled 57 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 1 search and rescue related event each
- Investigated 4 non-homicide death cases and 16 domestic-violence related offenses

Family Tradition

Many times when Soldotna patrol Sgt. Larry Erickson stands in front of a group of wide-eyed school children, the person wearing the furry costume standing beside him is a member of his family. While making a public appearance for some of the community outreach programs he coordinates, Erickson often enlists the help of one of his three children or wife to wear safety mascot costumes.

This is one of the many ways Erickson has taken the duty – and channeled them into promoting public community.

Erickson’s involvement with his nation and as a Marine and now in the Alaska Air National Guard. Over the years, the different parts of his life have his military and trooper uniform for a deployment concept of integrating skills learned outside the

different parts of his life – his family, his job and his military safety through public service for his nation, state and



state includes a total of 14 years in the military Guard, and 16 years as an Alaska State Trooper. become interlaced. In 2009, Erickson packed both to Mongolia for part of the Guard’s “Citizen Soldier” armed forces. While there, he taught the Mongolian



Soldotna Sgt. Larry Erickson and Safety Bear, or rather his son, Michael, in costume, give a presentation to a group of kindergartners.

Rachel, is employed as a special education aide.

But Erickson doesn't just try to help school children. In 2009, he accepted the challenge of coordinating the Field Training and Evaluation Program for the new troopers in the detachment. He does this by facilitating training meetings, scheduling recruits with appropriate training officers and monitoring the daily progress reports to ensure each recruit receives effective training and objective evaluation.

"Of most significance are the accomplishments and achievements that have been seen in the young troopers assigned to Sergeant Erickson's shift," said E Detachment Commander Capt. Pete Mlynarik. "He has made helping them become independent and competent his priority. As a result, recruits trained in E Detachment go on to perform exceptionally well in their next assignments."

While doing so, he has also integrated this training into the community outreach. Erickson takes some of these new troopers to the schools with him as part of the Troopers, Children and Books program. He tested the program out by placing troopers in classrooms to read to kids in grades kindergarten through second grade. Nowadays, troopers read to school children during "Love Reading Month" and on Dr. Seuss's birthday.

"Who's better to be good examples to our youth than us?" Erickson said.

Erickson places a lot of personal emphasis on the community participation portion of community policing. He jump started the Safety Bear and Cubby Bear program in 2007, doing 42 Safety Bear presentations in elementary schools from Hope, south to Anchor Point and Nikoleavsk. Safety Bear has also become a regular attendee at other community activities such as Soldotna Safety Days, Law Enforcement Torch Runs and the Kenai Lowe's Safety Fair.

Many times his 17-year-old daughter, Emily, 15-year-old son, Michael, 10-year-old daughter, Molly, and wife wear the Safety Bear, Cubby Bear or Ted E. Bear costume during the different appearances.

This experience has a very profound effect on his age and coached a Boys & Girls Club soccer team. She She also followed her father's footsteps and joined has helped his father coach sports, and also like his

"I've never insisted my kids go into law impress upon them that service to their community, they can do with their lives" Erickson said.

Defense Force Military Police basic law enforcement skills, alternating between wearing both uniforms.

Erickson has also taken a vested interest in promoting public safety in the community he lives in while working as a trooper on the Kenai Peninsula. Starting in the fall of 2004, Erickson took on the role of coordinating all E Detachment community outreach programs to include the Drug Abuse Resistance Education, gun safety, boating safety, bike safety and other various specific public appearances. Providing kids with a good role model helps stop deviant behaviors when they first surface at a young age.

"I think children are the truly only pure innocents so we should be striving to make their childhood the best experience as possible," Erickson said. "Get to them while they are young and you won't have as far to reach them when they become adults."

He also substitute teaches for the Kenai Peninsula School District for grades kindergarten through sixth where his wife,

children. Emily started volunteering in schools at a young has plans to go to college and get a teaching degree.

the Air National Guard in aircraft logistics. Michael father, wants to become a Marine.

enforcement or the military, but I have tried to state and country is one of the most honorable things



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

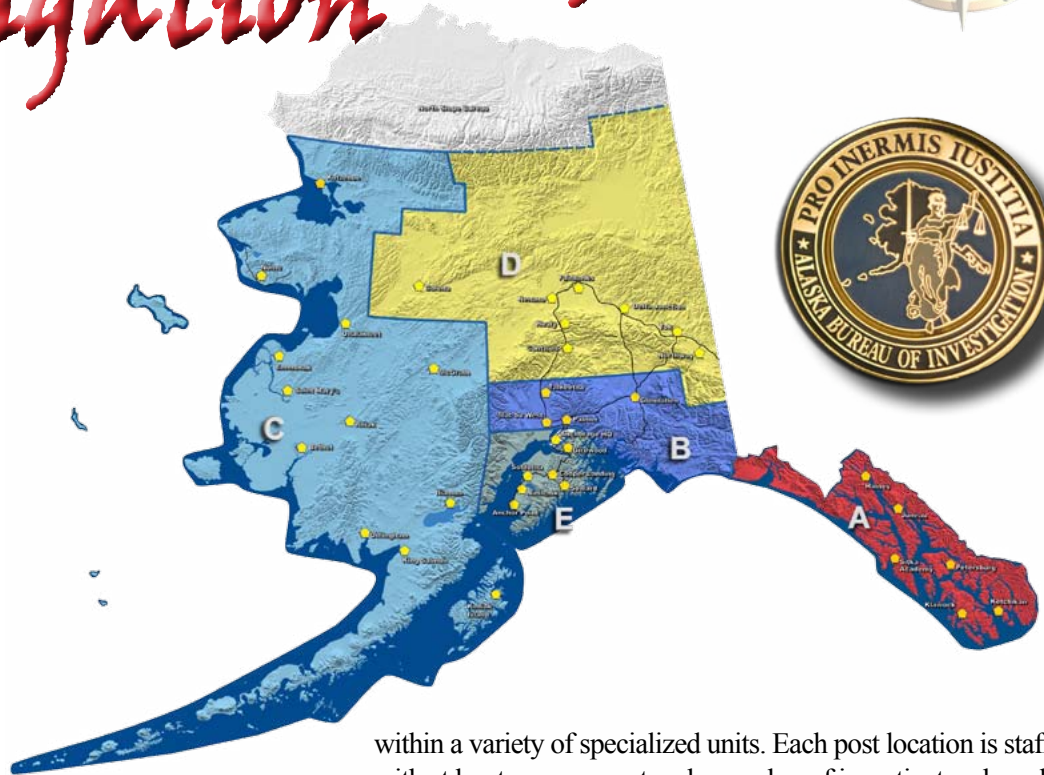
Alaska Bureau of Investigation



Bureau Commander
Capt. John Papasodora



Deputy Commander
Lt. Dave Tugmon



BUREAU COMMAND

Commander – Captain

Deputy Commander – Lieutenant

BUREAU STAFF

1 Administrative Supervisor

2 Administrative Support Personnel

1 Criminal Justice Technician (Anchorage Evidence)

The Division of Alaska State Troopers 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 Division of Alaska State Troopers works toward increasing the effectiveness of investigative functions throughout the state.

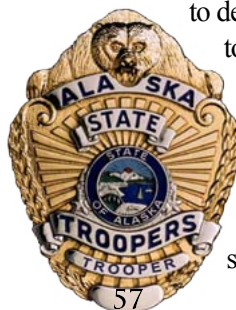
ABI is composed of 45 authorized positions; 36 commissioned and nine clerical support personnel. These positions are assigned to ABI posts located in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Fairbanks and Soldotna and

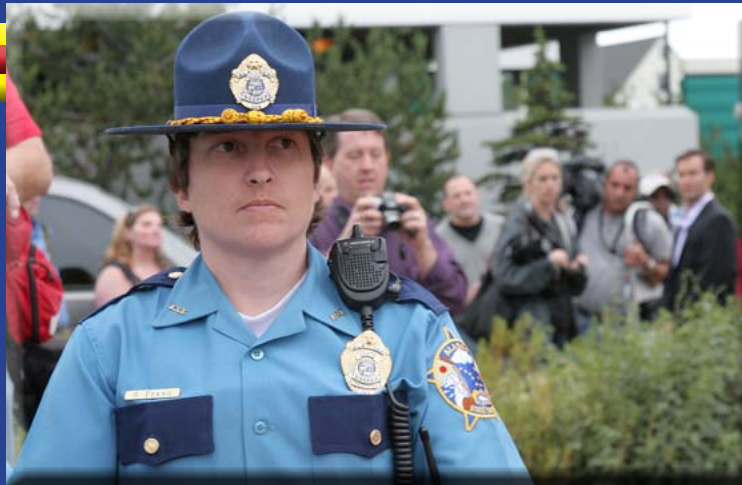
within a variety of specialized units. Each post location is staffed with at least one sergeant and a number of investigators based on workload for the region, however, all ABI personnel are prepared for deployment anywhere in the state as needs arise. At the close of 2009, two of the authorized trooper positions and another investigator position within ABI were vacant. In addition, five investigators and an office assistant position were added at the end of 2009.

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, Missing Persons Unit, Cold Case Investigation Unit and Anchorage Major Crimes Unit.

ABI also has multi-agency Child Abuse Investigation Units in the Mat-Su Valley and Fairbanks areas; Property Crimes Investigation Units in Soldotna and Mat-Su; and regional Major Crimes Units in Fairbanks, Mat-Su and Soldotna. These units include positions available to local agencies that have the ability to dedicate personnel to the unit facilitating a team approach to child abuse investigations.

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 services to those in need. For example, the Anchorage





Palmer ABI Investigator Sherry Ferno helps provide security for the governor's picnic in 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 the 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:

- Assists federal, state and local criminal justice agencies requiring specialized investigators and/or techniques.
- Participates 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
 - Crime scene investigation
 - Training
- Investigates suspicious unattended deaths and

homicides

- Investigates serious felony assaults and robberies
- Investigates sexual assault and child exploitation/sexual abuse of a minor cases
- Investigates internet crimes against children and child pornography
- Investigates burglary and other complex property crimes
- Investigation of complex financial and computer related crimes
- Investigation and documentation of trooper-involved shooting cases
- Investigation of cases originating in state correctional facilities
- Documents and disseminates information regarding homicides
- Maintains state and national databases that document homicides and missing persons.
- Conducts forensic computer examinations and electronic evidence recovery for DPS and other agencies

Computer and Financial Crimes Unit

1 Sergeant
2 Troopers
1 Investigator
1 Criminal Justice Technician

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



Palmer ABI Investigators Dave Bowers and Sgt. Mike Burkmire sift through snow while looking for evidence at the scene of a shooting near Wasilla.



to forensically analyze computers to document the possession and distribution of child pornography. The unit also recovers 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. In January of 2009, the state legislature funded a new position in the unit specifically to assist in on-line child exploitation cases.

The CFCU saw a significant increase in the number of computers and cellular phones analyzed by the end of 2009. There was more than 50 percent increase in the total number of computers analyzed compared to 2008 and more than triple the number of cell phones examined.

Child Abuse Investigation Units

Mat-Su

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers

Fairbanks

1 Sergeant
2 Troopers

The first Child Abuse Investigation 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. These units work 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. Each unit added another position at the end of 2009.

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 personnel and supervised by the ABI Anchorage Major Crimes sergeant.





Palmer ABI Investigator Ramin Dunford tells Investigator Rob Lawson where to stand while the two measure the scene of a shooting near Wasilla.

Cold Case Investigation Unit

2 Investigators in Anchorage
2 Investigators in Soldotna (1 Vacant)

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 2009. 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. These investigators are either retired troopers or former police officers. 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. Since its inception, the CCIU has arrested nine individuals for first-degree murder, which has resulted in the closure of 11 unsolved homicides cases.

Property Crimes Investigation Units

1 Trooper in Soldotna
2 Trooper in Mat-Su (1 Vacant)

Property Crimes Investigation Units (PCIU) were established to investigate property crimes involving 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. Throughout a good portion of 2009, the remaining units' positions spent much of the time either vacant or resources were redirected to more pressing cases. These investigators are supervised by ABI sergeants at their locations.

Regional Major Crimes Investigation Units

Fairbanks

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers
1 Office Assistant

Mat-Su

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers
1 Office Assistant

Soldotna

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers (1 vacant)
1 Office Assistant

Anchorage

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers

Regional Major Crimes Investigation Units (MCIU) are located in Fairbanks, Mat-Su, Soldotna and Anchorage. The Fairbanks and Mat-Su units each added a new position at the end of 2009. MCIUs investigate cases of homicide, sexual assault, robbery, serious crimes against person(s), fraud and property-related crimes. 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 MCIU are the backbone of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation as they



ACTIVITY

Although 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 Assist – 8 hours
- Background Investigation – 2 hours
- Correctional Institution case – 20 hours
- Autopsy – 8 hours

handle calls for assistance from nearly every law enforcement entity within Alaska. The units' 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 addition to conducting investigative operations, the regional MCIUs provide a host of auxiliary services to include:

- 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

training and the 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.

Property crimes staffing – ABI has also been challenged with committing adequate resources to investigate property crimes which have been on the rise in recent years. The Property Crimes Investigation Units were established to provide dedicated investigators to investigate these crimes. Often times cases must be prioritized based on the resources available. Crimes against persons are always a priority and, on occasion, property crime cases must be left with patrol units for investigation.

CHALLENGES

Response to remote locations – 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

Follow-up investigations – Also adding to the bureau's caseload is the need for follow-up interviews for troopers in the field after victims are sent outside the area where the crime originated. Many times an Anchorage investigator is tasked with talking to a victim while they are getting treatment in Anchorage for wounds inflicted elsewhere in the state. Other



ABI HOMICIDE CLEARANCE RATES

- 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
- 2009: 11 cases resulting in 12 homicide offenses, 10 cases resolved

cases involve follow-up interviews in a sexual abuse case that originated in an area where there is an absence of properly trained forensic personnel or facilities to handle adequate sexual assault testing.

SUCSESSES

Homicide investigations – The nationwide clearance rate for homicides and non-negligent manslaughter is 66.6 percent as cited in the U.S. Department of Justice’s “2009 Uniform Crime Report.” The Alaska Bureau of Investigation and Alaska State Troopers consistently exceed the national closure rate. In the past five years, ABI has had a 75 to 100 percent yearly closure rate.

Cold case investigations – Cold case investigators have continued to work on several cases during 2009 with 14 cases being actively investigated. It is anticipated that at least two cases will go to trial in the coming year along with one indictment and arrest for murder in early 2010.

