

Juneau Police Department History

1980

January 4, 1980 – Robert Williams resigned.

January 14, 1980 – James E. Davidson was hired as a traffic control officer.

February 11, 1980 – JPD Officer Karl Lewkowski accidentally wounded himself in the leg with his .357 magnum service revolver, while cleaning it at his home.

February 28, 1980 – Former San Diego County Sheriff's Deputy Charles E. Beatty was hired as a police officer.

March 21, 1980 – James Davidson resigned.

March 22, 1980 – Robert Fletcher was hired as a police officer.

May 27, 1980 – A Douglas man armed with a knife chased a woman who stopped to untangle the man's tethered dog. JPD officers responded and the man barricaded himself in his apartment, warning officers that he had firearms and would use them. Patrol Officer Darrell McCracken eventually talked the man out of the apartment and into surrendering without further incident or injury.

June 1, 1980 – Former Klamath Falls, Oregon officer Alan Randy March was hired as a police officer.

June 4, 1980 – LA County Sheriff Peter Pitchess opened a 2-day law enforcement seminar at the Baranof Hotel with an address that was critical of the news media and its handling of police events. The seminar which was attended by several JPD officers covered pipeline security, the FBI National Academy, and the Seattle PD Intelligence Ordinance.

June 9, 1980 – A city bus, left with the keys in it was stolen by two teenaged boys and crashed into a Douglas home. Both juveniles received facial injuries and were treated and released by the hospital.

June 30, 1980 – Chief of Police James Barkley retired.

July 31, 1980 – Officer Daniel Duncan retired.

August 5, 1980 – City workers discovered a car hanging in the trees overlooking Evergreen Bowl which JPD officers later determined had been vandalized and pushed over a cliff.

August 20, 1980 – The Director of the Zach Gordon Teen Club was arrested and charged with sexually abusing 5 boys he met in connection with his work at the Club.

Juneau Police Department History

August 25, 1980 – Larry D. Arseneau was hired as a police officer.

August 26, 1980 – Eighteen men applied to replace retired Chief of Police Barkley. Included in the group were the Director of Public Safety at the University of Alaska-Anchorage, and former or current chiefs of police from North Pole; Kotzebue; Pascoe, Washington; Jefferson, Oregon; Oregon Transit District Police; Boulder City, Nevada; and Cottage Grove and Seaside, Oregon.

September 2, 1980 – The Alaska Supreme Court suspended a former Assistant Attorney General's license to practice law for two years as a result of his conviction for distributing cocaine.



September 18, 1980 – JPD Captain Joseph Ciraulo was named Chief of Police.

October 31, 1980 – The building which housed the police department at 210 Admiral Way was condemned by the City and labeled as a “mechanical, electrical, fire hazard” and “deemed unsafe for human occupancy”. The Hawaiian based owner of the building was given 90 days to make necessary repair plans and obtain a building permit.

November 20, 1980 – JPD officers began to apply “Denver Boots” to cars owned by some 55 drivers in the City who had not paid two or more parking citations.

1981

January 2, 1981 – Officer Daniel Vander Weele resigned.

January 8, 1981 – JPD officers responded to the Assembly Chambers after being requested by the city manager to remove three local residents who refused to let the Assembly convene in executive session. The three were escorted out of the building and issued trespass citations which were later dismissed.

January 9, 1981 – Officer Donald Otis resigned.

Juneau Police Department History

January 29, 1981 – An eighteen hour standoff with AST's Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) resulted in a man taking his own life after he had killed his wife and son at his Switzer Village mobile home.

February 10, 1981 – Diane B. Wirth was hired as a police officer.

May 1, 1981 – Gregory B. White was hired as a police officer.

May 31, 1981 – Officer Larry Arseneau resigned.

June 1, 1981 – Michael Sas was hired as a police officer.

June 3, 1981 – Steven Smathers resigned.

June 8, 1981 – Steven C. Lawson was hired as a police officer.

June 24, 1981 – Michael Sas resigned.

July 8, 1981 – Summer, youth employees went door to door taking a census of dogs in Juneau, not only to count the number of dogs, but to inform dog owners of license requirements and other pet regulations.

July 20, 1981 – Christine M. Gibbens was hired as a police officer.

August 12, 1981 – Rodney I. Schneider was hired as a police officer.

August 28, 1981 – Cpl. Donald Pierce resigned to accept a position with the State Troopers.

September 21, 1981 – Robert Deakins was hired as a police officer.

September 28, 1981 – In an address to the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), President Reagan labeled crime as an "American epidemic", on the heels of a report that crime rates had made a "dramatic upsurge" in Alaska.

October 15, 1981 – The cost of prosecuting many local crimes shifted from the State to the City. In a move by the Attorney General's Office cities with ordinances that mirrored state laws were required to take over all prosecutions and related incarceration costs. District Attorney Pat Gullufsen said that Juneau was not being singled out, as the new policy applied to all municipalities in the state.

November 18, 1981 – Rodney Schneider resigned.

November 20, 1981 – Christine Gibbens resigned.

Juneau Police Department History

November 22, 1981 – Lt. James Hasty resigned.

December 1, 1981 – Officer Charles Beatty was promoted to corporal.

December 2, 1981 – Two former JPD officers resigned under protest from their posts at Cordova PD, following investigations into alleged misconduct in a narcotics case and into reports that one of them attempted to alienate department officers and citizens against Cordova Chief Bill Bagron, a former captain at JPD.

December 9, 1981 – Juneau Crime Line “took its first step toward helping halt the spread of local crime today”. The program composed of a cross-section of sixteen Juneau-area citizens, offered rewards to individuals who provided information leading to the arrest or indictment of criminal suspects.

December 29, 1981 – Ronald A. Forneris was hired as a police officer.

1982

January 8, 1982 – Corporal Charles Beatty resigned to accept a position with the State Troopers.

January 28, 1982 – Michael Tagaban was hired as a community service officer.

February 14, 1982 – Former JPD Lt. and current Kodiak Chief of Police James Hasty was stopped by a Kodiak officer for DWI. Hasty later resigned from his post as Chief of Police.

February 25, 1982 – Gerald M. Ekker was hired as a police officer.

March 1, 1982 – The Police Department reported that it made 824 arrests in 1981, as compared to 419 arrests made by the Troopers during the same period.

March 8, 1982 – Bill Ireland was hired as a police officer.

March 24, 1982 – A man suffering violent withdrawal from alcohol and drugs apparently aspirated on his vomit and suffocated while chained to a bed in the Lemon Creek jail.

Juneau Police Department History



April 1, 1982 – JPD notified citizens that the “Denver Boot” was again going to be used on vehicles whose drivers were ignoring two or more parking citations. The list had grown to 450 Juneau residents.

April 4, 1982 – An elderly couple was found murdered in their South Franklin St. apartment. JPD officers later charged two local residents in the homicides.

April 25, 1982 – A drive to gather funds to construct a youth ballpark as a memorial to the two JPD officers who were killed in the line of duty on April 17, 1979, was approved and started by a donation of \$7,000 by the Alaska Peace Officers Association (APOA).

May 4, 1982 – Chief Ciraulo reported that police received nearly 1600 calls about dogs in 1981 and impounded 800. City Manager Carl Laird recommended an increase in fines and boarding fees.

May 14, 1982 – Investigation by an undercover officer enrolled at JDHS netted 6 students and 4 adults who were selling narcotics on the campus.

July 29, 1982 – JPD officers were called to the Juneau Cold Storage twice when striking union workers blocked the driveway of the building, preventing a van from leaving with a load of fish.

August 10, 1982 – The Juneau Empire began a series of editorial page opinions supporting expansion of JPD into an area-wide policing configuration. The Newspaper was extremely critical of the Assembly’s historical reluctance to adequately fund the Police Department and urged local voters to support increased funding.

September 18, 1982 – The grand opening and dedication of the Adair/Kennedy Memorial Park was held with Mrs. Richard Adair and Mrs. Jimmy Kennedy cutting the ceremonial ribbon.

September 22, 1982 – A new law to help ensure drivers who had been arrested for drunk driving took the mandatory breath test went into effect, mandating drivers who refused the test spent three days in jail.

October 6, 1982 – The results of Proposition 3 in the general election were reported with 56% of the voters voting against a proposed police expansion into the Borough.

Juneau Police Department History

November 1, 1982 – JPD officers were removed from the airport by City Manager Carl Laird after discussions with the FAA amid short-staffing concerns at JPD.

December 2, 1982 – Two JPD sergeants representing the officers in the Department met with Chief Ciraulo and acting City Manager Kevin Ritchie in attempts to solve some of the problems officers said were lowering morale in the Department. At the center of the problem was a lack of training and salaries that were not commensurate with the State Troopers.

December 10, 1982 – Karl Stuart resigned.

1983

January 1, 1983 – Alaska's controversial new drug law took effect and was greeted with mixed reviews by police and prosecutors. JPD's chief drug investigator, Cpl. Darrell McCracken felt the law was extremely complex, and he needed to review the fine points before commenting.

