## JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## **INFORMATION RELEASE**

Subject: Sexual Assault 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree	Date:
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From: Sgt. Hatch Case or Incident # 091018-005

## **Summary:**

On 10-18-09 at about 0652 hours, the Juneau Police Dept. received a call from a 27 year old female that she was just sexually assaulted while on a boat at the Aurora Harbor. She stated the perpetrator had just left the area on foot. The victim knew the suspect as an acquaintance and he had lived on the boat in the past.

Responding officers were moments away and contacted the suspect as he was in the Aurora Harbor parking lot. After in investigation into the incident, the suspect, a 36 year old Soldotna man, was detained. He was identified as Randy Merritt.

Merritt was ultimately placed under arrest for Sexual Assault in the 1<sup>st</sup> degree, an unclassified felony. He was lodged at the Lemon Creek Correctional Center and held without bail.

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