Child abuse investigations – CAIU personnel traveled extensively to conduct investigations in all areas of the state and occasionally, the Lower 48. The efforts made in these cases will truly identify the viability of resolution. CAIUs continue to aggressively pursue cases that for a variety of reasons remained unsolved.

Missing persons – In 2009, the Missing Persons section added approximately 2,520 missing person notices to the statutorily-required Missing Persons Clearinghouse used to assist law enforcement when unidentified human remains are found.

Computer and financial crime investigations – During 2009 nearly \$100,000 was invested in new equipment and training needed to keep pace with the advancing technology related to computer, online solicitation of minors and other child exploitation

cases. The vast majority of these funds were provided through grant funds and legislative mandates. As a result of these increased resources within the unit, forensic examinations of cell phones and computers has doubled, resulting in the arrest of numerous child predators throughout the state as well as the Lower 48.

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.

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 2005 through 2009, ABI personnel attended and documented:

2005	58 autopsies
2006	80 autopsies
2007	51 autopsies
2008	48 autopsies
2009	21 autopsies
Average:	52 autopsies per year

This would account for 52 working days, or seven and a half weeks of work for one investigator assigned to autopsies alone.

As part of its 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.





Saba

The Search for Saba

In September 2009, while taking his lunch break, Alaska Bureau of Investigation's Sgt. Scott Briggs noticed a stolen dog poster on the door of Odie's Deli in Soldotna. Briggs' interest was immediately piqued because it advertised the theft of his favorite breed of dog – a German shepherd. Briggs grew up with shepherds and had three of his own at home.

Upon inquiring with the owners of the restaurant, Briggs learned that the dog in question, Saba, had disappeared while she was tied up at the rear of Odie's Bead Shop. Saba's owners, who also owned the bead shop, had reported the stolen dog to the local police, but the case quickly grew cold. Briggs, who works as the supervisor of the ABI unit in Soldotna, decided to take his skills honed by seven years as an investigator and put them to use to reunite a family with its beloved pet.

"With all the hate and discontent and people doing bad things to each other, it was nice to do a different kind of case that had a happy ending," he said. "I didn't really think about it, I just did it. I guess it's just in my blood."

Briggs, who normally investigates sexual assaults, home invasion and homicide cases, didn't really pause in pursuing this case on his personal time – especially seeing how devastated the owners were after losing their dog.

"Saba was her baby," Briggs said.

It helped that by the time Briggs talked to the owners, they had developed a strong lead of their own.

By chance, the owner was traveling out of state via the Alaska Ferry system from Whittier with a stop in Juneau and spotted a familiar looking German shepherd. While he was on the upper deck of the ferry watching some of the passengers getting off the ferry and new passengers boarding for the remainder of the trip to the Lower 48, he noticed a woman standing on the dock with a dog that looked just like Saba. The owner got off the ferry and talked the woman, who told him she was moving from Soldotna to Klawock. The woman told the owner she got the dog from a breeder in Anchorage. The owner knew the dog was Saba, but did not want to confront the woman without authorities present. The owner took some photos of the woman with the dog and of a vehicle she was putting her belongings into. Once in Juneau, the owner contacted law enforcement, but they were unable to help without some type of canine tags or other identifying paperwork showing he was the true owner of the dog. The owner, having very little time, had to return to the ferry without Saba. He continued on his trip and returned to Alaska several weeks later. When Briggs inquired about the stolen dog, the owners provided the photos he took in Juneau along with family photos of the dog for comparison. Briggs was able to compare the photos of the dog and confirm that the dog was indeed Saba. Briggs was also able to identify the vehicle in the photos and develop suspect names along with addresses in Juneau and Soldotna that might result in additional leads.

Over the course of several months, Briggs continued the investigation on his personal time. He was also assisted by ABI Investigator Aaron Meyer. The stolen dog case gained notoriety within the Soldotna Post as other troopers who also took an interest in the case kept an eye out for Saba and the people possibly associated with her theft.

"We kind of had a trail and I didn't want to let it drop," Briggs said. "I figured if we stayed on it, it was solvable."

After a lengthy personal investigation, Briggs called up the Juneau Police Department with what he described as a "strange request" for help in getting the dog back. A Juneau officer contacted the occupants of the residence in Juneau and established that they were still in possession of Saba. The Juneau Police Department recovered the dog without incident. After spending two days in the special care of a Juneau Animal Control Officer, she was shipped back to Soldotna via Alaska Airlines.

After four months missing, Saba was reunited with Anchorage. Saba was running and jumping like a

"She instantly recognized her mom and dad,"

The owner even brought Saba into the helped bring her home. Since then, Briggs has seen Deli.

"She's right back in her old spot again, lying at

her owners at the Ted Stevens International Airport in puppy after being reunited with her family. Briggs said.

Soldotna Post to meet some of the troopers that Saba several times when he goes to eat at Odie's

the counter of Odie's Beads," he said.

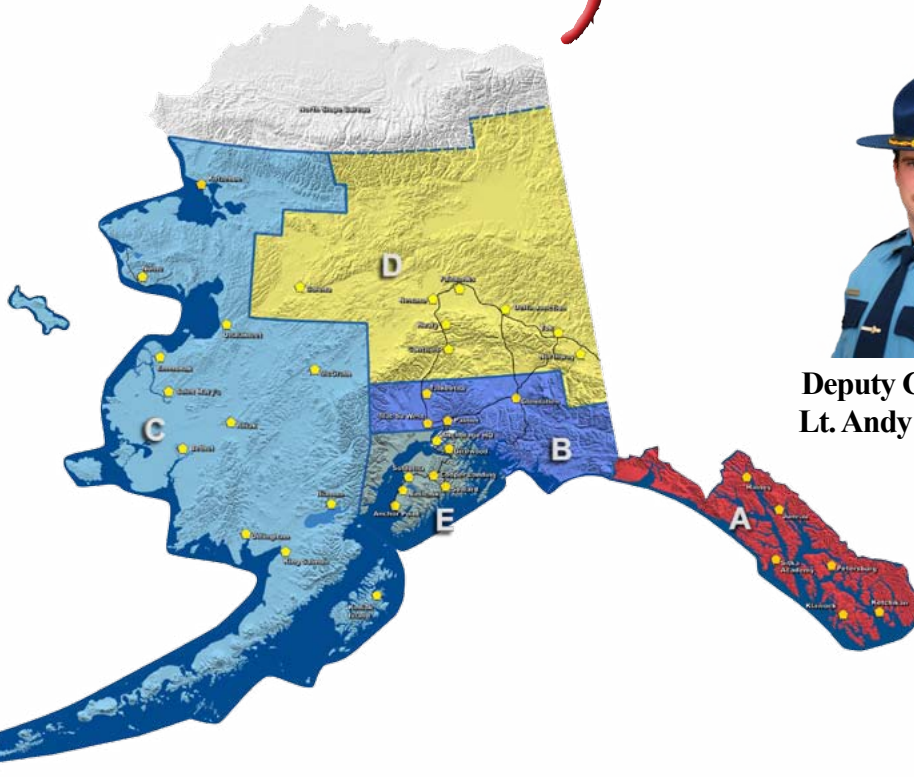


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement



Bureau Commander
Capt. Keith Mallard



Deputy Commander
Lt. Andy Greenstreet

BUREAU COMMAND
Commander – Captain
Deputy Commander – Lieutenant
BUREAU STAFF
1 Administrative Assistant III
1 Accounting Clerk
1 Administrative Clerk II

ABADE'S 2009 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 Alaska State Troopers in 2009, 47 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 to pin down the adaptive nature of the trafficker.

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.



During 2009, law enforcement officials continued to see methamphetamine use and manufacturing as a significant problem. However, perhaps just as significant are the abuse and sales

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.**

of prescription drugs and the continued resurgence of the abuse of heroin in the urban areas. Alcohol and marijuana continue to be the overwhelming drugs of choice for Western Alaska, however, we have begun to see increases in the abuse of prescription medications.

ABADE continues to see significant increases in the seizures of imported heroin and methamphetamines. 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 as 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 2009, ABADE was involved in the seizure of over 20.5 kilos of methamphetamine. In addition, ABADE has seen a significant increase in the amount of heroin imported into our urban communities. Although statistically there was a drop in the amount of heroin seized in 2009, 10 pounds of heroin was seized coming into Alaska within the first month of 2010. This seizure alone is four times the quantity of the 1,129 grams seized in all of 2007.

ABADE also recognizes that the ill-gotten gains of drug traffickers and alcohol smugglers promote an increase in lawlessness of all types. This lawlessness is not isolated to the use of controlled substances. It includes, but is not limited to, burglary, theft, domestic violence assaults and murder. By the eradication of such activity and the arrest of those who would profit off the misery of others, Alaska and its communities will be a much better and safer place to live and raise a family. The Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement, along with our partner agencies

throughout the state, diligently dedicate its resources and energy toward that goal.

The Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement is committed to working with all interested agencies in the fight against substance abuse throughout the state by using innovative concepts to deal with the illegal sale and distribution of alcohol and drugs. We are also committed to focusing on increased awareness and knowledge of drug abuse through educational presentations at the Public Safety Academy and in public forums, such as schools, service organizations and other community groups.

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.

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 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.



A marijuana grow operation near the Manley Hot Springs before it was dismantled in June of 2009.



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 and sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration. AST 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 with a primary mission of focusing 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 located in Anchorage near the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, allowing the unit easy access to the airport and shipping companies where most passengers and parcels arrive.

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
1 Drug Detection Canine

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 the Fairbanks Police Department and the North Pole Police Department and the uniformed patrol section of the Alaska State Troopers to educate, train and support the 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 (ATF) assigned to the Fairbanks area. The DEA and ATF 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 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.

The trafficking and cultivation of marijuana continued to be the largest issue the ABADE Fairbanks team faced in 2009. This was made evident when investigators initiated an investigation into a sophisticated marijuana grow operation near Manley Hot Springs in June of 2009. The investigation revealed 656 marijuana plants, 54.56 pounds of processed marijuana and over \$100,000 in U.S. currency, gold and other assets to include a Cessna 170 connected with the grow.





Ecstasy and methamphetamines

Major Offender Unit (MOU)

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

The Major Offenders Unit focuses on major alcohol and drug distributors statewide. The MOU works independently, but is often times called upon to support other ABADE units, the Alaska Bureau of Investigation, municipal police departments and federal agencies. Co-located with the Alaska Interdiction Task Force in Anchorage, the Major Offenders Unit shares a close working relationship with DEA as well as IRS, ATF, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the FBI.

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 the Palmer and Wasilla police departments and the uniformed patrol section of the Alaska State Troopers to educate, train and support their efforts related to drug enforcement.

This team is one of our most experienced teams. In 2009, the Mat-Su team attempted to balance its focus between a number of long-term complex investigations with short-term lower level distributors, successfully purchasing numerous drugs from local dealers to include marijuana, cocaine, heroin and prescription pills. Utilizing

the pseudoephedrine restrictions, the Mat-Su unit was able to locate and eradicate five clandestine labs. Of particular interest was the identification of what ABADE believes to be a potential new trend in Alaska – the single-pot methamphetamine cook.

In 2009, heroin continued to be one of the most prevalent drugs in the Mat-Su Valley. Approximately 109 grams of heroin was seized by the Mat-Su team. When compared to the 16.3 grams seized in 2005, this clearly illustrates the resurgence of heroin into today's urban drug culture. In addition to the increase in heroin, the Mat-Su unit witnessed a continued increase in the oxycontin/oxycodone seized. The Mat-Su Valley also continued to see numerous marijuana grows, ranging from relatively small grows of 20 plants to grows containing over 500 plants. Coupled with the Fairbanks area in the number of grows eradicated this year, these two areas were responsible for well over 77 percent of the grows eradicated statewide.

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

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 and a part-time Kenai Police Department Officer. 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 working closely with the local





Cocaine

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's Services regarding drug endangered children as well as drug and methamphetamine clandestine lab identification.

This unit's enforcement duties range from the street-level drug sales to the interdiction of methamphetamine manufacturing organizations. In 2009, the unit 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 its particular unit's activity.

This team is comprised of four offices in different locations. The AST sergeant oversees and works hand-in-hand with the Southeast Alaska Cities Against Drugs (SEACAD) project that is headed by the Sitka Police Department, which 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. SEACAD members are also tasked with teaching drug related classes to the local municipal police department throughout Southeast Alaska.

Even with the addition of the two police departments' narcotics units, the primary responsibility for drug enforcement in Southeast Alaska remains with the SEACAD Task Force. SEACAD, JPD and KPD investigators routinely work together to investigate the importation, sale and manufacturing of controlled substances throughout Southeast Alaska. Also, the Craig Police Department, on occasion, provides an investigator to assist the Ketchikan SEACAD office with investigations on the Prince of Wales Island and in Ketchikan. An improved working relationship was developed with the DEA High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) task force in Seattle, Wash.



ABADE 2009 STATISTICS

Total cases initiated:	4,713
Charges:	1,949
Alcohol Seized:	2,204 liters
Total Alcohol Street Value:	\$390,311
Cocaine / Crack Seized:	26.4 pounds
Heroin Seized:	3.2 pounds
Hydrocodone Seized:	281 doses
Marijuana Seized:	266 pounds
Marijuana Plants Seized:	5,165 plants
Marijuana Grows:	86
Methamphetamine Labs:	14
Meth Seized/Purchased:	5.3 pounds
Prescription Pills per Dose:	2,196.5 doses
Total street value:	\$18,362,804

Western Alaska Alcohol and Narcotics Team (WAANT)

- 1 AST Sergeant in Anchorage
- 3 AST Investigators in Anchorage
- 3 AST Investigators in Bethel
- 1 Drug Detection Canine in Bethel
- 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.

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 alcohol or have limited the possession of alcohol under the local option laws of Alaska. Because much of the alcohol and drugs sold illegally in Alaska is 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 other local law enforcement entities. The Postal Inspectors Office relies heavily on support from ABADE. This support includes resources such as scent-detection canines, intelligence information and follow-up efforts. Not only do these resources assist in seizures, they help successfully investigate and prosecute those involved in alcohol bootlegging and drug trafficking.

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.



Trooper Adam Benson of the Fairbanks-area Rural Service Unit helps drug investigators dismantle a marijuana grow near the Manley Hot Springs.

In other WAANT operations, the team 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.



CHALLENGES

Staffing – For most of 2009, the Southcentral Areawide Narcotics Unit struggled with personnel shortages. These shortages were due to transfers and resignations, and ultimately resulted in the AST sergeant being the only ABADE investigator for the Kenai Peninsula. In an attempt to address the personnel shortages, ABADE temporarily assigned investigators from other areas of the state to work with the AST sergeant on a short-term basis. The MOU also experienced manning issues in 2009. The team was left with only two investigators due to personnel re-assignments. This effectively handicapped the unit for the entire year.