January 18, 1983 – The building housing JPD was renovated again to make room for a new radio center to house new 9-1-1 emergency telephone equipment and consoles for two dispatchers to work side-by-side.

February 1, 1983 – New computerized instruments called *Intoximeters* replaced 2, 10-year-old Breathalyzers at JPD, used for the purpose of measuring blood alcohol in a person's breath.

March 1, 1983 – Chief Ciraulo reported that the Department received 7,421 calls for service in 1982. There were 3,327 offenses reported resulting in 1,044 arrests.

March 7, 1983 – The Legislature reviewed several proposals to reinstate the death penalty in Alaska, and the Juneau Empire came out in favor of reinstatement.

March 9, 1983 – JPD officers assisted in the search for an inmate who escaped through a closing gate at the Southeastern Regional Correctional Institute at Lemon Creek.

March 13, 1983 – JPD officers returned to the airport following an investigation by FAA officials who expressed concern over the lack of security.

March 21, 1983 – Chief Ciraulo asked for \$362,538 for pay raises, equipment, additional positions, and training in his 1984 fiscal year budget request. A high attrition rate among local officers who left to join the higher-paying State Troopers was a major concern.

Juneau Police Department History

April 6, 1983 – JPD Lt. Randy March became the sixth Juneau officer since 1966, to attend the FBI's National Academy at Quantico, Virginia.



April 10, 1983 – Officer John Hansen pulled a woman to safety as she attempted to jump from the Douglas Bridge. He was later awarded a life saving medal by Chief Ciraulo.

April 30, 1983 – Traffic Control Officer James Davidson resigned.

May 1, 1983 – The Emergency 9-1-1 telephone system became operational at a cost to the City of \$150,000.

June 20, 1983 – Leslie Ireland was hired as a dispatcher.

July 1, 1983 – Total number of police personnel in FY 1983-1984 was approved at 38 with half being sworn and half non-sworn. One officer and one corporal were assigned to the airport. The Department had 13 vehicles which included 2 three-wheeled traffic enforcement motorcycles.

- A new city ordinance to help prevent shoplifting took effect making it illegal to conceal any merchandise while in a store.

August 24, 1983 – A 20 year old Juneau resident, Cindy Elrod was found murdered in her Kodzoff Acres trailer. The Juneau Crime Line established the Cindy Elrod Fund and \$5000 was raised to help identify her assailant. State Troopers had been unable to solve the case.

September 20, 1983 – Janet Lown was hired as a dispatcher.

December 7, 1983 – The Juneau Empire continued its comments urging Juneau voters to support higher wages, better training and adequate manpower for JPD, warning that officers might form or join a labor union which the editor openly stated he hoped didn't happen.

1984

January 18, 1984 – The man convicted in the double murder of a couple on April 4, 1982, was sentenced to 99 years by Judge Roger Pegues.

Juneau Police Department History

January 19, 1984 – By resolution, the Assembly created a Special Advisory Committee on Area-wide Policing to evaluate the cost, advantages, and disadvantages of area-wide police protection in terms of efficiency, responsiveness, and accountability.

February 29, 1984 – The security director for Alyeska Pipeline provided information to the committee studying area-wide police services that supported expansion of the Juneau Police Department.

March 3, 1984 – Chief Ciraulo provided workload and crime rate statistics in his report to the Committee studying an area-wide policing program. He reported that the Department received 6,492 calls for service, counted 2,433 offenses, and arrested 955 people in 1983.

March 15, 1984 – Traffic Control Officer Krista Coleman resigned.

March 19, 1984 – The Commissioner of the Alaska State Troopers reported that if the City took over all police functions in the Borough, AST would reduce its assigned manpower in Juneau by 12 sworn positions.

April 6, 1984 – The result of a budget survey was reported with only 30% of the 1,337 respondents favoring the extension of JPD's police services throughout the Borough.



April 12, 1984 – JPD Officer Dave Bartlett completed a four-week training program and was on the street with his new partner, a 2-yr-old German Shepherd named Asko.

May 7, 1984 – The Committee on Area-wide Policing delivered its recommendation that the Assembly put the question on the ballot with an explanation of costs and sources of funding.

Juneau Police Department History

May 11, 1984 – Seventeen people were indicted for various drug charges following an undercover operation by officers assigned to the Southeast Alaska Narcotics Enforcement Team (SEANET).

May 28, 1984 – Officer Gregory White resigned to become a full-time Baptist preacher.

May 31, 1984 – The Assembly adopted an ordinance requiring bars to close at 2 AM every day of the week. Bars had been allowed to remain open until 5 AM on weekends.



June 7, 1984 – JPD's ten-man Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) spent the day training in a mock hostage stand-off. The Team was formed following the 18-hour hostage-barricade event in Switzer Village in January, 1979, in which several people were killed.

Ben Connell, Robert Fletcher, Mel Personnett, Brian Pringle, Steve Kalwara, Karl Lewkowski, Greg White, John Lichtenberger

June 8, 1984 – Kim Horn was hired as a dispatcher.

June 17, 1984 – Many citizens that lived outside of JPD's service areas #1 and #2 were confused about the police service that was currently available to them. Signed petitions were presented to Mayor Ulmer in support of area-wide policing.

June 18, 1984 – Jacqueline Renninger was hired as a traffic officer.

June 22, 1984 – Arson was suspected in a blaze that caused more than \$700,000 in damages to the three story Decker Building on Franklin Street.

July 9, 1984 – Dispatcher Leslie Ireland was promoted to Community Service Officer.

Juneau Police Department History

July 25, 1984 – JPD officers joined AST in searching for four maximum security inmates who used a battering ram to break out of the State Correction Center at Lemon Creek.

September 21, 1984 – Dispatcher Janet Lown was promoted to police officer.

November 22, 1984 – A massive wind storm struck the Juneau area on Thanksgiving Day, leaving the City with 2.4 million dollars in damage. Boats were sunk in Auke Bay Harbor which took the brunt of the storm. In Tenakee Springs, winds clocked at 92 MPH destroyed 15 of the existing 50 homes.

1985

February 26, 1985 – Experts estimated that hundreds of tons of snow slid down the Behrends Avenue slide chute shortly before 8 PM, coming to rest 50 feet above the homes on Highland Drive.

March 3, 1985 – A huge avalanche buried Basin Road in 20 feet of snow.

March 24, 1985 – A man acquitted in the grisly murder of a Juneau couple in their Franklin Street apartment in 1982, was gunned down by a man who told JPD officers that it was something that he just had to do.

June 12, 1985 – JPD arrested eight protesters when they refused to end a “sit-in” in the offices of the State’s congressional delegation as part of a nation-wide peace vigil, protesting U.S. policies in Central America.

June 14, 1985 – Chief Ciraulo presented two dispatchers certificates of commendation for refusing to abandon their post in the Communications Center even though it had filled up with smoke from a fire in a neighboring building. Concerned that the smoke could be toxic, firefighters brought air injectors into the police building to blow the smoke out.

June 18, 1985 – In conjunction with the Boy Scouts of America, JPD sponsored the Second Annual Bicycle Safety Rodeo at the United Bank Alaska parking lot in Mendenhall Mall.

June 28, 1985 – The three finalists who were interviewed to replace Chief Ciraulo who had announced his retirement, included the Chiefs from Kodiak and Unalaska and JPD Captain Mike Gelston.

July 8, 1985 – Captain Michael S. Gelston was named to replace retiring Chief Ciraulo and Stanley Herrera was hired as a police officer.

July 10, 1985 – Chief of Police Joseph Ciraulo retired.

Juneau Police Department History



JPD Captain Michael Gelston replaced Chief Ciraulo as Chief of Police.

- JPD joined the school district in seeking a federal grant to pay for the first year of a two-year youth crime prevention program. At the core of the program was a full-time “youth officer” who worked in all the schools in the district with youngsters of all ages.

July 17, 1985 – The fine for parking in a handicapped zone rose from \$10 to \$100.

August 12, 1985 – Kenneth Levine was hired as a police officer.

August 13, 1985 – A six year veteran JPD officer was arrested for DWI by another JPD officer. Chief Gelston disciplined the offending officer but did not terminate him.

September 30, 1985 – Charges against the eight people arrested in the sit-in demonstration in June at the Federal Building were dropped.

November 4, 1985 – The Assembly voted to spend \$704,000 to add 20 new JPD officers and to extend the area patrolled by the Department from downtown to the airport. Chief Gelston intended to hire the officers by April 1, 1986. The change was driven by state lawmakers who advised they intended to reduce trooper services in cities with the authority to provide their own police protection on July 1, 1987.

December 5, 1985 – JPD’s Metro Drug Unit was called in to assist with an investigation into an allegation that several guards at Juneau’s maximum-security prison were involved in drug trafficking.

December 16, 1985 – Phillip W. Hill was hired as a police officer.

Juneau Police Department History

1986

January 1, 1986 – Kevin M. Siska was hired as a police officer.

January 2, 1986 – The downtown parking plan was changed again with 30 minute limits on parking spaces on Front Street. Citizens were reminded that the first floor of the parking garage had 80 spaces in which parking was free for four hours.

