

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

6255 ALAWAY AVENUE ○ JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

Greg Browning
Chief of Police

Committed to Service and Excellence

Business (907) 586-0600
Fax (907) 463-4808

Public Service Announcement

Subject: Thane Road Avalanche

Date: 02/07/2009

From: Sgt David Campbell

Incident #: 2009-004094

Summary:

On 02/07/2009, at approximately 12:58 pm, the Juneau Police Department received multiple reports of an avalanche on Thane Road. In essence, an avalanche occurred at the main avalanche chute near 1 mile Thane Road. One caller said the avalanche had crossed the road and had entered Gastineau Channel. The avalanche was estimated to be approximately 150 feet wide and 15 feet high.

JPD, Capital City Fire Rescue, Forest Service, and United State Coast Guard personnel responded to the area. The perimeter of the avalanche was searched for signs of anyone who might have been in the path of the avalanche. No evidence was located at the perimeter of the avalanche. Members of the Juneau Citizens on Patrol responded to assist with traffic control.

The Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) was notified of the avalanche. Thane Road has been closed until DOT personnel are able to clear the snow from the roadway. Due to continuing avalanche dangers, DOT will not begin removing snow until it is determined to be safe, which might take up to 24 hours.

The North side of the avalanche has been closed with barricades. Citizens are advised to stay out of the area. Thane Road will be closed until further notice.

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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