SUCSESSES

Overcoming staffing issues – Despite the shortages in personnel in some of the units, they still garnered some accomplishments in 2009. The Southcentral Areawide Narcotics Unit initiated 681 drug related cases resulting in 472 charges being forwarded to the district attorney's office. Likewise, despite the personnel issues the MOU team remained active, serving as a force multiplier all over the state utilizing its particular skill set and training to accomplish what otherwise would not have been possible. Investigators focused on working several cases that involved major drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) within Alaska. In a number of these cases, an out of state sources of supply was identified. Working this case in close concert with our federal, state and municipal partners has allowed the cases to progress to the point that all appear to be federal- level prosecutable cases.



ACTIVITY

- Resulted in over 54,000 hours worked
- The service of 441 search warrants
- The filing of 1,949 charges for prosecution in either state or federal courts
- The seizure of a total of approximately \$18.4 million in illegal narcotics

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

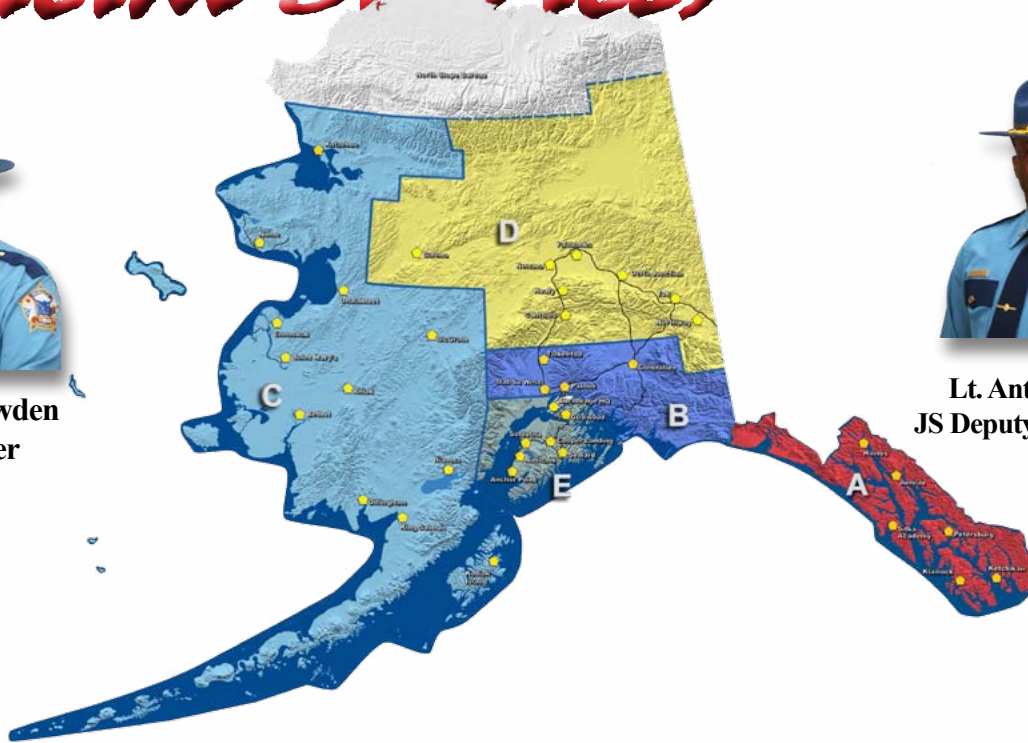
Alaska Bureau of Judicial Services



Capt. Dan Lowden
Commander



Lt. Anthony April
JS Deputy Commander



BUREAU COMMAND
Commander – Captain
Deputy Commander – Lieutenant

The Department of Public Safety is required by statute to transport prisoners, serve writs and provide security for the Alaska Court System. The Division of Alaska State Troopers established units in specific communities to provide these services to the court system and the public. These units are called Judicial Services Units. JS units employ Court Services Officers and Alaska State Troopers to perform these tasks. These tasks are not limited to the units; troopers perform these duties in locations where a JS Unit has not been established

Judicial Services Units were formerly managed by detachment commanders within their respective regions. In 2009, AST completed a process of consolidating the JS units into a single statewide bureau to improve uniformity of operations, standardization of procedures, improve communication between the regional offices and provide for improved efficiency in the transport of prisoners and writ service. The consolidated command also allows for a statewide central point of contact for the Alaska Court System and the Department of

Corrections when discussing operational topics important to JS operations statewide.

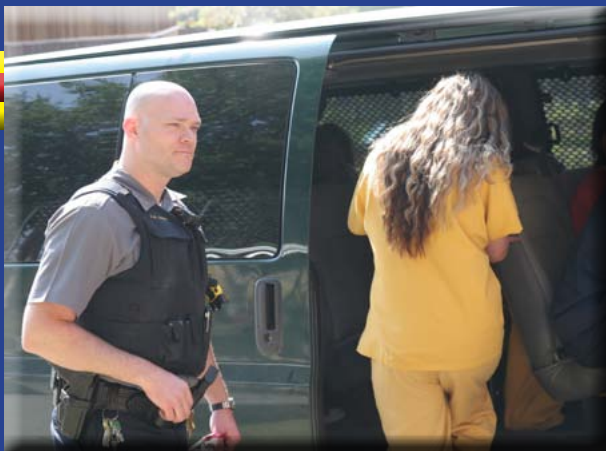
The Bureau of Judicial Services is now comprised of 11 units spread throughout the state. JS personnel are located in Anchorage, Fairbanks, Palmer, Kenai, Juneau, Ketchikan, Bethel, Nome, Dillingham, Barrow and Homer. The bureau is staffed by nine troopers, 59 Court Services Officers and 15 clerical personnel. At the end of 2009, four of the civilian positions and two of the CSO positions were vacant.

JUDICIAL SERVICES SOUTHEAST

There are two JS units servicing the Southeast in Juneau and Ketchikan. The Juneau unit serves one superior court justice (five when the full court is in session), two superior court judges, one district court judge, a magistrate and a standing master. Ketchikan JS services two superior court judges, a district court judge and one magistrate.



Juneau Judicial Services
1 Sergeant
3 Court Services Officers
1 Office Assistant



Court Services Officer Mason Dunn keeps a look out while he loads inmates from the Hiland Correctional Center into a van for transport to the Anchorage District Court.

Statistics

Process

★ Total Writs Received	1,751
★ Total Writs Served	1,502
★ Total Writs Unserved	175
★ Total Writs Recalled	37

Writs of Assistance

★ Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	0
★ Evictions	1

Prisoner Transport

★ Total Moves*	1,753
★ Local Moves	1,717
★ Nonlocal In-State Moves	33

Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

★ Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States)	0
★ Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska)	4
★ Fugitives Returned to Alaska	4

Warrant Arrests (Persons arrested on Alaska warrants)

★ Total Warrants Received	133
★ Total Warrants Served in Alaska	132

Ketchikan Judicial Services

2 Court Services Officers
1 Office Assistant

Statistics

Process

★ Total Writs Received	466
★ Total Writs Served	1,282
★ Total Writs Unserved	65
★ Total Writs Recalled	101

* Total Moves

This total number may include additional moves not highlighted in the data table.

Writs of Assistance

★ Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	0
★ Evictions	4

Prisoner Transport

★ Total Moves*	1,038
★ Local Moves	954
★ Nonlocal In-State Moves	74

Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

★ Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States)	0
★ Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska)	11
★ Fugitives Returned to Alaska	11

Warrant Arrests (Persons arrested on Alaska warrants)

★ Total Warrants Received	359
★ Total Warrants Served in Alaska	235

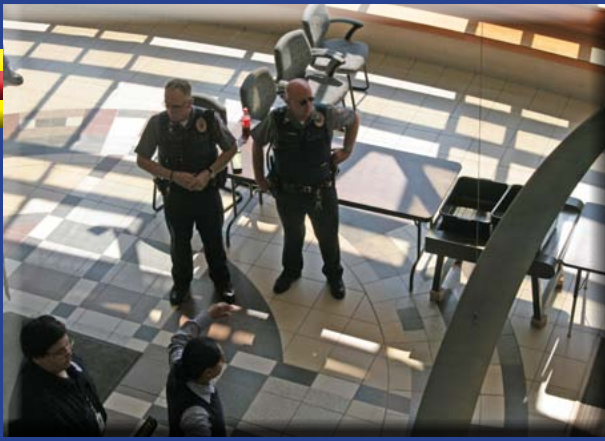
JUDICIAL SERVICES SOUTHCENTRAL

Anchorage Judicial Services Unit

2 Sergeants
1 Trooper
26 Court Services Officers (1 Vacant)
5 Office Assistants
2 Accounting Clerk

During 2009, Anchorage JS personnel transported approximately 33,922 prisoners. The writs served include subpoenas, summons and complaints, writs of assistance, evictions, child custody orders, mental health commitments, domestic violence protective orders and several other types of court writs. The Anchorage unit processed approximately 6,295 writs. The unit is responsible for the security of the court buildings, protection of the judiciary, maintaining the peace and order in the appellate, superior and district courtrooms. The Anchorage court campus includes two courthouses and an administrative building of 369,000 square feet on three city blocks





Court Services Officers Dan Shepard, on left, and Thomas Robson help with security at the entrance of the Nesbett Courthouse as people filter in for afternoon court appearances.

in downtown Anchorage. The Anchorage judiciary includes three supreme court justices (five when the full court is in session), three court of appeals judges, 15 superior court judges, nine district court judges, five magistrates and five standing masters. Anchorage JS administrative and accounting staff also support the bureau command staff.

Statistics

Process

★ Total Writs Received	6,295
★ Total Writs Served	4,587
★ Total Writs Unserved	1,001
★ Total Writs Recalled	476

Writs of Assistance

★ Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	63
★ Child Pickups	8
★ Evictions	309

Prisoner Transport

★ Total Moves*	33,922
★ Local Moves	33,723
★ Nonlocal In-State Moves	164

Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

★ Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States)	19
★ Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska)	16
★ Fugitives Returned to Alaska	16

Warrant Arrests (Persons arrested on Alaska warrants)

★ Total Warrants Received	3,915
★ Total Warrants Served in Alaska	3,032

* Total Moves

This total number may include additional moves not highlighted in the data table.

Kenai Judicial Services Unit

1 Trooper

5 Court Services Officers

1 Office Assistant

During 2009, Kenai JS unit personnel transported approximately 6,997 prisoners from jails located in Homer, Seward and Anchorage. The writs served include subpoenas, summons and complaints, writs of assistance, evictions, child custody orders, mental health commitments, domestic violence protective orders and several other types of court writs. The Kenai unit processed approximately 2,076 writs. The unit is responsible for the security of the court buildings, protection of the judiciary, maintaining the peace and order in the superior and district courtrooms. The Kenai court campus is one courthouse, which houses all of the administrative staff. The Kenai judiciary includes three superior court judges, a district court judge and two standing masters. The Kenai courthouse completed a remodel in early 2009 adding three superior court rooms, chambers for the three superior court judges and office space for three law clerks and three judicial assistants. The remodel also added several new conference and jury rooms.

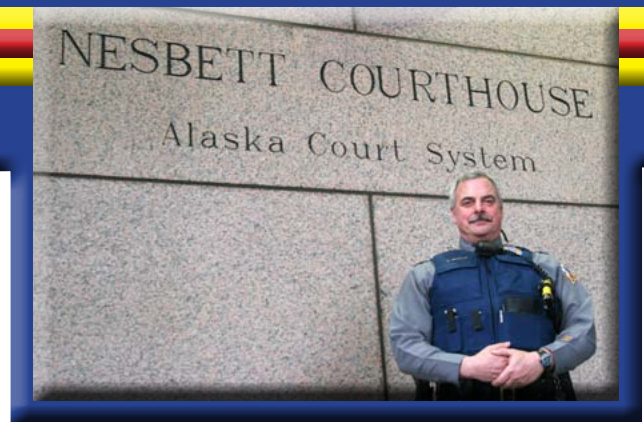
Statistics

Process

★ Total Writs Received	2,076
★ Total Writs Served	601
★ Total Writs Unserved	277
★ Total Writs Recalled	332



Court Services Officer Edward Appelloff stands outside the Nesbett Courthouse in downtown Anchorage.



Writs of Assistance

★ Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	12
★ Child Pickups	1
★ Evictions	5

Prisoner Transport

★ Total Moves*	6,997
★ Local Moves	6,970
★ Nonlocal In-State Moves	27

Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

★ Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States)	3
★ Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska)	0
★ Fugitives Returned to Alaska	0

summons and complaints, writs of assistance, evictions, child custody orders, mental health commitments, domestic violence protective orders and several other types of court writs. Palmer JS processed approximately 2,199 writs. The Palmer JS Unit is responsible for the security of the court buildings, protection of the judiciary, maintaining the peace and order in the superior and district courtrooms. The Palmer court campus is one courthouse, which houses all of the administrative staff. The Palmer judiciary includes four superior court judges and three district court judges. The Palmer courthouse completed a remodel in 2008, adding three superior court rooms, chambers for the three superior court judges and office space for three law clerks and three judicial assistants. The remodel also added several new conference and jury rooms, a law library, a new jury assembly room and a new grand jury room.

Homer Judicial Services Unit

1 Court Services Officer

A Court Services Officer was hired in the fall of 2009 to fill the position in Homer. That officer is scheduled to complete training in April of 2010. This unit is responsible for providing JS services to Homer and Anchor Point. This CSO operates out of an office in the Homer courthouse. The Homer court has one district judge.

Statistics

Process

★ Total Writs Received	2,199
★ Total Writs Served	1,514
★ Total Writs Unserved	340
★ Total Writs Recalled	76

Writs of Assistance

★ Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	13
★ Evictions	15

Prisoner Transport

★ Total Moves*	5,284
★ Local Moves	4,714
★ Non-Local in State Moves	561

Palmer Judicial Services

1 Sergeant

1 Trooper

7 Court Services Officers

2 Office Assistant

During 2009, Palmer JS unit personnel transported approximately 5,284 prisoners from correctional facilities located in Palmer, Sutton, Seward and Anchorage. The writs served include subpoenas,

*** Total Moves**

This total number may include additional moves not highlighted in the data table.



Court Services Officer John Ferguson coordinates the list of prisoner transports with Anchorage jails from the Anchorage Judicial Services control room in the basement of the Nesbett Courthouse.



Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

★ Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States)	0
★ Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska)	3
★ Fugitives Returned to Alaska	3

Warrant Arrests (Persons arrested on Alaska warrants)

★ Total Warrants Received	1,293
★ Total Warrants Served in Alaska	1,293

JUDICIAL SERVICES INTERIOR

Fairbanks Judicial Services Unit

1 Sergeant
1 Trooper
9 Court Services Officers in Fairbanks
2 Office Assistant (1 Vacant)

The Fairbanks court is located in the 128,000-square-foot Rabinowitz Courthouse at 101 Lacey Street in Fairbanks. The Fairbanks judiciary includes one supreme court justice (five when the full court is in session), six superior court judges, three district court judges, three magistrates and two pro tem judges. The main duty of the trooper assigned to the Fairbanks unit is coordinating the extradition of fugitives to and from Alaska. In addition to the Fairbanks court, Fairbanks JS supports the eastern half of the Fourth Judicial District trial courts as needed. This includes courts in Galena, McGrath, Tanana, Nenana, Healy, Fort Yukon, Delta Junction and Tok. In 2009, Fairbanks JS personnel attended one two-week trial in Nenana, a two-week trial in Barrow and a week-long trial in Fort Yukon.

* Total Moves

This total number may include additional moves not highlighted in the data table.



Statistics

Process

★ Total Writs Received	8,027
★ Total Writs Served	7,467
★ Total Writs Unserved	560
★ Total Writs Recalled	356

Writs of Assistance

★ Temporary Custody for Emergency Examination	120
★ Child Pickups	2
★ Evictions	0

Prisoner Transport

★ Total Moves*	9,592
★ Local Moves	9,532
★ Nonlocal In-State Moves (Tok & Delta Junction)	60

Extraditions (Fugitives from Justice)

★ Arrested in Alaska (Wanted in Other States)	16
★ Arrested in Other States (Wanted in Alaska)	10
★ Fugitives Returned to Alaska	10

Warrant Arrests (Persons arrested on Alaska warrants)

★ Total Warrants Received	1,388
★ Total Warrants Served in Alaska	1,393
★ Total Quashed/Recalled	60

Barrow Judicial Services Unit

1 Court Services Officers

A Court Services Officer is assigned to Barrow. This officer is responsible for providing JS services to Barrow and the surrounding villages. The Barrow court has one superior court judge.

New Court Services Officers from left to right, Charlie Walsworth, John McDonald, L.J. Davis and Curtis Worland go through training before heading out to Homer, Juneau, Bethel and Nome, respectively.



JUDICIAL SERVICES WESTERN ALASKA

In 2009, Court Services Officers were assigned to Dillingham, Bethel, Nome and Homer after an absence of several years in these areas. The increase in CSO staffing is designed to relieve overburdened troopers of prisoner transport and writ service duties, thereby allowing troopers to spend more of their time focused on enforcement and investigative efforts. These CSOs handle the same JS duties as elsewhere – serving writs to include subpoenas, summons and complaints, writs of assistance, evictions, child custody orders, mental health commitments, domestic violence protective orders and several other types of court writs. Because the correctional facilities in these remote locations have a time limit on how long a prisoner can be jailed, CSOs in Bethel, Dillingham and Nome assist with prisoner transports to and from Anchorage. There are several scheduling factors that are taken into account when determining whether a CSO or trooper does the prisoner transport.

Bethel Judicial Services Unit 2 Court Services Officer (1 Vacant)

Bethel is allocated two Court Services Officers. One officer was hired in December 2009 and is expected to complete his training in April 2010. The Bethel judiciary

contains two superior court judges, one district court judge and one magistrate. This unit is supervised by an AST sergeant assigned to the Anchorage Judicial Services Unit. The CSOs operate out of an office at the Bethel courthouse, but also do some work out of the trooper post in Bethel.

Dillingham Judicial Services Unit 1 Court Services Officer

This position was filled by the transfer of a Court Services Officer from Kenai in June 2009. The Dillingham court has one superior court judge. This unit is supervised by an AST sergeant assigned to the Anchorage JS Unit. This CSO operates out of an office at the Dillingham courthouse, but also does some work out of the trooper post in Dillingham.

Nome Judicial Services Unit 2 Court Services Officers

One position was filled in June 2009. That officer completed his training in September 2009. The second position was filled in December 2009. That officer is expected to complete his training in April of 2010. This unit is supervised by an AST sergeant assigned to the Fairbanks JS Unit. The CSOs operate out of the Nome Post, which is located across the street from the Nome courthouse.



Members of Anchorage Judicial Services gather after wrapping presents for their adopted family at the annual Christmas party.



The Christmas Spirit

Every year the spirit of Christmas emerges from the basement of the Anchorage Nesbett Courthouse when the somewhat-larger-than-normal elves of Anchorage Judicial Services pool their money to purchase gifts for children who find themselves in need during the holiday season. This extraordinary endeavor by Court Services Officers, clerical personnel and Alaska State Troopers put toys under the tree when ordinarily there may be none.

Started in 1995 by Court Services Officer Semi Sanvig, the Anchorage JS adopt-a-family program seeks to deliver, through shiny new toys at Christmas, a message of hope to needy youngsters that will motivate them to grow into responsible, productive citizens and community leaders. Over the 14 years of the program, JS personnel and the Public Safety Employees Association have donated an average of \$1,200 per year to purchase toys and food for families in need. The gifts are a bright moment for children whose lives have been clouded by abuse.

"With all the stuff that's going on in their lives right now, we still want them to believe in Santa," said Court Services Officer Julie-Dee Sharkey who has been heavily involved in buying presents for the families for years.

The Office of Children's Services (OCS) participates by providing the names of several families who are considered eligible benefactors of the gifts. JS reviews the submittals and selects the families considered most eligible. The list includes sizes for clothes and shoes and a list of interests for the children to help the JS elves buy toys. Included in the gift package given to the family is usually something for the parent even if it's a little money to help them through a tough time. The participants from JS meet on a Saturday and with the enthusiasm of kids in a candy store, go on a shopping spree. Then later at the annual Anchorage JS Christmas party, they all get together to wrap and address the gifts. The tags on presents are left blank for parents to fill out either from mom or dad or from Santa.

Some years, more than one family benefits from this generosity, however, for the past two years families with four or more children were the benefactors of the gifts. In 2009, the gifts went to a grandmother who was taking care of six of her grandchildren after their mother ran into trouble.

Keeping true to the Christmas spirit, the elves never have contact with the benefactors or expect any recognition for their charitable effort. The gifts and food are given directly to the workers at OCS for delivery to the families in need. This is mostly an emotion-driven undertaking with the only motivation being the thoughts of the excited expressions on the faces of those opening their gifts.

That being said, this effort is certainly worthy of a boast and a sincere thank you to those great folks at Anchorage Judicial Services. CASA gave its yearly Steps for Change award to the Anchorage JS Unit in April of 2009. The yearly award is given to people who dedicate their lives to the care and safety of children. CSO Paul Bulawa accepted the award on behalf of his fellow elves.

Meanwhile, throughout the years the Christmas word of mouth from people working in Anchorage OCS to sponsor a family to spread the gift of a past filled with neglect and abuse.



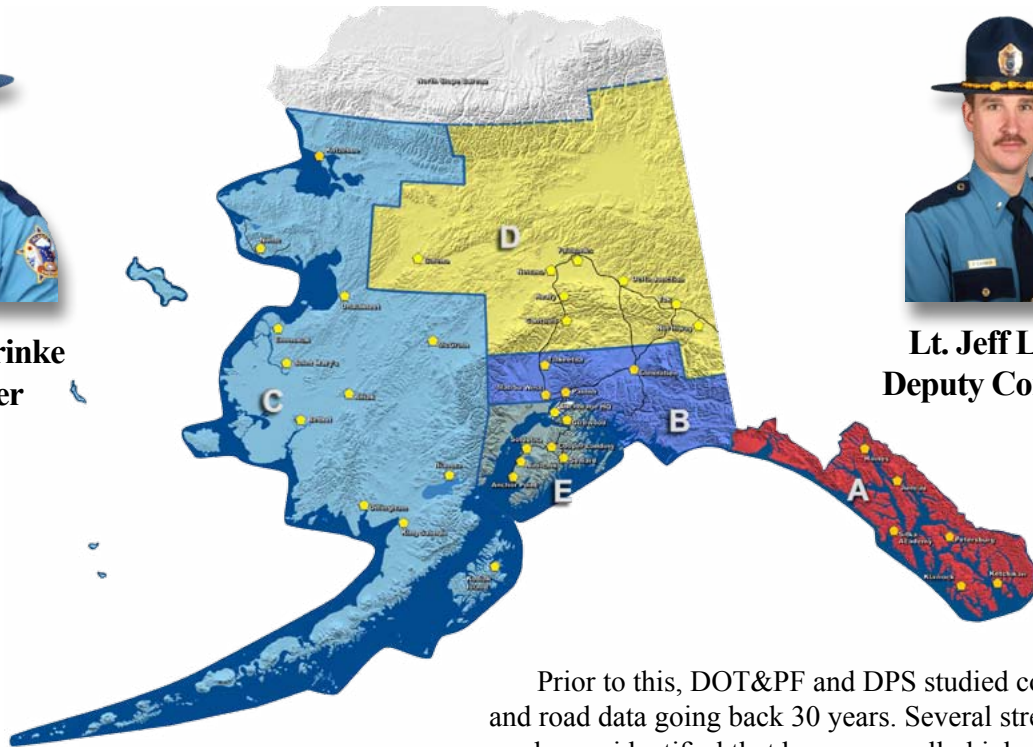
spirit has spread to others outside the unit. Through JS, dentist and veterinarian offices have contacted giving to bring joy to children trying to overcome

ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol



Capt. Hans Brinke
Commander



Lt. Jeff Laughlin
Deputy Commander

BUREAU COMMAND
Commander – Captain
Deputy Commander – Lieutenant
BUREAU STAFF
1 Administrative Assistant II

Prior to this, DOT&PF and DPS studied collision data and road data going back 30 years. Several stretches of road were identified that have unusually high numbers of fatal and major injury collisions over the years. DOT&PF looked at ways to reduce these types of collisions through engineering and DPS focused on enforcement. The two departments collaborated on the education aspect of the plan.

So far, four stretches of roadway are designated Highway Safety Corridors as part of this effort:

In 2007, the Department of Public Safety joined with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and other state, federal and local agencies, and interested non-governmental groups to develop the Alaska Strategic Highway Safety Plan (ASHSP). The ASHSP contained four focal points to combat fatal and major injury crashes on Alaska's surface transportation system: engineering, enforcement, education and emergency services. With this, the idea to create a specific bureau within the Alaska State Troopers focusing specifically and completely on what occurs on Alaska's roads was put into motion.



In 2006:

- Seward Highway Safety Corridor (mile 87 to mile 117)
- Parks Highway Safety Corridor (mile 44.5 to mile 53)

In 2009:

- Knik-Goose Bay Road Safety Corridor (mile 0.6 to mile 17.2)
- Sterling Highway Safety Corridor (mile 83 to mile 93)

Additional stretches of road are being reviewed for possible designation by the Safety

Palmer Police Officer Pete Steen talks to a motorist along the Seward Highway over the Fourth of July weekend. Steen is a member of the Mat-Su Team.



Corridor Review Team, who meets annually and provides recommendations to the commissioners of DPS and DOT&F. This team includes members of DPS, DOT&PF and the Alaska Highway Safety Office, which falls under DOT&PF.

With the assistance of federal funding and the Alaska Highway Safety Office, the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol (ABHP) was officially formed on Dec. 1, 2008 and designed to conduct traffic law enforcement duties statewide. ABHP was assigned to focus on impaired driving enforcement, seatbelt enforcement, aggressive driving enforcement, fatal and major injury crash investigations and education.

Mat-Su Team

1 Sergeant
3 Troopers
1 Wasilla Police Officer
1 Palmer Police Officer

Fairbanks Team

1 Sergeant
2 Troopers
1 Office Assistant

Soldotna Team

1 Sergeant
1 Kenai Police Officer
1 Office Assistant

For most of 2009, headquarters for ABHP was based in Anchorage. The Mat-Su team was based out of the Mat-Su West Post in Wasilla and the Fairbanks team was based out of the post in Fairbanks. In December, the captain and lieutenant that make up the bureau command were separated from assignments at AST Headquarters

in order to concentrate full time on managing ABHP. At this time, ABHP headquarters was relocated to the Mat-Su West Post.

Meanwhile, ABHP reached out to local police departments for additional officers to bolster the existing teams while awaiting approval of additional trooper positions. First to join ABHP was the Palmer and Wasilla police departments in February of 2009.

On July 1, a trooper sergeant and an officer from the Kenai Police Department formed the awaited Kenai Peninsula team. ABHP now had three mobile teams assigned to address traffic safety needs on Alaska's roadways. The teams deploy to various parts of the state depending on special events or planned focused enforcement.

In addition to commissioned staff, a visual information specialist was assigned to ABHP for the educational promotion of safe driving behaviors in Alaska. These media campaigns aim to educate the public about correct driving behaviors and focused enforcement efforts.

Like any unit, the administrative work fell on three newly hired civilian assistants responsible for all the daily and random process required by ABHP command, DPS and federal grant requirements.

With specialized training, troopers in ABHP perform investigations of crimes that occur on Alaska's roads. This includes investigations of crashes, the transportation of stolen goods, drug trafficking on the roadways, DUI cases 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.



Trooper Matthew Wertanen issues a citation to a man for speeding on the Richardson Highway near Arctic Man.



ANNUAL OR SPECIAL PROJECTS

In years past, AST has responded to the need of extra enforcement during annual events. Many of the events took substantial resources to oversee and ensure public safety. Detachment commanders would solicit the assistance from other detachments to man the events. An example is the Alaska State Fair in Palmer. Detachment troopers were assigned to work fair traffic enforcement during regular and overtime hours. The B Detachment commander could not afford to dedicate all his resources to handle this two week event alone. Upwards of 12 additional commissioned members of DPS were temporarily assigned to travel to the Mat-Su Valley and augment the local troopers. Augmenting the fair enforcement efforts meant that other detachments that were already strapped for troopers were responsible for taking the workload. Additional considerations were travel time, travel costs, lodging, per diem and more overtime. In 2009, ABHP was assigned responsibility for fair traffic enforcement. ABHP and B Detachment troopers, on federally funded overtime, conducted enforcement efforts through the Alaska Strategic Traffic Enforcement Partnership. This alleviated the need to have troopers from other detachments travel outside their assigned areas. ABHP was able to take the lead on traffic related enforcement, reduce the traffic demands on the detachment, and allow detachments to continue taking calls of service. The following are other such annual events ABHP has taken the lead on or has augmented the local detachment.