January 9, 1986 – 81 people applied for 13 new positions at JPD, authorized by the Assembly to cover the expanded service area that JPD hopes to provide service to by July 1.

January 13, 1986 – Judy Steffel and Thomas Rathbone were hired as police officers.

January 31, 1986 – JPD Officer Bill Ireland was named as the new youth officer for the Juneau School District and JPD cooperative youth crime prevention and education program. Ireland, a four year veteran and his supervisor, Sgt. Steve Kalwara traveled to San Diego for a week to observe what they believed was the best police liaison officer program in the country.

February 11, 1986 – Diane Wirth resigned.

March 3, 1986 – Walter J. Boman was hired as a police officer.

March 7, 1986 – JPD Officer Bill Ireland died from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

March 10, 1986 – John Boltjes was hired as a police officer.

March 17, 1986 – Clarence W. Bloodworth was hired as a police officer.

March 18, 1986 – Ronald Henry was hired as a police officer.

March 31, 1986 – Thomas Rathbone resigned.

April 7, 1986 – Kenneth Jennings and Mark Terra were hired as police officers.

April 8, 1986 – Thomas Wehnes was hired as a police officer.

June 6, 1986 – Karl Lewkowski resigned.

June 9, 1986 – Robert Kolvig and Paul Comolli were hired as police officers.

June 23, 1986 – Steven Christensen, George Gozelski, and Glenn Rector were hired as police officers.

Juneau Police Department History

July 1, 1986 – JPD began to provide service to North Douglas, Thane, Salmon Creek, Lemon Creek, the airport area, and business areas near the intersection of Egan Drive and Mendenhall Loop Rd.

July 9, 1986 – The Gastineau Humane Society took over animal control duties from the Police Department, with a focus on preventing animal problems.

July 29, 1986 – Steve Hernandez was hired as a police officer.

September 15, 1986 – A program to identify sexual predators who tried to hire into social agencies fell through the cracks due to a slow turnaround time by the FBI. Chief Gelston said the fingerprints of 35 -40 prospective social service employees were sent off to the federal agency, but problems developed that halted the program about the middle of 1985. The FBI took several months to do each background check due to the low priority of the program and a number of sets of prints were returned because they were smudged or otherwise unusable.

September 8, 1986 – JPD was called to investigate reports of JDHS freshman students being thrown into Gold Creek by upper level students as part of hazing or initiation rituals.

September 18, 1986 – Calls for service to the Juneau Police Department went up more than 50% during the first two months following the expansion of JPD's service area.

September 30, 1986 – Sgt. Dennis Windred resigned following an internal investigation into alleged misconduct.

October 10, 1986 – An Alaska Army National Guard recruiter was convicted of promoting prostitution following an undercover investigation by JPD officers. It was the first prostitution related investigation since the mid-1970's when police arrested a massage parlor operator.

October 14, 1986 – A member of Juneau's Fourth of July Committee was indicted on charges she took committee funds for her own use. The investigation began after the winner of the Miss Juneau Pageant complained that she had not been given scholarship funds she had been promised.

Juneau Police Department History



October 15, 1986 – JPD Officer Janet Lown was appointed as officer in the schools. The job funded partially by a federal grant was aimed at substantially reducing juvenile crime in Juneau.

December 16, 1986 – At a Juneau School Board meeting it was proposed that a policy be adopted prohibiting police from interviewing students unless the student filled out a consent form. The new policy also would have required officers to fill out a form before arresting any student, unless an emergency existed.

1987

January 19, 1987 – There was concern that the stretch of highway around 2 ½ mile North Douglas Highway was becoming too dangerous during winter driving conditions. Two serious crashes, one involving a fatality had already occurred in the past two weeks.

February 9, 1987 – James David Herrin was arrested for the murder of Juneau Empire contract motor route driver, George Robert “Bob” Williamson.

February 11, 1987 – Christopher Thomas resigned.

February 13, 1987 – Paul Smith resigned.

March 6, 1987 – Traffic was blocked on North Franklin this morning at about 7 AM when a 26 year old Angoon man jumped from his third floor window at the Baranof Hotel. Three other people were in the room when he jumped, but didn't know why the incident occurred.

March 24, 1987 – Seven year old Steven Sroczyński was killed when he and two friends squeezed into the AEL&P's downtown electrical power substation and began climbing the gridwork.

April 1, 1987 – Officer Paul Smith resigned.

April 8, 1987 – Jerry Nankervis was hired as a police officer.

April 19, 1987 – A Crime Line tip led to the arrest of a burglar at the Shop-N-Kart grocery store shortly after the store closed.

Juneau Police Department History

May 19, 1987 – Chief Gelston announced that drunken drivers arrested by JPD would be booked into the Lemon Creek Correctional Center instead of being cited and released.

May 24, 1987 – A fire started by homeless people trying to stay warm, gutted the Juneau Cold Storage building which was owned by Sealaska.

May 28, 1987 – Chief Gelston issued a temporary order overriding the dress code policy for Communications Center personnel allowing them to wear blue jeans and tennis shoes to work.

June 1, 1987 – Officers were directed to use all reasonable means available to deter and frighten bears from that course of activity that led them into contact and conflict with humans. Officers were directed to cite people responsible for poorly contained garbage when it was the reason a bear was in the area.

June 2, 1987 – 90 year-old, former JPD Chief of Police Dan H. Ralston died at his home in Yakima, Washington.

June 4, 1987 – Kenneth Levine resigned.

June 8, 1987 – A plan was announced to trap Juneau's "blue bear", a little seen variation of the coastal black bear often referred to as a "glacier bear". The young bruin and his family had moved into Juneau territory and had been raiding garbage cans in the Gastineau Avenue area. Although garbage bears were normally destroyed, the zoo in Anchorage expressed an interest in displaying the rare creature to its 200,000 plus annual visitors.



Juneau Police Department History

July 1, 1987 – A second expansion in JPD service included all areas of the City and Borough from the Mendenhall River south to the end of the Borough. A state legislative mandate reduced trooper strength to 280 officers statewide.

July 16, 1987 – The City's social services program was moved to Salmon Creek freeing up the upper floor of the building housing the police department. "The police were crowded before we went areawide and now they've got a lot more police, and there's a potential of taking over the trooper's dispatcher service" said Manager Kevin Ritchie.

July 28, 1987 – The Juneau City Harbormaster died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

August 6, 1987 – Due to an increasing workload, dispatchers were advised to re-contact complaining citizens when officers were unavailable to respond to requests for police services. In any case when faced with this situation, dispatchers were directed to advise the shift sergeant who was responsible for the allocation of resources.

August 7, 1987 – Chief Gelston announced that due to cutbacks in the District Attorney's Office, under-age liquor offenses would not be prosecuted. The City did not have ordinances on the books which prohibited underage offenses. Officers were directed to "restrict their arrests" for those offenses until the City could enact appropriate ordinances.

August 17, 1987 – Bicyclists were allowed to use Egan Drive in the area of the Fred Meyer construction site to circumvent the construction area.

October 5, 1987 – The Department of Transportation announced that left turn signals were to be installed on Egan Drive at the Salmon Creek Intersection and at the Vanderbilt Hill intersection.

October 15, 1987 – JPD officers were armed with Nova Spirit Stun Devices. The instrument which produced 50,000 volts could temporarily disable a person who was fighting or resisting arrest.

October 16, 1987 – A Johnson Youth Center counselor was ordered to serve one year in jail for sexually abusing a girl under his care at the center.

1988

February 16, 1988 – Richard Shumate filed a \$1.5 million suit against four JPD officers and one Alaska State Trooper, alleging he was falsely arrested for possessing cocaine.

Juneau Police Department History

February 29, 1988 – The State’s Alcoholic Beverage Control Board suspended the liquor license of the Juneau American Legion Dugout Bar for gambling violations and for serving alcohol to the public.

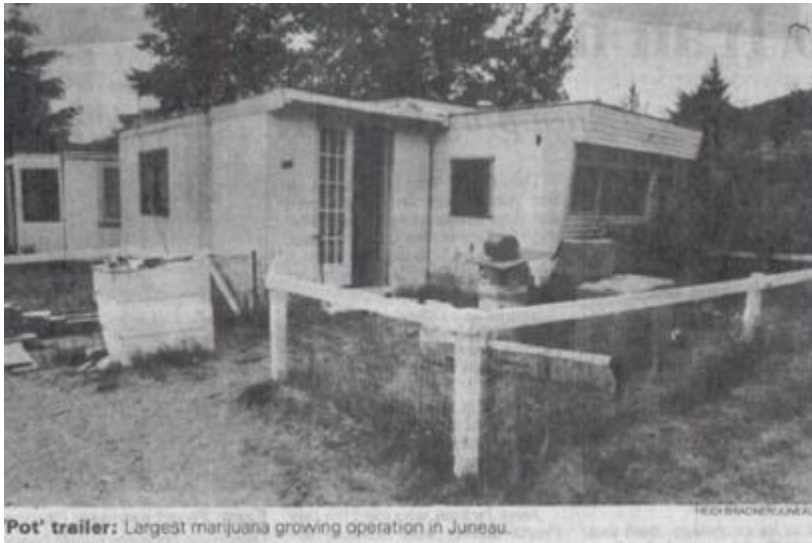
March 8, 1988 – The entire 11-person Gastineau Humane Society’s board of directors was ousted in an election amid complaints of improper euthanasia practices, spread of disease, and inadequate animal-control operations.

