

JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT

6255 ALAWAY AVENUE ○ JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

Greg Browning
Chief of Police

Committed to Service and Excellence

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INFORMATION RELEASE

Subject: Accreditation

Date: December 9, 2009

From: Cindee Brown-Mills

Case or Incident: N/A

Summary:

On December 1, 2009 the Juneau Police Department was recognized as the first accredited law enforcement agency in Alaska by the Alaska Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Commission (ALEAAC). Chief of Police Greg Browning accepted the honor at the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police meeting in Anchorage.

ALEAAC's goal is to "be affordable, Alaska-specific, and user friendly." The 151 mandatory standards were selected by a board of 12 Chiefs of Police from throughout the State and are based on national law enforcement accreditation standards. Twenty-eight other states have state law enforcement accreditation agencies with ALEAAC the first of its kind in Alaska.

The accreditation process has 3 three phases:

Phase one - the application process is the formal notification to ALEAAC that the agency intends to pursue accreditation. JPD submitted its application on January 25, 2008.

Phase two - the self-assessment. Departments normally assign an accreditation manager to compare the 151 standards to department policies and procedures and make recommendations for changes and/or additions.

Once the department finishes its self assessment, it's on to phase three which is the formal assessment by ALEAAC.

On October 18, 2009 ALEAAC sent two assessors to JPD. For two days the assessors compared policies to standards, reviewing every unit within the Department including interviewing staff, touring the facility, and inspecting equipment.

The assessors found the Department to be in compliance with all 151 standards. The assessors stated they were extremely impressed with JPD and complimented accreditation manager, Sgt. David Wrightson for his work.

Representatives from ALEAAC will be present at the December 14th Juneau Assembly meeting to make the formal presentation to the Juneau Assembly.

Benefits of ALEAAC Accreditation include:

- Reducing agency risk and exposure to lawsuits;
- Improving law enforcement – community relations;

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- Identifying and highlighting the capabilities and competence of the agency;
- Extending agency accountability to the public and elected officials; and
- Developing improved methods for providing police services to the community.

The police departments in Skagway, Fairbanks, and Sitka have also applied for accreditation through ALEAAC. Persons interested in more information about ALEAAC or the accreditation program can contact its program manager Greg Russell at (907) 398-2770 or search on line at http://www.aacop.org/ALEAAC_Program_Manual.pdf.