- Arctic Man near Paxson
- Fourth of July enforcement
- Labor Day enforcement
- Memorial Day enforcement
- State Fair enforcement in Palmer
- Deltana Fair enforcement
- Tanana Valley Fair enforcement in Fairbanks
- Anderson Bluegrass Festival enforcement

- Girdwood Forest Fair enforcement
- Iditarod Restart enforcement in Willow
- Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival enforcement
- Mount Marathon enforcement in Seward
- Fireweed 400 Bike Race enforcement
- Multi-jurisdictional and multi-agency enforcement
- Dignitary security

ACTIVITY

ABHP was assigned primary, but not sole responsibility for the investigation of fatal and major injury motor vehicle crashes. During 2009, AST responded to 32 fatal motor vehicle collisions (MVC) statewide, a reduction of seven crashes from 2008. ABHP investigated 15 fatal MVCs in 2009. Of the 17 not investigated by ABHP, eight involved ATVs or snow machines and four others were off the main roadway system in C Detachment.

ABHP troopers and police officers handled the following in 2009:

- 7,689 Citation issued, 28 percent of all DPS Citations
- 281 Impaired Driving Arrests
- 277 Motor Vehicle Collision Investigations
 - 164 damage only
 - 98 injury collisions
 - 15 fatal collisions

SUCCESSES

Training – As ABHP geared up to take on a majority of the traffic law enforcement responsibilities, training personnel was a priority. Six members attended an extensive two-week Total Station operator course in Wasilla. Six members attended a grueling two-week commercial vehicle inspection course followed by a number of required inspections by the end of the year to certify.



ALASKA STRATEGIC HIGHWAY SAFETY PLAN

**Everyone Counts: zero deaths and injuries on
Alaska's surface transportation system.**

ABHP MOTTO

Traffic safety through enforcement and education.

ABHP MISSION

**Safeguard the well being of Alaskans through
proactive leadership, sustained high-visibility
enforcement and education.**

Infrastructure – ABHP successfully entered into agreements with Wasilla, Palmer and Kenai police departments to enhance the capabilities of the bureau.

Citations – Although ABHP continued to create and fill position through the year, ABHP wrote 7,689 citations, more than 27 percent of the 27,624 issued by DPS commissioned members statewide. Bureau staffing included seven troopers until February, nine members until July and 11 members for the rest of 2009. This was while conducting special patrols, responding to collision investigations and training.

Education – Visual Information Specialist Justin Freeman created and aired 14 media campaigns addressing impaired driving, seatbelt use, safety corridor awareness and headlight use. Two campaigns created after ABHP was established were nominated for Emmy Awards and three campaigns were awarded Telly Awards in 2010 for campaigns created in 2008 and 2009.

CHALLENGES

Funding – ABHP is required to apply for grant funding yearly through the Alaska Highway Safety Office. Funding

through AHSO is a competitive process. ABHP has to determine the needs of the State and provide performance based solutions to address traffic problems.

Staffing – As ABHP grows, manning becomes an issue. Recruitment and retention of qualified law enforcement officers is of major concern. This concern is not just focused on AST, but Alaska and the nation as a whole. To create ABHP, the division moved personnel from detachments to the bureau. At a time when detachments were asking for additional personnel, they gave up personnel for the creation of a new bureau. Demonstrating the advantages of having ABHP became important to gain support within the department.

Covering huge distances – ABHP was assigned statewide and was assigned traffic law enforcement responsibilities. ABHP became spread thin quickly trying to cover a vast area with a small number of members.

Call outs and travel – Like patrol or investigative units, ABHP was not immune from being called out at all hours of the day and night to investigate fatal or major injury crashes or being assigned TDY assignments away from home for extensive periods of time.





Justin Freeman directs actors for a DUI commercial.

That's a Wrap

Unless you're a hermit, more than likely you've watched Visual Information Specialist Justin Freeman's handiwork on the television, heard it on the radio or seen it in a magazine. Some people can even recite by heart some of the lines from the commercials he's produced. Who can forget a little girl, swimming in a blue uniform and Stetson, scribbling on a ticket pad before saying in squeaky voice "I'm gonna hafta pull you over and write you a ticket."

"Ca-lick it or ticket."

Freeman is a one-man advertisement company – producing and managing all television and radio commercials from the development of the script to editing the finished product and scheduling them for air time. In addition to all the work he does for the television, he also uses his graphic arts talents to create print advertisements for highway safety throughout the year. That ability to do it all makes him the backbone of the educational mission of the Alaska Bureau of Highway Patrol.

Freeman has an interesting position as one of the few non-commissioned members of ABHP and the only civilian not tasked with administrative duties in support of the bureau. Instead, Freeman's work goes directly to the heart of the educational part of the bureau's four focus points to combat fatal and major injury crashes on Alaska's roadways. The other three – engineering, enforcement and emergency services – are handled by uniformed members of the bureau and personnel with the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

Freeman's focus is on curbing bad driving behavior before it reaches the roadway. He does this by producing memorable or catchy commercials. Over the years, he's branded his message with different slogans such as "Drink, Drive, Go To Jail" and the ongoing "Click It Or Ticket" and Roadwise campaigns aimed at impaired drivers, seat belt usage and developing safe driving habits.

With the latest one, "Driving Impaired is a Dead End," Freeman needed to get people comfortable with the term driving impaired after years of calling it drunk driving. To do this, Justin used his graphic prowess to design an easily recognizable logo to use in reference to the slogan. He came up with the idea of a brick wall inserted sometimes in the middle of the road to metaphorically show the bad consequences of driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol. It's appeared on television, in magazines and T-shirts worn by workers at the Department of Public Safety's booth at the Palmer State Fair.

Ideas for the campaigns come from anywhere and everywhere.

"Some of them I generate myself, others are provided by colleagues. I get ideas from other advertising and other highway safety programs across the nation," he said.

He then writes the script of the commercial, sometimes drawing rough illustrations in a storyboard format. He finds his actors – hiring to fill the main speaking parts and getting volunteers for supporting roles. He scouts out shooting locations and hopes for cooperating weather. In addition to the pre-production, production and post-production work for his commercials, he plans his yearly budget not only to buy advertisement slots, but to purchase equipment and to pay hired actors. He writes the grants to secure funding for his position and the tools necessary to spread the messages promoting highway safety. On top of the nuts and bolts of his job, Freeman's work is artistic and creative and his camera and computer skills are intuitive and sharp, earning him respect among not only his colleagues, but the uniformed personnel in the bureau.

In 2009, after working both for AST's Public Information Office and the ABHP, Freeman was officially listed among bureau staff. His position is paid for with federal funds funneled through the Alaska Highway Safety Office.

It was also a very busy year for Freeman. He produced nine television commercials, and several radio and print advertisements for the three different Alaska Highway Telly awards to honor the very best local, regional was also nominated for the prestigious Emmy® commercials not only reach people all across the messages worldwide, Freeman created a YouTube

In the meantime, he'll keep sifting through ideas nuggets of creativity.

"I come up with a lot of bad ideas that nobody good one."

Safety Campaigns. Three of the commercials won national and cable television commercials and programs. He Award for two years running. His award-winning state of Alaska, but to broadcast the highway safety page for all of the commercials he created. for future commercials, searching for those golden

sees," he said. "Every once in a while I come up with a



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units

CANINE UNIT



Capt. Keith Mallard

The Alaska State Troopers Canine Unit currently consists 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 as a drug detection canine team. As a dual-purpose canine team, they are proficient in man tracking, suspect apprehension, building searches, area searches and drug detection searches. The single-purpose

canine teams work solely in drug detection. The drug detection canines are stationed in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Bethel, but will respond to any location in the state.

In addition to training Alaska State Troopers' canines, in 2009 the unit supported and trained canine teams for the 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 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- and drug-detection canine teams.



Trooper Pat Nelson and his canine partner, Roelle, track down some drugs hidden during training to keep proficient in drug detection.

In 2009, the Alaska State Troopers Canine Unit was directly involved in:

- 78 felony arrests
- 39 misdemeanor arrests
- Seizure of 1,098 grams of heroin
- Seizure of 12,855 grams of cocaine
- Seizure of 2,145 grams of methamphetamine
- Seizure of 44,297 grams of marijuana
- Seizure of \$531,479 cash from drug proceeds



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units

TACTICAL DIVE UNIT



Lt. Rodney Dial

The Department of Public Safety has two Tactical Dive Unit (TDU) teams; one based in Ketchikan and the other located in Kodiak. Eight troopers are assigned to the TDU, including one dive instructor. 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.

The 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 Troopers' 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 2009, DPS TDU conducted numerous mission dives 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 2010 include all divers making at least 20 training dives, and the scheduling of annual dive training in the fall.



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units



CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM



Lt. Nils Monsen

In 2009, the Alaska State Troopers Crisis Negotiator component consisted of 30 troopers of various ranks and locations throughout the state who have received specialized training in the area of crisis negotiation. The Crisis Negotiation program was developed to train personnel who can 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 annually as a contingent of the SERT. During the 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.

SUCSESSES

Throughout the course of 2009, both trained NRT members and troopers without any negotiator training responded to a variety of situations across the state, including barricaded gunmen and suicidal individuals. The vast majority of these events were resolved without the need for an escalation of force.

Negotiators and law enforcement dispatchers were able to participate in the SERT Summer School in Fairbanks, enhancing their skills and affording the opportunity for personnel of various disciplines to train together in various scenarios.

CHALLENGES

The department has increased the number of trained negotiators from a historical low of 11 in 2007 to 30 by the end of 2009. Ongoing negotiator training continues to be a challenge. Training keeps member's skills honed, interest levels up and allows members to stay current with equipment and trends in crisis negotiations.

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

• AST HQ	1
• ABI Anchorage	2
• ABADe Anchorage	1
• ABJS Palmer	1
• A Detachment Klawock	2
• A Detachment Ketchikan	2
• B Detachment Palmer	3
• B Detachment Talkeetna	1
• C Detachment Anchorage	1
• C Detachment Nome	1

• C Detachment Kotzebue	2
• C Detachment Bethel	1
• C Detachment St. Mary's	1
• D Detachment Fairbanks	6
• ABI Fairbanks	1
• ABI Soldotna	1
• E Detachment Soldotna	1
• E Detachment Seward	1
• E Detachment Girdwood	1



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Specialized Units

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE 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 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.



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.

SUCSESSES





Of the 130,776 students in Alaska's public school system, 4,428 were involved in the D.A.R.E. curriculum. Of that number:

 1138 were in the kindergarten through fourth-grade program.

 2,237 were in the elementary program.

 989 were in the middle school program.
 4 were in high school.

Eighty-two D.A.R.E. officers taught the D.A.R.E. curriculum in their local school during the 2008-2009 year. This includes:

 36 municipal police officers
 16 Alaska State Troopers
 16 VPSOs
 14 federal officers

The D.A.R.E. program was taught in 23 of the 54 state school districts to include 67 schools. Twelve communities added the D.A.R.E. program for the school year, bringing the total number to 49 communities, a 32 percent involvement increase from the previous year.

During 2009, one training session was conducted at Fort Richardson, the Army installation on the outskirts of Anchorage, in October. Twelve new law enforcement officers including five military officers, five municipal officers, one VPSO and a trooper attended the course. Additionally, one new mentor from the Alaska State Troopers was trained and added to the training staff, receiving his final certification at the D.A.R.E. Officer Training.

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 Orlando, Florida. This officer received the updated Middle School Curriculum, "keeping it REAL." The new middle school curriculum was rolled out at the International D.A.R.E. Conference, and it is on national lists as an effective prevention education





2009 Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer Training Class and Mentors

program. Additionally, the state D.A.R.E. office sponsored the entire training staff and VPSO Sgt. Gusty Tunguing Jr. to attend the International Conference.

The state D.A.R.E. office and ADOA conducted a two-day in-service in February 2009, in collaboration with D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc. The Youth Safety In-Service was opened to attendees from school districts, police departments and D.A.R.E. Officers. This two-day training offered D.A.R.E. officers enhancement lessons and two D.A.R.E. Officers received recertification. There were 33 attendees at the in-service; six attendees were school officials and School Resource Officers. Of the 27 attendees from around the state; 11 were municipal officers, four VPSOs, seven Alaska State Troopers and five military police.

Geronimo Trefon was one of nine D.A.R.E. Students selected from across the country to participate in an adventure trip to an exclusive ranch in Montana for four days. 5.11 Tactical recently launched a new flashlight that charges very quickly. As part of the launch, they announced support for D.A.R.E. America and a Nationwide Competition for deserving D.A.R.E. students. D.A.R.E. Officers from across the country submitted essays about

deserving D.A.R.E. Students. Illiamna Trooper Vanessa Meade submitted her student, Geronimo. On his way back home, Geronimo, and his mother took a tour of the Alaska State Troopers Headquarters in Anchorage.

CHALLENGES

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.