March 17, 1988 – The City’s third and fourth fatality crash victims of 1988 were involved in a head-on collision when a Pontiac Bonneville crossed the median on Egan Drive and struck a Chevrolet Blazer.

April 6, 1988 – JPD launched a campaign to save the lives of Juneau’s bear population by encouraging citizens to use bear-proof containers for their garbage and to only put their garbage out when the garbage truck was on the street. JPD officers had to destroy 14 bears in 1987 that had developed a taste for garbage and became a threat to human life.

April 11, 1988 – Following a meeting with concerned citizens, District Attorney Richard Svobodny announced that his office was again going to prosecute first offenders who consumed alcohol under the age of 21. Svobodny had stopped prosecuting those charged with minor consuming about four months earlier because he didn’t feel he had the necessary staff.

June 21, 1988 – Chief Gelston reported that during the first four months of 1988, 110 people were arrested for drunk driving compared to 284 in all of 1987.



July 5, 1988 – Described as the most elaborate marijuana growing operation ever discovered in Juneau, JPD officers from the Metro Drug Unit seized a house trailer in the Glacier View Trailer Court and 200 marijuana plants growing inside of it.

August 3, 1988 – Officer Ronald Henry resigned.

August 10, 1988 – Dorene Smith was hired as a community service officer.

Juneau Police Department History

September 2, 1988 – JPD Captain Randy March was promoted to Deputy Chief of Police.

September 16, 1988 – JPD officers began to carry teddy bears in their squad cars to be given to children who were victims or were in some way otherwise frightened.

September 25, 1988 – JPD officers followed a trail of “Cheetos” from a stolen car to the residence of a man they later dubbed the “Cheeto Bandito”. Steven Schafer was arrested for stealing the car from a Starr Hill neighborhood, driving it to the Valley Liquor Mart in the Mendenhall Valley and using it as a battering ram to enter the building.

He was alleged to have taken more than \$2,000 in wine, liquor chips, candy, and cigarettes. JPD officers responding to a loud party call at Schafer’s house spotted a bag of Cheetos and seized a pair of shoes that matched footprints taken from the burglary scene.

-Glenn Rector resigned.

October 2, 1988 – The \$1.5 million suit filed in February against four JPD officers and one Alaska State Trooper was dropped after the plaintiff was sentenced to three years in prison for possession of cocaine.

October 7, 1988 – Mark Terra resigned.

October 10, 1988 – Russell Haight was hired as a police officer.

October 14, 1988 – Some 50 bicycles were distributed to JPD employees to repair and paint and were given as Christmas presents to children of low-income Juneau families.

October 17, 1988 – A 73-year-old man was found beaten and murdered in his apartment. Deputy Chief Randy March said that police have no suspects and believe the beating and murder took place in the man’s apartment.

October 31, 1988 – Officer Gerald Ekker resigned.

November 2, 1988 – School board member Julie Ward told fellow school board members that she was convinced that Satanic rituals involving animal and human sacrifice were being practiced in Juneau and suggested that Juneau teachers should be educated in such practices. Chief Gelston said the Department had received no reports of Satanic ritualistic murders in Juneau.

November 10, 1988 – A 26-year-old Juneau man was arrested by JPD officers after he allegedly picked up a 16 year old female hitchhiker, drove her to the Twin Lakes area and sexually assaulted her. The man had a prior felony sexual assault conviction in the State of Washington.

Juneau Police Department History

December 6, 1988 – City officials estimated Juneau's population at 29, 946.

1989

January 3, 1989 – A 73 year old man was found murdered in his home on W. Ninth Street. JPD Deputy Chief Randy March said that robbery was likely the motive for the killing.

January 9, 1989 – Steven Lawson resigned.

January 30, 1989 – Two more City directors gave notice that they were leaving the City within six months, bringing the total number of City executive vacancies to three.

March 6, 1989 – Eric D. Ogren was hired as a police officer.

March 14, 1989 – A day-long meeting was initiated by JPD Lt. Steve Kalwara during which a dozen of the state's top homicide investigators convened in Juneau to attempt to determine who killed two elderly Juneau men in their homes last year. This innovative technique which focused on a specific investigation was becoming increasingly popular across the country at that time.

March 15, 1989 – The man arrested in November for sexually assaulting a 16 year old hitchhiker was convicted and sentenced to 25 years in prison.

March 17, 1989 – JPD Capt. Mel Personnett cautioned the driving public to plan their St. Patrick's Day evening in advance to include alternate transportation such as a designated sober driver or a taxi ride home.

March 23, 1989 – The Senate voted to recriminalize marijuana. House Democrats were working on their own bill that would make possession by adults a violation with a maximum \$300 fine and no jail time.

March 28, 1989 – Sam L. Burke was hired as a police officer.

April 3, 1989 – Keith Mickelsen was hired as a police officer.

April 4, 1989 – The "Cheeto Bandito" was sentenced to 2 years in prison for the September, 1988 burglary of the Valley Liquor Mart.

May 15, 1989 – A ceremony to honor police officers killed in the line of duty was held as part of National Peace Officers Week. JPD officers set up a display of police equipment in Mendenhall Mall on Saturday, May 20, as part of the week's events.

Juneau Police Department History

July 10, 1989 – The body of a nine year old girl who had been missing for an hour was recovered in Twin Lakes by a diver from the Glacier Volunteer Fire Department's Quick Response Dive Team.

July 17, 1989 – A U.S. Forest Service accountant was found murdered in his Mendenhall Valley home.

July 19, 1989 – The operator of a 30-ton hydraulic crane was killed when it tipped over as the operator attempted to back it up from the dock near the Support building.

July 21, 1989 – While investigating a reported assault at a home at 24-mile Glacier Hwy, troopers recognized a VCR that belonged to the Mendenhall Valley homicide victim and arrested a Colorado couple for the homicide.

July 31, 1989 – Juneau District Judge Linn Asper retired to move back to Haines. Asper was appointed in 1984 by Governor Bill Sheffield after working as an assistant public defender and staff attorney for the Alaska Legal Services Corp.

August 26, 1989 – The first Juneau resident to have a large amount of personal assets seized by the state under federal drug laws forfeited \$125,000 in drug profits following an undercover investigation by JPD's Metropolitan Drug Unit.

August 29, 1989 – Four black bears were destroyed after one of them charged a JPD officer in a Valley neighborhood. The bear had already attacked and wounded a resident's dog.

September 19, 1989 – Two officers from the Anchorage Police Department brought their equipment and provided a special officer defensive driving course for JPD officers in the Nugget Mall parking lot.

September 25, 1989 – A 41 year old AJ mine worker was killed in an underground accident when his jacket got tangled in his drilling machine about a 25 minute tram ride into the main mine entrance on the southern end of Mt. Roberts.

November 1, 1989 – Assemblywoman Rosalee Walker accused the police department of hassling Juneau citizens just because they were black. Walker's charges came following the DA's office dropping formal charges against a black citizen for armed robbery. Chief Gelston said cross-cultural training for police would begin as soon as possible.

December 1, 1989 – JPD Deputy Chief Randy March announced the formation of two neighborhood watch groups in the Mendenhall Valley.

Juneau Police Department History

December 14, 1989 – Thirteen of the 27 complaints received by the state ombudsman were against the police department. The state ombudsman commented that “high numbers of complaints involving law enforcement agencies are not unusual. Their job necessarily involves people in stressful and involuntary situations.”

1990

January 5, 1990 – JPD’s Property Unit received a surprise piece of property when it took in a hamster in its cage as part of a prisoner’s property.

Huddled in a tiny, dirty, plastic cage, curled up in a wet rag without food or water, she became an object of concern for Deputy Chief Randy March, who saw to it that she got a new glass aquarium supplied with sunflower seeds, cheese and bits of fresh apple. The station’s front office became her new home and the department sponsored a “Name the Hamster” contest.

February 5, 1990 – A 19-year-old Washington man was arraigned in Juneau after he was arrested in Wenatchee, Washington for the January 3, 1989 murder of a 73-year-old, long-time Juneau resident. A 26 year-old Juneau resident was also arrested and 2 other men were still being sought in the case.

February 14, 1990 – The Juneau Citizen’s Patrol was formed and approved by the City Manager to function as a separate entity, but to assist the police department in the delivery of police services to the community.

March 20, 1990 – Eric Ogren was hired as a police officer.

March 22, 1990 – The judge in the murder trial of a Colorado couple agreed to move the trial to Anchorage after jury selection dragged on for four days.

April 3, 1990 – Karl W. Reishus was hired as a police officer.

April 18, 1990 – JPD officers and medics acted out their parts in a simulated drunk driving crash in the parking lot at JDHS sponsored by the local chapter of Students Taking a New Direction (STAND).

