

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Public Service Announcement

Date: 04/30/2007

From: Sergeant Campbell

Case or Incident #: None

Summary:

With the construction on Egan Drive at Sunny Point the Juneau Police Department would like to remind motorists of a law passed in 2006. The statute is AS 28.35.185, Overtaking and Passing Certain Stationary Vehicles.

In essence, the law applies to a highway or roadway where there are two or more lanes heading in the same direction. Egan Drive fits this description. If an emergency vehicle is on the side of the road with its emergency lights activated a driver is required to vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicle.

For example, a police officer stops a vehicle and the patrol car is on the right shoulder of the highway. Approaching motorists must vacate the right lane of travel and merge to the left lane. Passing the patrol car by using the right lane violates this statute. The purpose of this statute is to provide a safe zone for the officer and occupants of the stopped vehicle.

Failure to vacate the lane closest to the emergency vehicle is a violation. If a person is injured as a result of failing to vacate the lane the driver has committed an A Misdemeanor.

Any charges reported in this press release are merely accusations and the defendants are presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

***** END OF STATEMENT *****

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