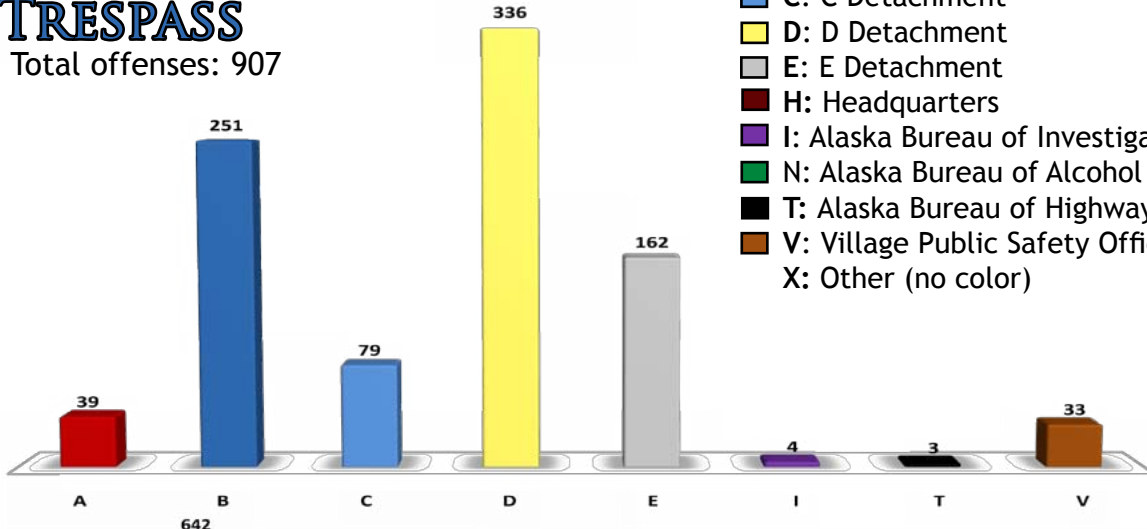
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2009 Statistical Data

TRESPASS

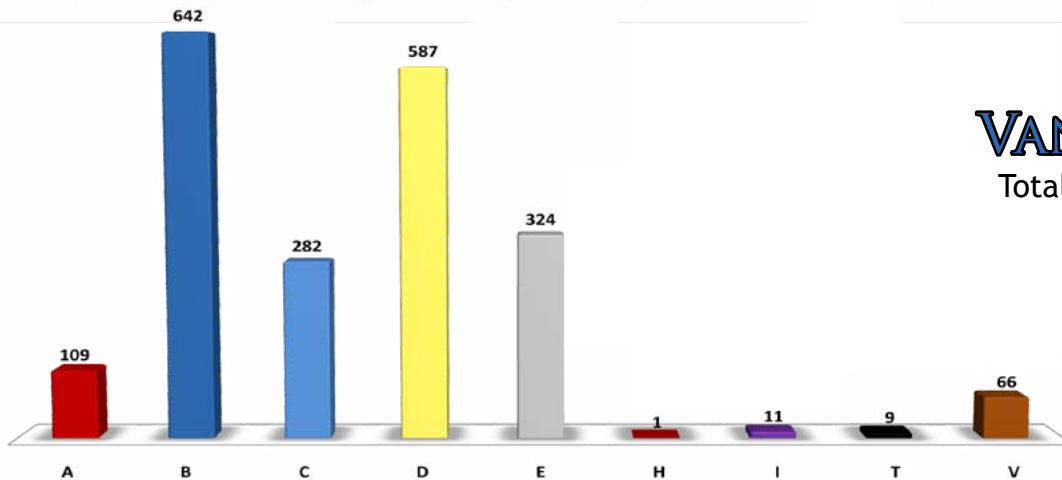
Total offenses: 907

- A: A Detachment
- 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
- X: Other (no color)



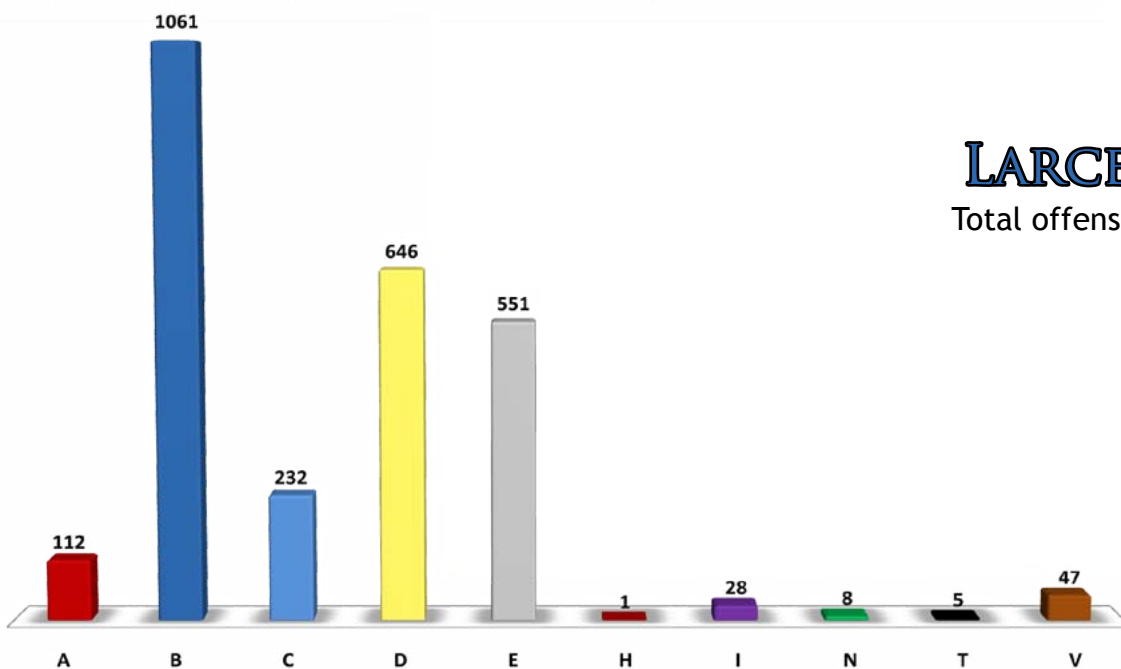
VANDALISM

Total offenses: 2,031



LARCENY

Total offenses: 2,691



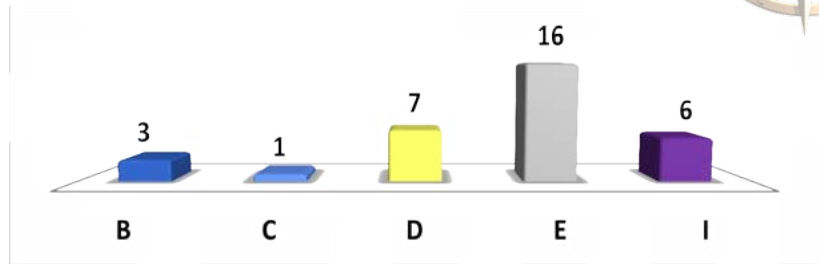
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2009 Statistical Data