May 22, 1990 – A would-be burglar picked the wrong hotel room to burgle when he tried to pry open the window of a room at the Westmark Hotel occupied by the Chief of Police from Wrangell and his wife. The 31 year-old Juneau resident was confronted by the Chief and attempted to escape, but was quickly apprehended by JPD officers.

June 14, 1990 – The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in the case of Michigan State Police vs Sitz that in deciding if sobriety checkpoints should be allowed under the 4th Amendment, the importance of impacting drunk driving weighed in favor of the government’s intrusion on drivers.

Juneau Police Department History

June 19, 1990 – City Manager Kevin Ritchie volunteered to take a jolt from JPD Sgt. Darrel McCracken's stun gun in front of the Assembly to show there was no real danger of injury. Assemblywoman Rosalee Walker said she had received complaints about the weapon and she was uncomfortable with its use.

June 22, 1990 – JPD police dog Asko and his handler JPD Officer David Bartlett were chasing a traffic violator who had abandoned his motor scooter and run by some children playing at a playground next to the Douglas First Methodist Church, when Asko lunged at a 9 year-old boy and bit him.

July 2, 1990 – Chief Gelston decided to retire 8 ½ year-old police dog Asko, but hoped to purchase another dog at a later date.

July 4, 1990 – For the first time, Juneau Police Officers patrolled the annual parade on bicycles.

July 19, 1990 – JPD officers arrested a 46 year-old Oregon resident in his room at the Alaskan Hotel, after he fled with a fistful of money from the National Bank of Alaska in one of Juneau's few bank robberies.

July 21, 1990 – Dorene Smith and Traffic Officer Jacqueline Renninger were hired as community service officers.

August 29, 1990 – A nine unit apartment building was destroyed by fire next door to the Perseverance Theater in Douglas. JPD officers suspected arson in the blaze.

September 29, 1990 – Assemblywoman Rosalee Walker was arrested for DWI after crashing into a Postal Service vehicle in a Glacier Avenue parking lot.

November 6, 1990 – Alaskans voted to pass a law making possession of any amount of marijuana illegal.

December 3, 1990 – A couple was found shot to death in their Taku Boulevard residence, and JPD investigators believed the deaths were the result of homicide.

December 11, 1990 – The 15 year-old daughter of a couple found murdered in their Valley home on December 3rd. was charged in the death of her parents.

1991

January 15, 1991 – The Douglas Service Area Advisory Group facilitated a discussion on a CBJ proposal to remodel several former classrooms in the Mount Jumbo School to be used as a temporary sleep-off center for public inebriates.

Juneau Police Department History

January 16, 1991 – The Colorado woman who pled guilty to 2nd degree murder in the death of a U.S. Forest Service accountant in his Mendenhall Valley home in July 1989, was sentenced to 60 years in prison.

February 5, 1991 – Jacqueline Jennings was hired as a community service officer.

February 22, 1991 – Anthony Garcia, convicted of 1st degree murder in the Mendenhall Valley case was moved to Colorado to stand trial for a murder in Jefferson County.

March 3, 1991 – A revised Alaska law making possession of any amount of marijuana illegal went into effect and the director of the Alaska Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) promised to challenge the constitutionality of the law.

March 13, 1991 – A Greens Creek mineworker was found murdered in his Mendenhall Valley apartment.

March 16, 1991 – JPD officers arrested an unemployed long-haul truck driver for the Mendenhall Valley murder after finding his fingerprints in the dead man's apartment. The suspect was wanted for questioning in the murders of four people in the "lower 48".

April 7, 1991 – Officer Paul Comolli resigned to accept a position in Texas.

June 10, 1991 – JPD officers arrested a 17-year-old youth for committing at least 10 burglaries throughout the Borough.

July 1, 1991 – CSO Jacqueline Renninger was promoted to police officer and assigned to work with residents of the Cedar Park neighborhood on a one-year federal grant program to attempt to bring pride and leadership to the Cedar Park community.

August 14, 1991 – A Juneau woman considered herself lucky to be alive after a black bear attacked her as she walked home along Central Avenue in the Lemon Creek area. She received 26 stitches for cuts on her forehead and left knee.

August 22, 1991 – Bears continued to be a major problem for JPD officers, and that day was no exception when a young black bear attempted to enter the Foodland Supermarket.

August 27, 1991 – JPD's arrest of a 24-year-old man for "dumpster diving" brought some 20 representatives from CBJ social services and businesses to the Assembly's Human Resources Committee meeting to discuss the idea of establishing a food bank in Juneau.

Juneau Police Department History

September 11, 1991 – Six weeks of heavy rains and an unstable hillside resulted in a house tearing loose from its pilings and sliding down the hill above Cope Park. The female resident who rode the house down the hill was later admitted to Bartlett Memorial Hospital for observation.

September 25, 1991 – A new law went into effect that banned public release of victims' and witnesses' phone numbers and addresses and names of victims of sex crimes. JPD did not change its press release policy, however reporters in Anchorage, Soldotna and Sitka found their access to police records severely restricted.

October 3, 1991 – Assemblywoman Rosalee Walker, arrested for DWI on September 29, 1990, was convicted and sentenced to six days in jail, following her second trial on the charge.

October 14, 1991 – Twenty-five volunteers including JPD officers completed training in critical incident stress debriefing (CISD), a relatively new concept in emergency services developed to help first responders deal with the effects of traumatic incidents.

October 31, 1991 – Officer Kerry Courter resigned.

November 1, 1991 – Paul Hatch was hired as a police officer.

1992

January 1, 1992 – JPD Officer Jacqueline Renninger was diagnosed with cancer and flown to Seattle for treatment.



January 6, 1992 – JPD Officer Steve Hernandez met with 400 middle school students to begin their instruction in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program designed to teach kids how to say no to drugs and alcohol.

January 18, 1992 – Officer Jacqueline Renninger died of cancer.

February 21, 1992 – Edward Kalwara was hired as a police officer.

March 17, 1992 – Eric Ogren resigned.

Juneau Police Department History

March 21, 1992 – 23 year-old John Borowski Jr. was arrested after he mistakenly dialed 9-1-1 while burglarizing a home on Goldbelt Avenue. Following up on what sounded like a 'hang-up' call, JPD Officer John Hansen caught Borowski running from the residence with a couple of sticky buns under his arm.

March 23, 1992 – The Assembly set aside \$236,000 to replace the aging 9-1-1 system which was purchased a decade ago.



Karl William Reishus

May 4, 1992 – Officer Karl William Reishus died following a fall during a training exercise on May 2nd at the Fire Department's burn tower when a litter carrying two firefighters was being lowered down the 40 foot tower and slipped loose. Officer Reishus tried to hold on to the litter but the weight of the two firemen pulled him over the edge of the tower.

May 20, 1992 – Patricia Liss was hired as a police officer.

May 26, 1992 – The two firefighters who were seriously injured in the training mishap that took the life of JPD Officer Karl Reishus, returned home following three weeks in a Seattle hospital. One fireman suffered a broken back, thigh bones and ankles and the other required two surgeries on his ankles.

May 30, 1992 – Chief Gelston told the Juneau Bar Association that he saw brutality and prisoner beatings when he joined JPD in 1968, but stricter standards, better training, a higher quality of supervisors and officers, and an enlightened attitude have whittled down reports of inappropriate police behavior to nothing. His comments came on the heels of the nation's outrage over the Rodney King verdict.

June 10, 1992 – An undercover investigation by officers of the Southeast Alaska Narcotics Enforcement Team (SEANET) culminated with the arrest of 12 Juneau residents and the seizure of marijuana plants and cocaine with a street value of several hundred thousand dollars.

June 16, 1992 – Following the Assembly's lengthy evaluation of City Manager Kevin Ritchie's job performance, he announced that he would be resigning effective October 15th.

Juneau Police Department History

August 24, 1992 – Public Safety Commissioner and former JPD Chief of Police Richard Burton announced that the Alaska State Troopers would be pulling their officers out of the service area north of the Mendenhall River within the next six months.

August 26, 1992 – In an effort to create extra parking spaces for the summer months, the Assembly approved the use of the property formerly occupied by the burned down Columbia building, for 56 leasable parking spaces on South Franklin Street.

December 21, 1992 – Edward Kalwara was hired as a police officer.

1993

January 5, 1993 – The Department was staffed with 35 sworn officers, 24 civilians, and 2 narcotic detection canines.

January 22, 1993 – Two JPD dispatchers were spotlighted by the Empire for politely rejecting an intoxicated state senator's 4 AM request for assistance getting into the hotel room of a female legislative aide.

February 3, 1993 – Chief Gelston reported that even before July 1, when state troopers were to pull out of the area north of the Mendenhall River, JPD was critically understaffed.

March 2, 1993 – City Manager Mark Palesh presented his proposed fiscal year budget which called for three new officers, one administrative worker, and the creation of a 12-man reserve squad for JPD. Chief Gelston said that the expanded territory the Department must cover beginning July 1st will still require police to eliminate some services and delay responses to some calls.

March 3, 1993 – The Juneau Gun Club and its caretaker were “busted” for selling alcohol without a license.



March 5, 1993 – JPD unveiled its second DARE vehicle at the annual Rotary Club Boat Show; a donated 17 foot Bayliner speedboat painted black with a bright red and white DARE slogans on it.

March 21, 1993 – Park-N-Lock, a new company that contracted with 6 local businesses to address illegal parking in their private lots by cable-locking a barrel to the bumper of the violator's vehicle, lost a barrel and had a cable cut off in its first week of business.

Juneau Police Department History

April 6, 1993 – The Assembly voted to appropriate \$543,000 in sales tax funds to upgrade the police and fire department's radio system.

April 20, 1993 – Chief Gelston announced that he would retire on July 29 after more than 20 years of service.

April 28, 1993 – Fire Chief Larry Fanning announced his retirement on the heels of the Assembly's rejection of a Fanning plan to merge the City-Borough's seven fire service districts.

May 12, 1993 – The bylaws of the Juneau Citizen's Patrol were ratified.

May 16, 1993 – The Empire reported that last month Chief Gelston had been given 90 days to address 24 problem areas within JPD that a consultant had identified as being problematic. The issues surfaced when a deputy chief from Anchorage PD was hired to investigate an employee harassment case, and he interviewed some 60 Department members.

May 28, 1993 – The Assembly approved the new budget which called for three additional officers for JPD plus an administrative staffer.

June 1, 1993 – Blain Hatch, William Bloodworth, and Marie Branson were hired as police officers.

June 3, 1993 – Legislation was signed into law that empowered police to revoke, the licenses of minors suspected of using fake IDs to buy alcohol without court proceedings.

June 23, 1993 – Digit, a black lab became JPD's drug dog after the Juneau Moose Lodge donated the money for his purchase and training of his partner, Sgt. Darrel McCracken.

June 25, 1993 – Five finalists were named from a field of 40 candidates to replace retiring Chief Gelston, including the chiefs from Kodiak, Grants Pass, Oregon, Snohomish, Washington, Marshalltown, Iowa, and a captain from San Jose, California.

June 29, 1993 – Six residents from Vladivostok, Juneau's sister city in Russia spent time at JPD as part of the Sister Cities International exchange program.

July 1, 1993 – The Department was given responsibility for the City-Borough's entire road system.

July 16, 1993 – Dorene Smith resigned.

Juneau Police Department History

July 29, 1993 – Chief of Police Michael S. Gelston retired.

-The Chief from Grants Pass, Oregon withdrew from the chief's process saying that he couldn't afford to live in Juneau.

September 2, 1993 – JPD Capt. Mel Personett credited stricter enforcement with new laser speed detection equipment for the decline in crashes.

September 13, 1993 – The District Attorney reduced his drunk-driving charge to reckless endangerment and the Commissioner of the Labor Department paid a \$300 fine and attended alcohol counseling.

-The Assembly passed an ordinance requiring people who buy containers of four or more gallons of beer to register with the liquor store and report where the beer will be consumed.

- Joel Hinz was hired as a police officer.

September 16, 1993 – Darrell Bostic was hired as a police officer.

September 20, 1993 – Anne M. Mallinger was hired as a records clerk.



September 27, 1993 – Retired San Jose, Ca. PD Captain Richard Gummow was hired as Chief of Police.

October 14, 1993 – Chief Gummow scheduled seven separate forums at different locations around the City to meet with residents to discuss neighborhood crime issues.

October 21, 1993 – The Attorney General committed to increasing prosecutions for sexual assault and domestic violence.

November 10, 1993 – JPD announced that it would print the names of 600 people in the newspaper who had outstanding warrants.

December 1, 1993 – Paul Comolli was re-hired as a police officer.

December 8, 1993 – A man was arrested for armed robbery after he held up the Douglas Island In & Out convenience store and was stopped in a cab at a JPD roadblock on the Douglas bridge.

Juneau Police Department History

1994



January 2, 1994 – On the heels of numerous problems with the building that housed JPD, a proposal was made to build a new public safety facility that would house JPD, DPS, and the Alaska National Guard.

January 3, 1994 – Since assuming the territory north of the Mendenhall River on July 1, JPD received 445 requests for service in the area.

January 22, 1994 – Officer Darrell Bostic resigned.

April 6, 1994 – City Manager Mark Palesh proposed a budget that would add 6 additional officers to JPD, which would increase the number of officers on each shift from 3 to 4.

April 19, 1994 – JPD officers trained with the newest tool in their arsenal to deal with disorderly people, pepper spray or oleoresin capsicum.

April 22, 1994 – JPD officers arrived at a teenaged drinking party at False Outer Point shortly before midnight and arrested 19 minors for consuming alcohol.

April 26, 1994 – The body of a ‘high-profile” cruise ship tourist that had been missing for two years was found at the 950 foot level of Heintzleman Ridge.

May 1, 1994 – Rayme Vinson was hired as a police officer.

May 25, 1994 – The Police Department was recognized by Governor Walter Hickel and the Alaska Department of Education for its role in the Rural Student Vocational Program.

May 29, 1994 – Governor Hickel signed into law a measure that allowed Alaskans to carry concealed weapons with a permit.

May 31, 1994 – Deputy Chief Randy March retired.

June 3, 1994 – A 0.21 mill tax increase and a federal grant paid for six additional JPD officers.

Juneau Police Department History



Yorktown Clipper

June 11, 1994 – A passenger was killed and several others injured when a gangplank failed on the cruise ship Yorktown Clipper.

July 1, 1994 – Smoking was prohibited in all vehicles owned or operated by the City and Borough of Juneau. Dark window tints became illegal in most motor vehicles. The Assembly eliminated the senior citizen sales tax exemption and free bus service.

-A Juneau miner was killed when a portion of an A-J mine tunnel at Sheep Creek collapsed.

July 5, 1994 – Dale E. Lawrence was hired as a police officer.

July 28, 1994 – The inmates at the Lemon Creek Correctional Center went on strike over the cost and availability of cigarettes, toiletries, and snacks.



Volunteer and future JPD Officer Darin Schultz is instructed in handcuffing techniques by JPD Officer Brian Pringle and future JPD Officer Skip Lakeman.

August 9, 1994 – Requests were made to the public for volunteers to staff a JPD reserve officer program. Twelve citizens underwent months of training and worked as police officers without pay.

August 21, 1994 – A Juneau man was killed during the Golden North Salmon Derby when his skiff flipped over and trapped him inside the cabin in stormy seas.

August 23, 1994 – Experts in domestic violence training from San Diego PD and the Duluth Domestic Abuse Intervention Project put on a three-day seminar for JPD officers.

September 3, 1993 – Jason Van Sickle, Troy Wilson, and David Wrightson were hired as police officers.

September 7, 1994 – The first-choice location to build a new police department, a city-owned 4.6 acre lot on Mendenhall Loop Rd next to Grandma's Feather Bed met with resistance from the neighborhood.

Juneau Police Department History

September 15, 1994 – Officer Dale Lawrence resigned.



Swackhammer



Bittick

October 11, 1994 – A state-owned Grumman Goose aircraft carrying Juneau-based DPS Sgt. Bob Bittick and DPS Deputy Commissioner C.E. Swackhammer crashed into a mountainside killing both men during a snowstorm on the Canadian side of the border near Haines.

November 3, 1994 – A form called Criminal Case Intake and Disposition (CCID) developed for the District Attorney's office to track cases through the court system was added to the paperwork required for arrests submitted to the DA by JPD officers.

An Arrest Tracking Number (ATN) was added to the form to allow the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN) arrest record to be more easily connected to the final court disposition.

November 18, 1994 – JPD entered into a contract with Public Safety Consultants Inc (PSCI) to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) to install a state-of-the-art Automated Information System (AIS) including Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) a fully integrated Records Management System (RMS), and Mobile Computing System with multiple internal and external interfaces.

November 30, 1994 – As the District School Board considered adopting a policy related to juvenile gangs, Chief Gummow warned them that there were four gangs operating in Juneau in what could become a severe problem if ignored.

December 13, 1994 – Several more possible sites for a new police facility were discussed including the property behind the Western Auto store in Lemon Creek.

December 16, 1994 – Chief Gummow issued an order that blood, tissue, and other body fluids would no longer be stored in the lunch room refrigerator.

1995

January 1, 1995 – A new city ordinance prohibiting "impaired driving" went into effect. Drivers with a blood alcohol level of .08%, .02% below the state's drunk driving presumed intoxicated level could be charged under the new ordinance.

January 19, 1995 – JPD officers participated in the first "Accident Free Day", a day designated by state authorities as a day to avoid traffic crashes across the state. Extra patrols by both JPD and AST were funded by a grant from the Alaska Highway Safety Planning Agency.

Juneau Police Department History

February 8, 1995 – A reserve officer program was officially put into place, allowing for a maximum of 15 people to serve as volunteer police officers during times of need.

February 26, 1995 – JPD officers assisted in the recovery of a skier who was killed in an avalanche on Mt. Troy on Douglas Island.