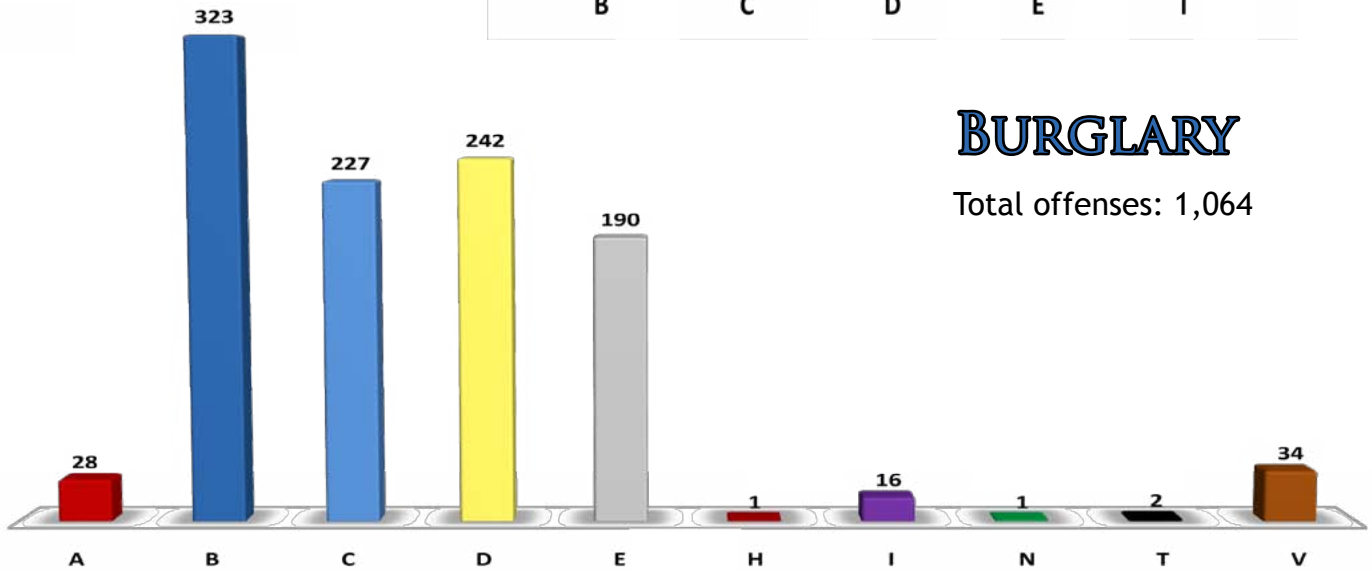
ROBBERY

Total offenses: 33



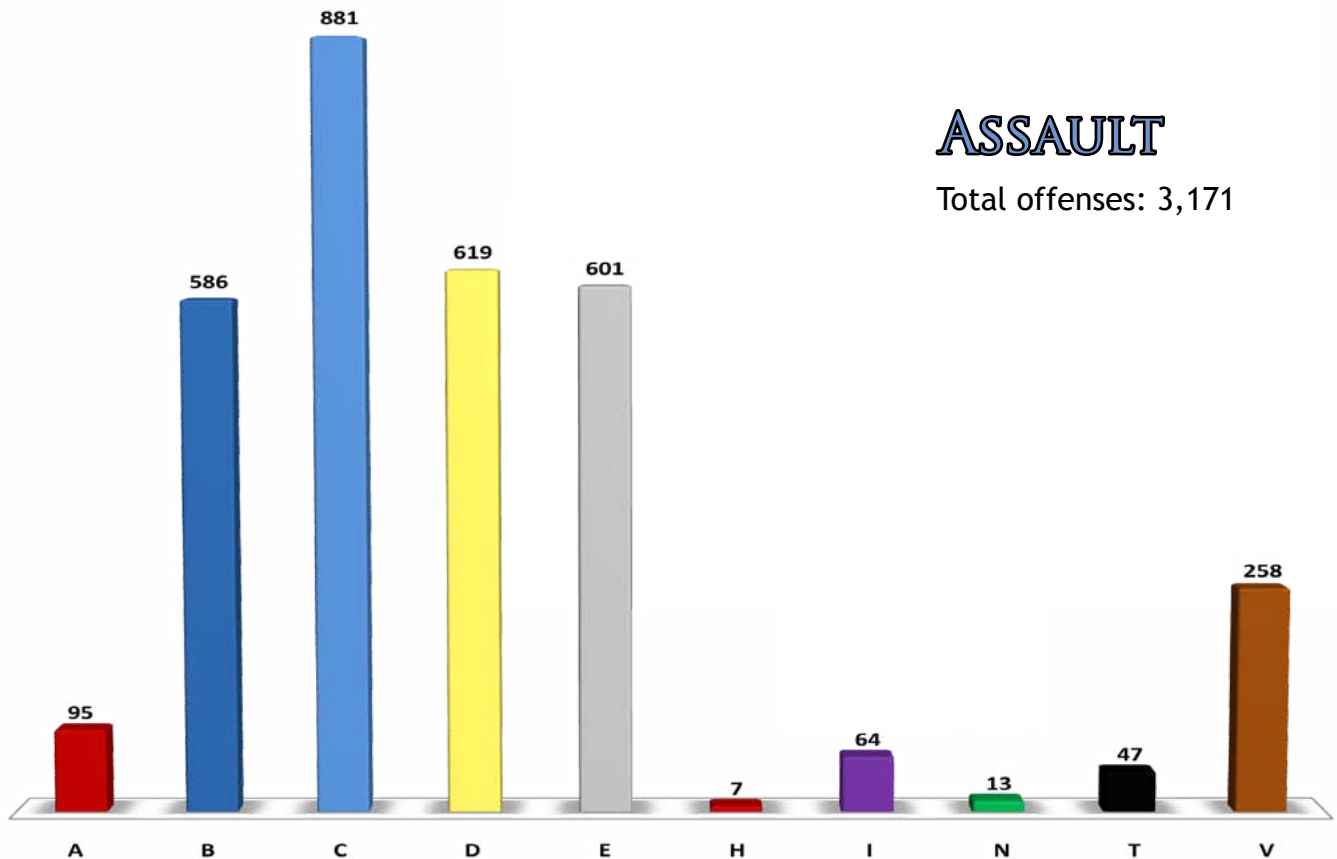
BURGLARY

Total offenses: 1,064



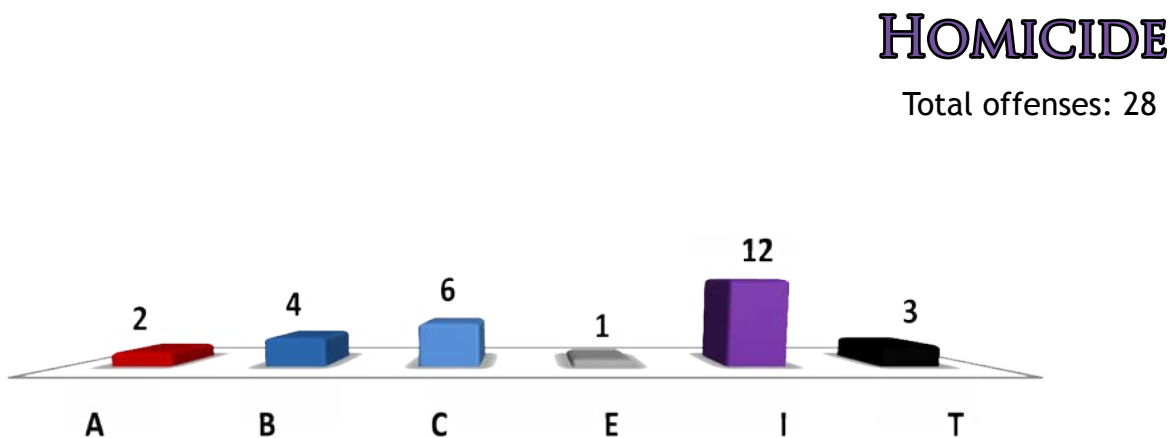
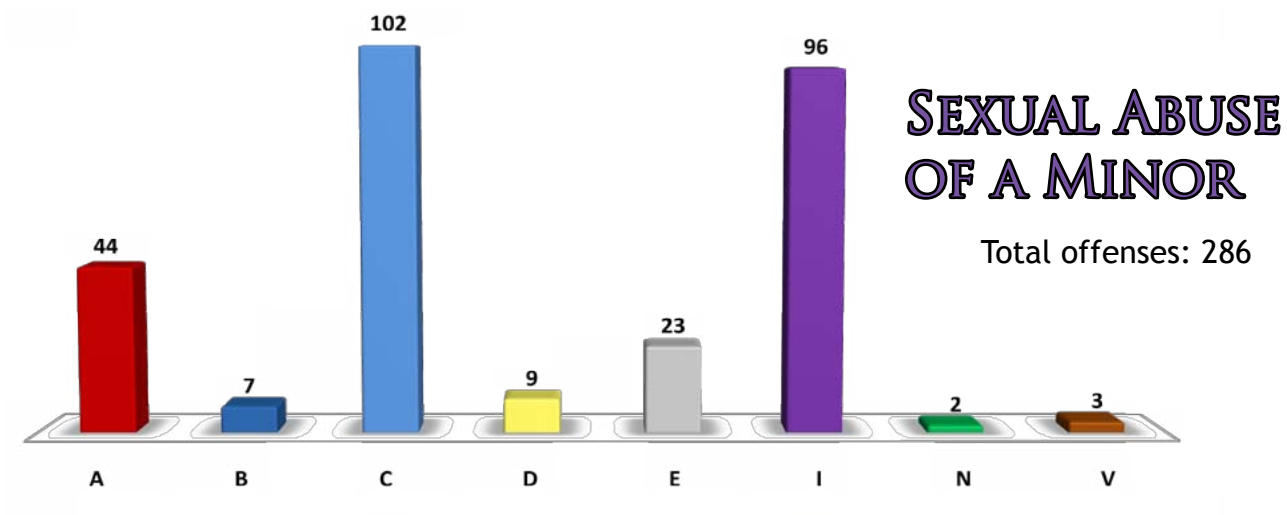
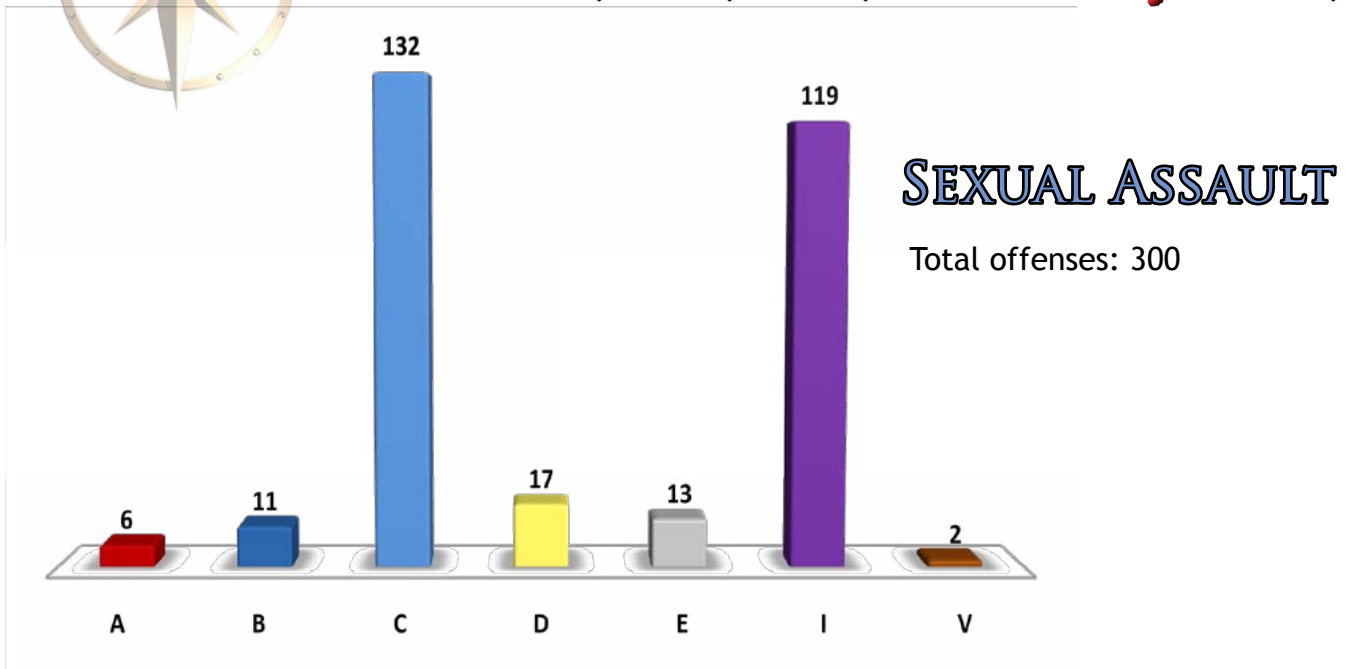
ASSAULT

Total offenses: 3,171



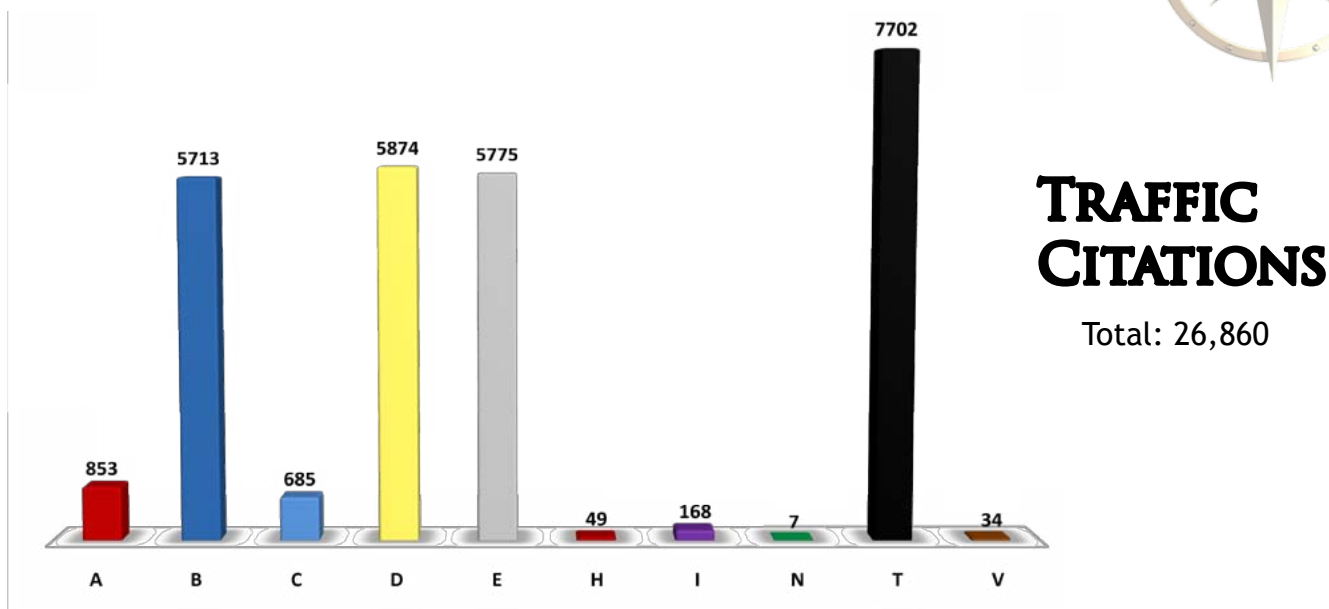
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2009 Statistical Data



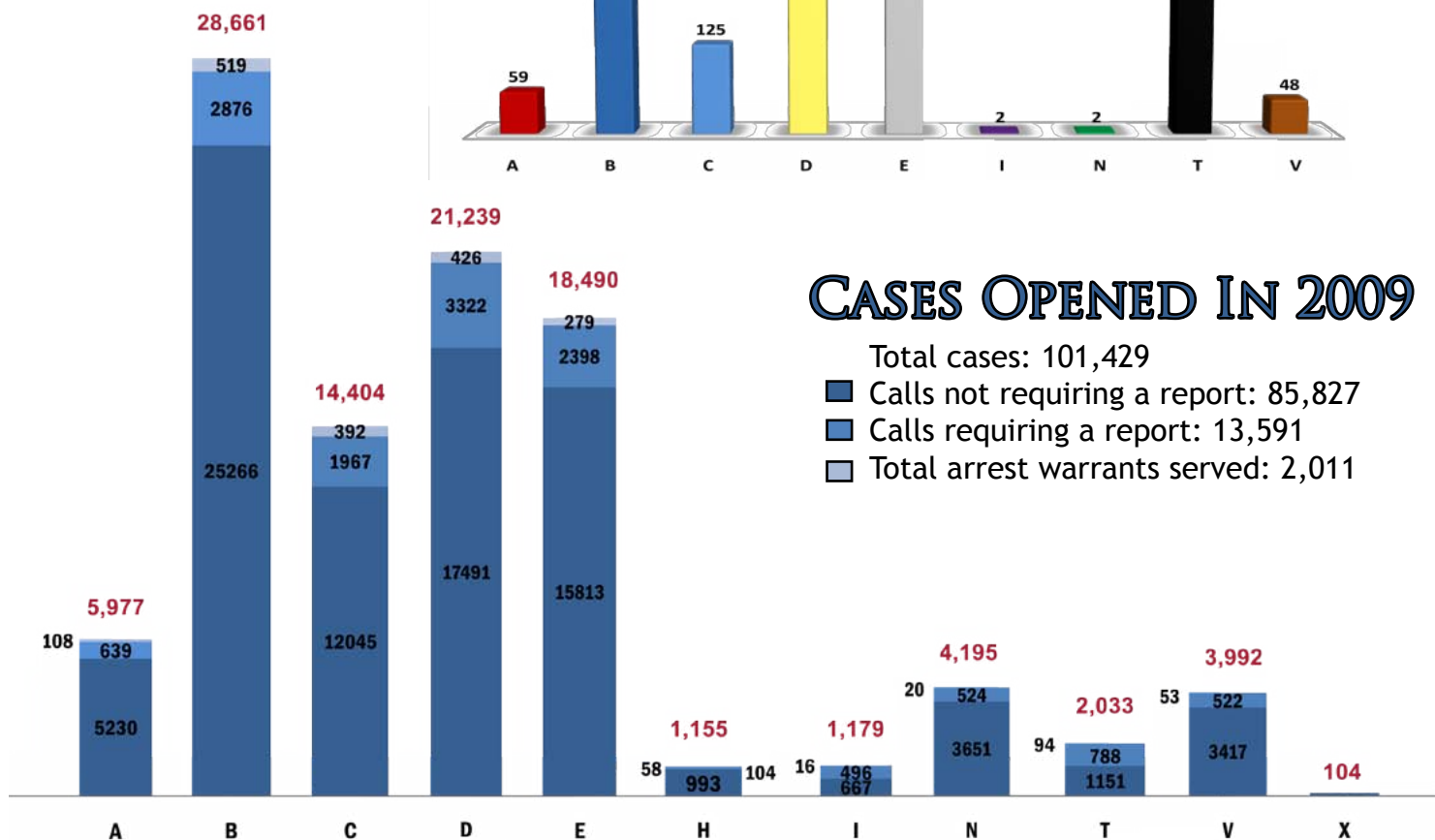
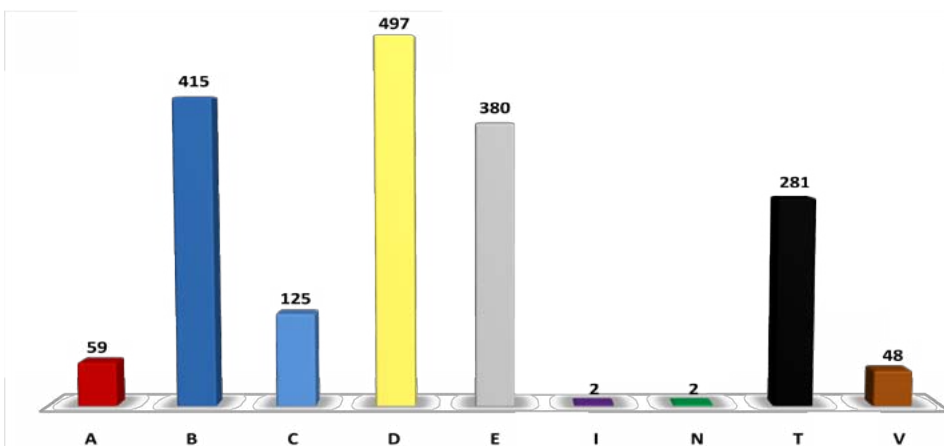
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2009 Statistical Data



DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

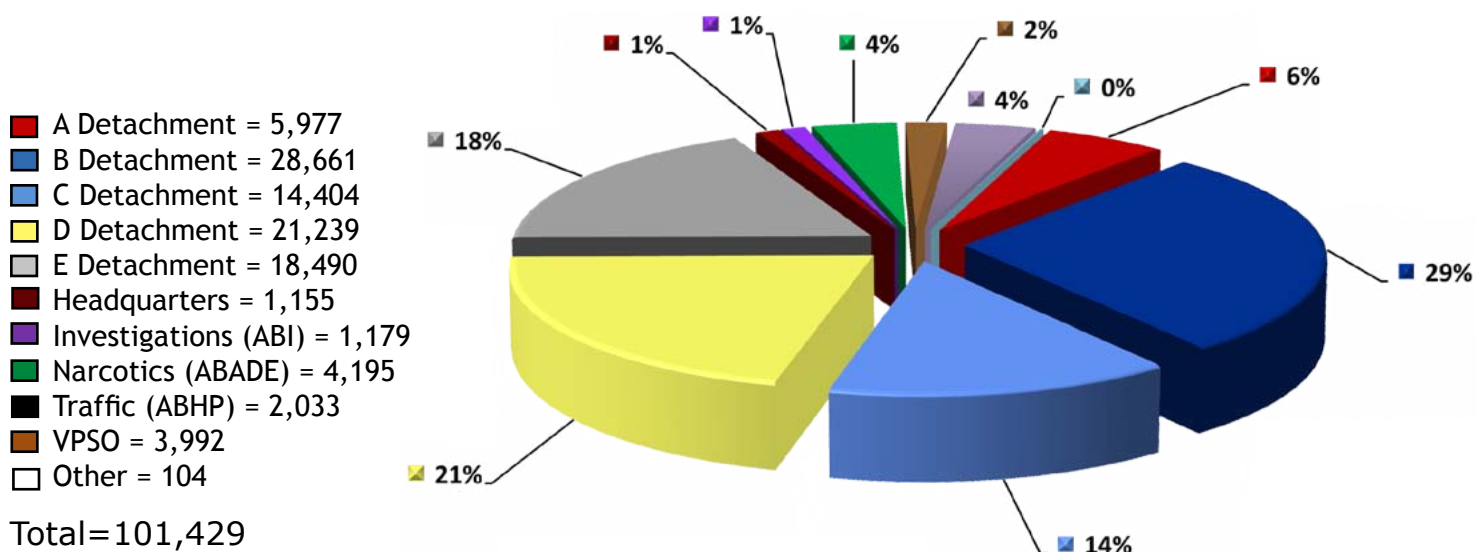
Total offenses: 1,809



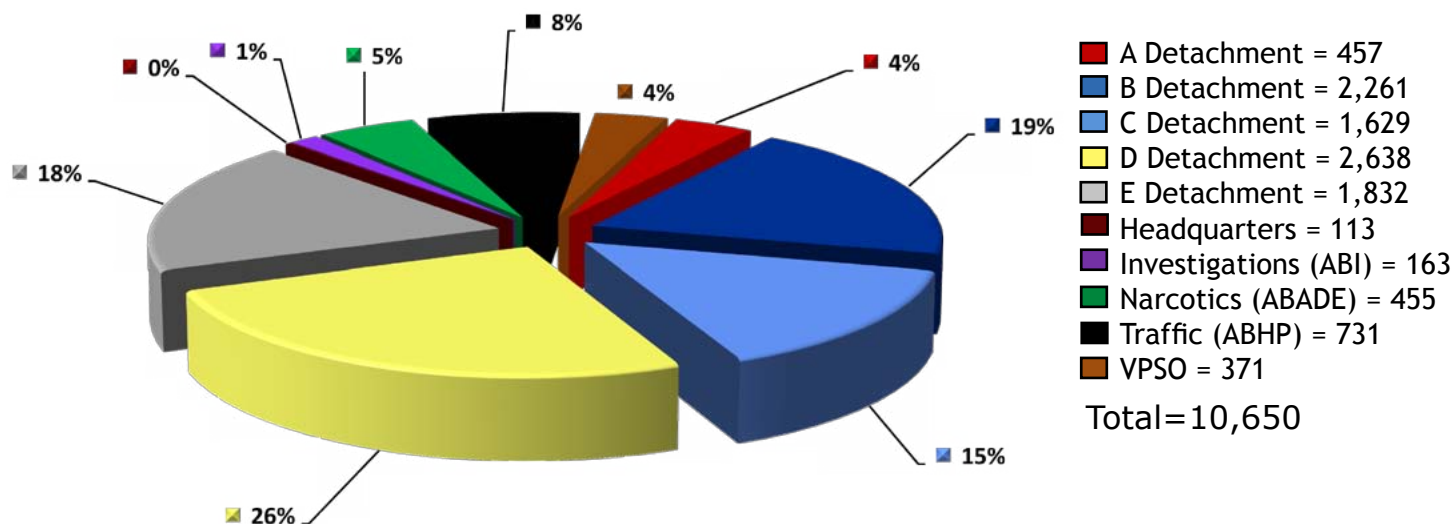
ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