February 28, 1995 – JPD requested that residents clearly mark their addresses on their homes and businesses to ensure the new enhanced 9-1-1 system would be successful when it came on line April 1st.

March 27, 1995 – The principal at Glacier Elementary School organized a safety patrol consisting of 12 fifth-graders to guide students across the busy intersection of Tongass Boulevard and Trinity Drive.

April 1, 1995 – Gerald Bailey, David Campbell, and Shane Curtis were hired as police officers.

April 3, 1995 – The Assembly cast a vote of no confidence in City Manager Mark Palesh, ending his tenure as the city's top executive.

April 13, 1995 – With warm weather approaching, the City was concerned about "seasonal residents" that pitched tents and created major litter, sewage, and disorder problems throughout the Borough. The idea of creating a City-managed "tent city" similar to one in Petersburg was discussed.

April 23, 1995 – With \$475,000 in unpaid citations and warrants, JPD announced it would begin to publish the names of the scofflaws in the Empire.

May 26, 1995 – The Goldbelt Corporation issued a warning to trespassers at Echo Cove that it would prosecute them for littering or otherwise damaging its 1400 acres that surround the cove at the end of Glacier Highway.

June 2, 1995 – The U.S. Forest Service brought in an additional six officers to assist JPD officers in patrolling Forest Service land for teen drinking parties on JDHS graduation night.

June 29, 1995 – Juneau attorney Patricia Collins was appointed Ketchikan District Court judge by Governor Tony Knowles.

June 30, 1995 – Officer Darrel McCracken retired.

July 3, 1995 – Officer Stanley Herrera resigned.

Juneau Police Department History

July 12, 1995 – JPD announced a raffle for some lucky person to win the DARE boat that was presented to JPD at the March, 1993, boat show. The boat was never used by the PD due to insurance issues.

July 21, 1995 – Following an internal investigation by Chief Gummow, Troopers from Anchorage were asked to investigate an allegation that a JPD officer who recently resigned had been stealing drugs from the Department's evidence locker.

August 7, 1995 – Officer Shane Curtis resigned.

August 11, 1995 – Officer Gerald Bailey resigned.

September 1, 1995 – Daniel Baumer, Barry Bunnell, and Scott Erickson were hired as police officers.

September 5, 1995 – JPD dispatchers hooked up with an international hot line that gave them access to interpreters that spoke 140 languages.

September 27, 1995 – Opposition to the location of a new station for JPD continued with nearly every possible building site neighborhood expressing itself.

October 3, 1995 – Voters rejected a proposal to issue General Obligation Bonds to fund a \$9 million police facility at the Bus Bar Park site.

October 6, 1995 – Mayor Egan appointed a task force to research a new police station and location and to make a recommendation by April 2, 1996.

December 1, 1995 – Curtis Weske was hired as a police officer.

December 15, 1995 – The task force appointed to research a new police facility reported that a new municipal complex housing the police and other city offices would be most cost-effective.

December 31, 1995 – A law requiring sex offenders to register with the State became effective.

- In 1995, 15,244 automobile crashes were reported in Alaska; 504 in the City and Borough of Juneau. In Juneau, 52 crashes were alcohol related.

1996

January 1, 1996 – A third conviction of drunk driving in Alaska became a felony.

January 5, 1996 – The Mayor's task force researching a new police facility shaved several thousand square feet off the previous proposal and eliminated

Juneau Police Department History

the potential of combining the building with a larger complex to house other city offices.

January 6, 1996 – Alaska's BIA Director was arrested for DWI after he lost control of his vehicle and crossed the center line striking another vehicle.

January 22, 1996 – The task force cut another two thousand square feet from the proposed police facility.

February 12, 1996 – Only about 20% of the state's convicted sex offenders were registered two weeks after the registration deadline, under the new law. Troopers intended to personally contact the other 2,400 unregistered offenders.

March 4, 1996 – A former Massachusetts Chief of Police Michael DeCapua was hired as a police captain.

March 8, 1996 – The owner of the Imperial Bar was given an ultimatum to draw up a "management plan" to deal with disorder and illicit drug dealing or lose his license to serve alcohol.

March 13, 1996 – Six potential sites for a new police facility from the Brotherhood Bridge to the Douglas Bridge made up a short list for the Mayor's task force.

March 27, 1996 – Captain DeCapua announced that JPD was re-establishing neighborhood watch programs and a new program called "mirror officer concept" in which a specific officer handled another officer's cases while the second officer had time off.

April 15, 1996 – Kristin Eyre was hired as a police officer.

April 25, 1996 – 21 of the 46 complaints filed with the State Ombudsman's office in 1995 involved the police department. Chief Gummow commented that police have more direct contact with the public than any other city department and often under difficult or trying circumstances.

May 6, 1996 – Officer Marie Branson resigned.

June 3, 1996 – Former Petersburg PD Officer Gregory Drake was hired as a police officer.

June 4, 1996 – Juneau businessman Robert Meyer reported to the Coast Guard that his wife and daughter were missing and his 48 foot pleasure craft, *Marjo* had burned in Salisbury Sound. Meyer's family was never found, and he was the victim of an apparent suicide in October, 1998, following his indictment for murder and arson.

Juneau Police Department History

June 20, 1996 – JPD received a \$200,000 grant from the US Dept of Justice to help reduce domestic violence.

-JPD Dispatch Supervisor Mariam Monette retired.



July 4, 1996 – Juneau officers Wehnes, Kolvig, and VanSickle patrol downtown on bicycles.

July 9, 1996 – The Police Department requested that the campus at Juneau-Douglas High School be closed during the school day to help control the student drug use problem.

July 12, 1996 – Officer Daniel Baumer resigned.

July 28, 1996 – Fire aboard the 618-foot cruise ship Universe Explorer killed 5 crewmembers.

August 1, 1996 – Skip Lakeman was hired as a police officer.

August 9, 1996 – Officer Kristin Eyre resigned.

September 4, 1996 – Officer Phillip Hill resigned.

October 1, 1996 – Investigator Walt Boman and Officer Steve Hernandez were promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

- A temporary 1% sales tax was approved by voters to fund a new 27,000 square foot police station in the Switzer-Lemon Creek area.

October 3, 1996 – Officer Sam Burke resigned.

November 29, 1996 – A JDHS star cross-country athlete slipped and fell to his death while running on the closed Perseverance Trail.

December 13, 1996 – The annual Employee Awards Banquet was held.

December 16, 1996 – Progress on the recently approved police facility came to a halt when it was learned that the land owner of the proposed building site, filled in the site's surrounding wetlands with dirt before required permits were issued.

December 18, 1996 – Edward Kalwara resigned.

Juneau Police Department History

December 31, 1996 – Lt. Steve Kalwara retired after 22 years on the Department.

1997

January 10, 1997 – Alaska State Trooper Bruce Heck, a former Juneau resident was killed as he attempted to handcuff auto-theft suspect John Kevin Phillips in the woods just off the Glenn Highway



Bruce Alan Heck

February 28, 1997 – Officer David Bartlett retired.

March 3, 1997 – CSO Leslie (Ireland) Bartlett resigned.

March 20, 1997 – In a report to the City Council as part of the Department's 1997-1998 budget process, Captain Michael DeCapua stated that felony investigations in 1996 were up 40% over 1995.

April 2, 1997 – City Manager Dave Palmer issued Administrative Policy No.2 setting employee travel spending limits. If lodging costs exceeded \$80 per day, three options were required for approval.

April 14, 1997 – Former JPD officer Daniel Baumer filed a lawsuit against the City to get his job back. He had resigned in July 1996, and alleged it was under pressure from Chief Gummow.

April 22, 1997 – Police and immigration officials met at City Hall with about a dozen citizens to discuss concerns by some that officials were violating the civil rights of immigrants or minorities.

April 23, 1997 – The US Attorney's Office filed suit against S&S Development Company, the landowner of the site of the proposed police department, for filling dirt into wetlands prior to permits being issued.

May 7, 1997 – 120 middle school students graduated from the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program taught by 3 JPD officers.

Juneau Police Department History

May 25, 1997 – JPD Captain DeCapua reported that burglaries were up by the largest increase ever in the first third of the year compared to other years.

May 30, 1997 – Officer Robert Deakins resigned.

June 3, 1997 – Chief Gummow and his staff held a neighborhood meeting at Dryden Middle School to discuss a recent officer involved shooting and the increasing crime rate in Juneau.

June 30, 1997 – JPD was one of six agencies accused in a DPS investigation of using a restricted computer system to check criminal records of State law makers.

July 1, 1997 – Old City permits were no longer valid and the Police Department was charged with citing homeowners using wood stoves on EPA “no-burn” days.

August 4, 1997 – Kevin Fermin, David Meyer, Darin Schultz, Kris Sell, JPD dispatcher Kim Martin (Horn) and Records Clerk Ann Sears were sworn in as new police officers.

August 21, 1997 – A distraught woman who was threatening suicide was pulled from a railing of the atrium at the State Office Building by JPD Sergeant Steve Hernandez.

September 2, 1997 – James Quinto was hired as a police officer.

September 19, 1997 – Officer Skip Lakeman resigned.

October 6, 1997 – Aimee Olejasz was hired as a police officer.

October 31, 1997 – JPD officers were out in both marked and unmarked cars on Halloween night due to the amount of vandalism in 1996 and because a bear had been frequenting the area of Starr Hill where many small children trick-or-treated.



November 11, 1997 – The Department’s Special Emergency Response Team (SERT) reported a successful hostage negotiation exercise outcome with the hostages being freed and the hostage takers surrendering. SERT, JPD’s answer to SWAT responded to incidents that had a high potential for violence and serious injury.

November 17, 1997 – The Alaska State Supreme Court upheld Alaska’s 1974 law that requires the prosecution to share evidence with the defense but does not require the defense to share evidence with the prosecution.

Juneau Police Department History

November 21, 1997 – The police department in Magee, Mississippi, volunteered to take over the duty of placing a wreath on fallen JPD Officer Jimmie Kennedy's gravesite each year on the date of his death.

-Aimee Olejasz resigned.

November 28, 1997 – JPD reported that 49 reports of sexual abuse of a minor were filed since January, causing great concern for the Editor of the Juneau Empire and others.

1998



Kevin Lamm

January 1, 1998 – A Fairbanks police officer was shot and killed by a man with an AR-15 automatic rifle when police went to check his welfare after a girlfriend reported he was suicidal. Officer Kevin Lamm was the first Fairbanks police officer killed in the line of duty and only the second to die on duty in the history of the Department.

- A new law took effect that made the identity of suspects arrested in serious crimes public even though they were as young as 13.
- The State recorded just 74 motor vehicle fatalities in 1997, the lowest number in the past 10 years.

January 5, 1998 – The Juneau Assembly passed an ordinance empowering officer to arrest people that violate their court-imposed conditions of parole, a loophole that previously required officers to seek warrants for violations.

- Robert Dilley was hired as a community service officer.

January 14, 1998 – The legislature overturned Governor Knowles' veto of a bill that removed the restrictions from carrying a gun concealed by requiring a permit.

January 28, 1998 – The Juneau-Douglas High School Site Council endorsed random drug searches of the school by drug-sniffing dogs which were later vetoed by the School Board.

January 30, 1998 – Officer John Hansen retired after 23 years of service.

February 9, 1998 – Robert Haskell was hired as a police officer.

February 18, 1998 – The body of a man from Wales, missing since 1993, was found on the Mendenhall Glacier.

Juneau Police Department History

March 3, 1998 – John Kevin Phillips was found guilty of second degree murder in the death of Trooper Bruce Alan Heck.

- President Clinton called for Congress to mandate a reduced blood-alcohol standard for drunken driving to .08%. Alaska and 34 other state's standard was .10%.

March 5, 1998 – JPD assisted State Troopers in locating an estimated 43 unregistered sex offenders living in the Juneau area.

March 17, 1998 – Aided by a \$12,000 grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, JPD officers increased the number of officers on patrol on the summer holidays looking for drunk drivers, speeders, and seat belt violators.

March 20, 1998 – The annual Employee Awards Banquet was held and the following employees received awards:

- *Officer of the Year* – Jerry Nankervis
- *Supervisor of the Year* – Sgt. Walt Boman
- *Employee of the Year* – Sherill Niemi
- *Dispatcher of the Year* – Camille Brill
- *Unit of the Year* – Dispatch

March 27, 1998 – Officer David Meyer resigned.

April 9, 1998 – CBJ Finance Director Craig Duncan reported that the City was facing a \$600,000 shortfall in its revenue projection for 1998.

April 13, 1998 – Breath analyzer instruments were installed in five Juneau bars so patrons could test their blood alcohol levels before driving or calling a cab.

April 30, 1998 – JPD Captain Michael DeCapua resigned to move south to be closer to his family.

May 28, 1998 – Former Chief of Police Phillip L. Severson died in Biloxi, Mississippi at the age of 69.

May 30, 1998 – Two people were killed when an Era helicopter collided with a Cessna 172 owned by the FAA over the Gastineau Channel about three miles south of downtown near Thane Rd. The six occupants in the helicopter were taken to Bartlett Regional Hospital with minor injuries.

June 30, 1998 – Officer J. Brian Pringle retired and Officer Clarence Bloodworth resigned.

August 3, 1998 – Jeff D. Brink was hired as a police officer.

Juneau Police Department History

May 5, 1998 – A Douglas man complained that his neighbors haven't screened their hot tub and are exposed to children.

May 28, 1998 – A man reported at 11:30 PM that a possibly intoxicated man near a dock was outside his vehicle trying to dance. Police found a sober man trying to teach his fiancé how to dance.

June 4, 1998 – A state trooper in town for a crime conference reported that his return tickets to Nome were stolen from his hotel.

June 9, 1998 – Teen-agers were reported mooning buses near Mendenhall Glacier Visitor Center.

June 30, 1998 – Sgt. Brian Pringle retired.

September 18, 1998 – The Douglas Island Pink and Chum hatchery on Channel Drive reported that people were stealing fish from the fish ladder at night.

September 21, 1998 – A bear tore a hole in a residential fence Sunday and was inside the yard. Police opened the fence gate and the bear left.

October 21, 1998 – Fifteen pairs of women's underwear were reported stolen from a Haloff Way apartment building laundry room.

November 9, 1998 – Police received reports of large amounts of broken glass on Egan Drive and North Douglas Highway. DOT said it used a chemical on the roads that looks like broken glass.

November 13, 1998 – A large bag of potato chips was reported stolen from Glacier Valley Elementary School.

November 18, 1998 – A bag of marijuana weighing 10.6 grams was found in a Mendenhall Valley grocery-store café.

November 24, 1998 – The Department had no policy for handling money impounded by officers. A policy was developed that required money that was to be impounded to be counted and sealed in an envelope with the impounding officer's initials written across the seal.

December 9, 1998 – A store on Seward Street reported a flatbed truck hit its awning, tore a piece off, stopped and loaded up the piece then drove off. Police located the truck owner who said he was pressed for time and had called the building's owner.

December 20, 1998 – Officer Anne Sears resigned to accept a position with AST.

Juneau Police Department History

December 28, 1998 – A man reported that someone was coming into his house and eating his cereal.

1999

January 11, 1999 – The City awarded the bid of \$6.5 million to Nuna Contractors to build the new 33,000 square foot police facility near Lemon Creek.

January 21, 1999 – JPD Officer Steve Christensen was one of three people awarded the “Pink Lung Award” for their work to eliminate the harmful effects of tobacco and environmental tobacco smoke.

March 4, 1999 – Marijuana became legal in Alaska when used under a doctor’s prescription for pain.

April 26, 1999 – Officer Jerry Nankervis was promoted to sergeant.

May 17, 1999 – Sarah Hieb was hired as a dispatcher.

June 19, 1999 – The Governor’s daughter was cited with a group of other young people for consuming alcohol in the Governor’s Mansion while her parents were away.

July 1, 1999 – In the first of a number of cases, charges were dismissed by the Court when it was decided JPD officers did not have probable cause to enter an apartment where juveniles were drinking alcoholic beverages even though when police responded to reports of loud music and youths drinking, a juvenile was observed by police urinating from the second floor apartment landing.

- Former Sitka PD Officer Chris Burke was hired as a police officer.

July 6, 1999 – TRANSPO Group presented its one inch thick report on parking in Juneau and reported that the City was 500-750 parking spaces short. The City’s engineering department suggested that the short term solution was to step up enforcement of parking regulations.

- Brian Dallas, Randy Reeve, and Jonathan Wiest were hired as police officers.

July 11, 1999 – JPD received a \$10,000 grant and the Downtown Business Association kicked in another \$2,000 to pay for JPD summer bike patrols in the downtown area.

Juneau Police Department History

July 15, 1999 – JPD officers stepped up enforcement of the ordinance that bans skateboarding, rollerblading, and unicycling in the area of the Marine Park parking garage.

July 27, 1999 – The cruise ship Spirit of '98 struck a rock in Tracy Arm suffering a punctured engine room. The 120 passengers were evacuated safely and the ship was towed to Seattle for repairs.

August 5, 1999 – A City selection committee narrowed down the list of finalists for the position of JPD's Chief of Police position to 5, including the acting Chief of Police. Other finalists included future Fairbanks Chief of Police Laren Zager, Arthur Smith of Baltimore, Md, Louis Tayon of Chesapeake, Va, and Robert Gross of Richland, Wa.

August 16, 1999 – August Martin was hired as a police officer.

August 24, 1999 – Dom Branson and Dominico Paguio were hired as police officers and Curtis Weske resigned.

August 25, 1999 – Officer Randy Reeve resigned.

August 31, 1999 – Chief of Police Richard Gummow retired to care for his family's health issues "in the lower 48".



September 10, 1999 – Acting Chief of Police Mel Personnett was named Chief of Police.

October 7, 1999 – Jonathan Weist resigned.

October 14, 1999 – August Martin resigned.

November 15, 1999 – Joshua Shrader was hired as a community service officer.

December 31, 1999 – Lt. Robert Fletcher retired.