2009 Statistical Data

CALLS FOR SERVICE FOR 2009



CALLS RESULTING IN ARREST OR REFERRAL FOR PROSECUTION

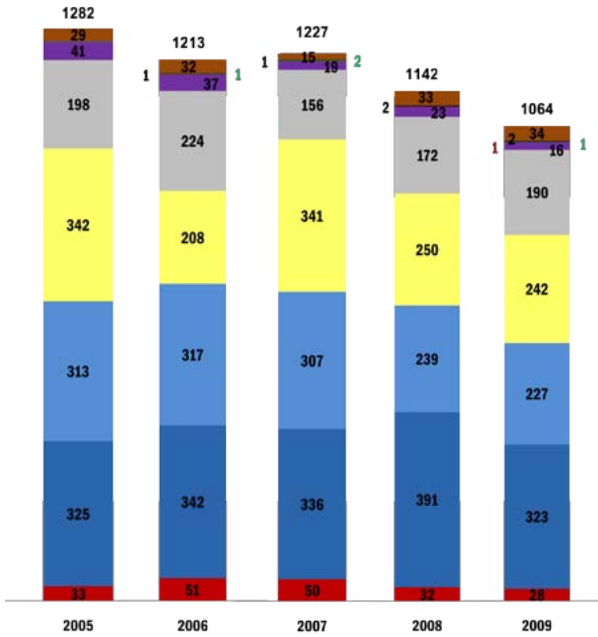


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

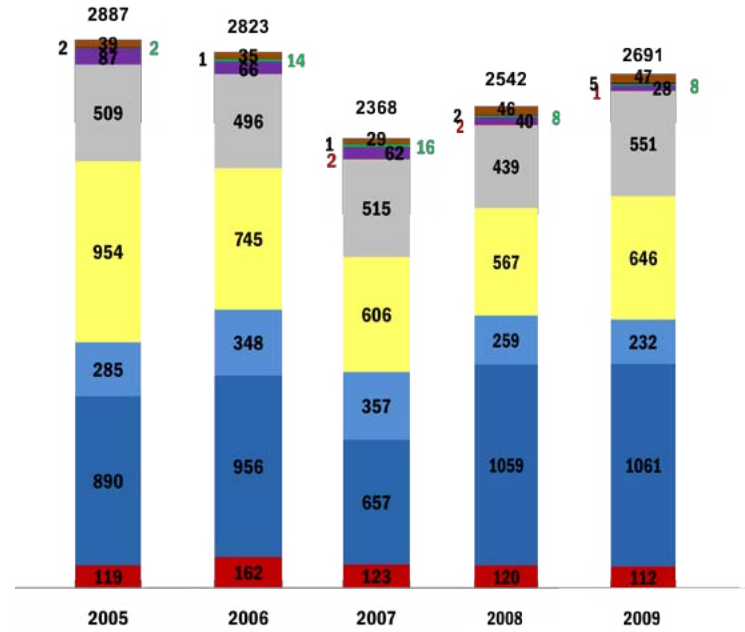
Historical Data



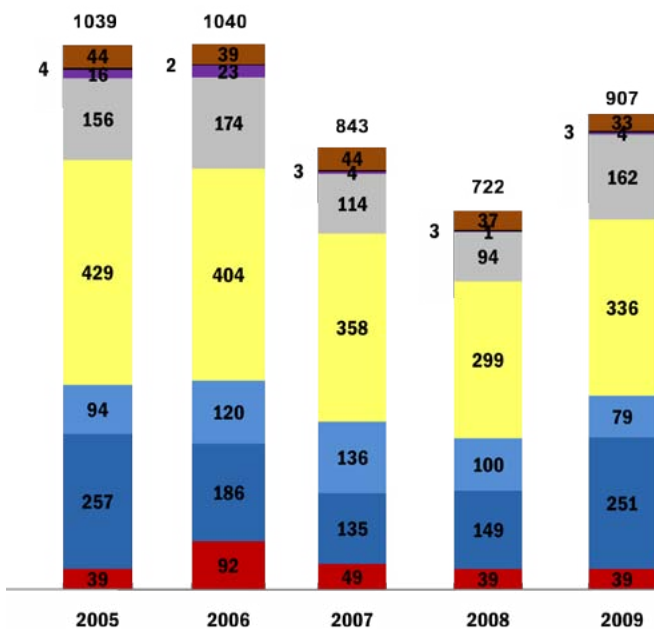
■ A: A Detachment ■ B: B Detachment ■ C: C Detachment ■ D: D Detachment
■ E: E Detachment ■ H: Headquarters ■ I: ABI ■ N: ABADe
■ T: ABHP ■ V: VPSO



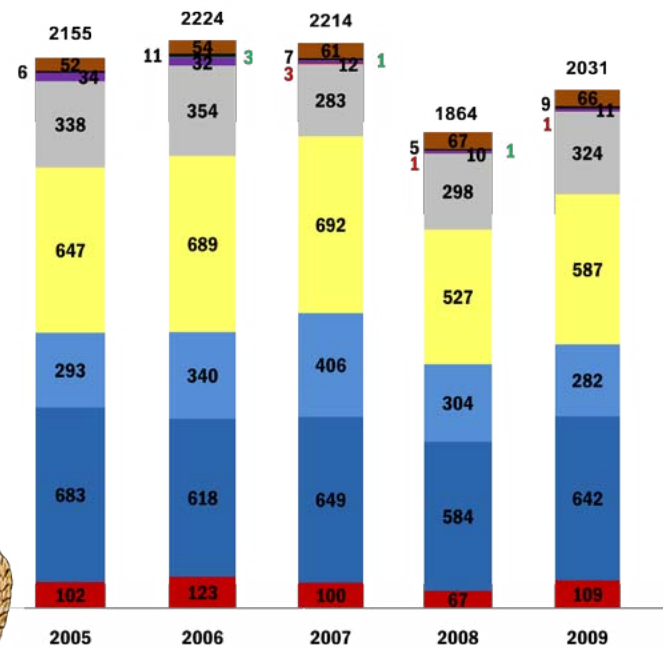
Burglary



Theft



Trespass



Criminal Mischief

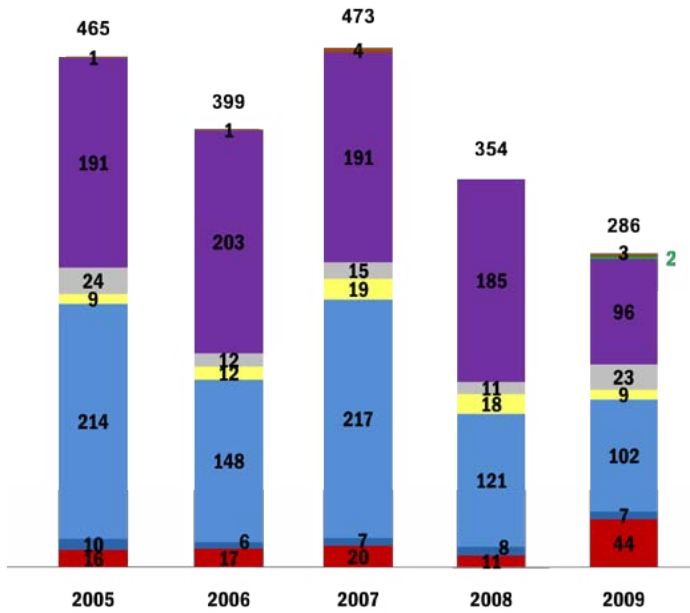


ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

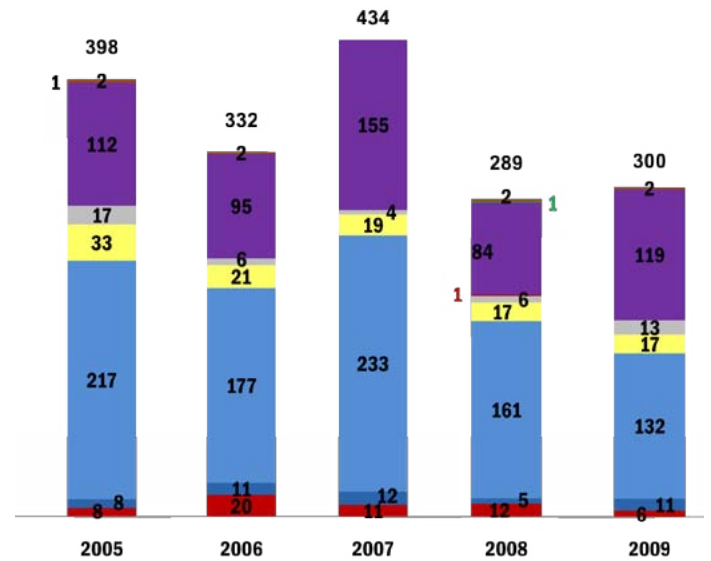
Historical Data



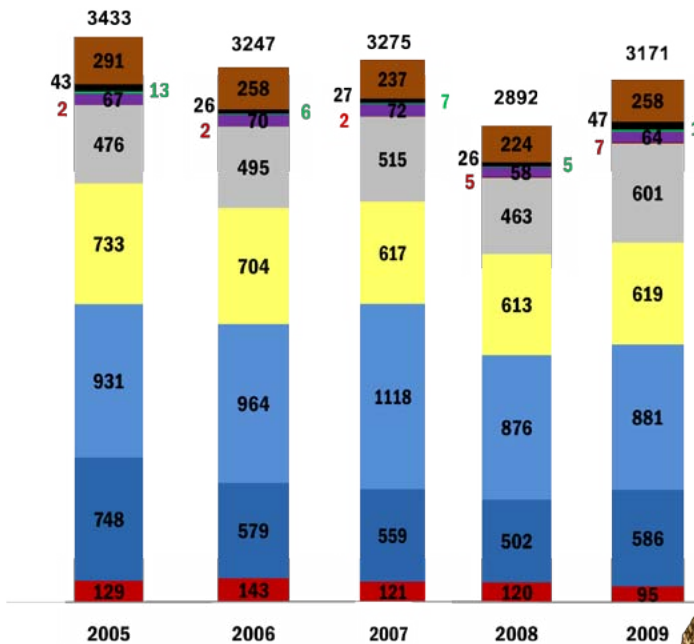
■ A: A Detachment ■ B: B Detachment ■ C: C Detachment ■ D: D Detachment
■ E: E Detachment ■ H: Headquarters ■ I: ABI ■ N: ABAD
■ T: ABHP ■ V: VPSO



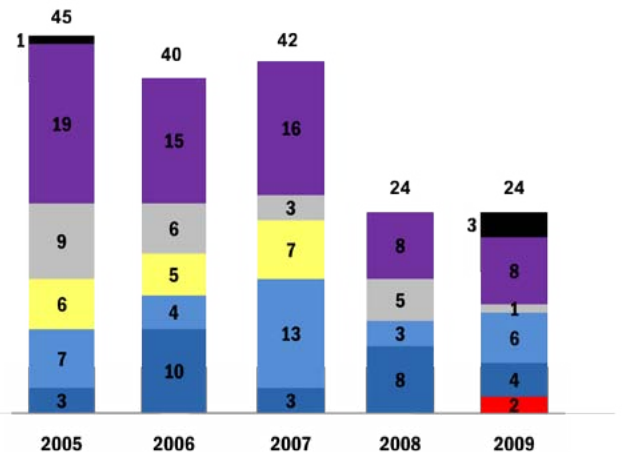
Sexual Abuse of a Minor



Sexual Assault



Assault

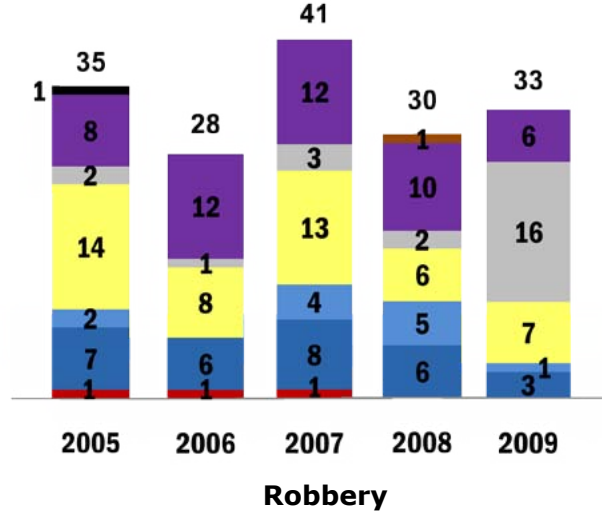


Homicide



ALASKA STATE TROOPERS

Historical Data



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 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. The numbers for the 2009 Annual Report were adjusted to reflect greater accuracy in statistical data, leading to differences in statistics listed in previous Alaska State Trooper annual reports.



2009 Annual Report

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<http://www.dps.alaska.gov/PIO/reports.aspx>