

SPD ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT February 2021

To CBS Administrator:

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:

The overall assessment of the Police Department is that we are continue to be close to full manpower and have reached a level of stability in hiring and retention of personnel. The overall health of the Department is stable and morale is high.

As stated in the last quarterly report, COVID has not adversely affected our response to community needs other than not being able to attend the many community functions that were held in the past. We have adopted a policy of wearing a mask when contacting all individuals while indoors.

We have opened up services to the public to apply for TSA pre-check and TWIC cards. Those services can be arranged by applying online and scheduling an appointment to come to the station. Masks must be worn while obtaining the credentials.

- **JAIL:** One jailer has attended the Department of Corrections Academy in January 2021. We have hired a new local person in January and all positions are filled.
- **DISPATCH:** Currently one position down. Dispatch continues to be a hard position to fill. New candidates must make their decision on taking the position based on: heavy demands of multi-tasking, shift work (working nights, weekends, holidays).
- **PATROL:** The Department is funded for 16 sworn positions. We currently have all sworn positions filled although a Sergeant billet has not been filled/promoted yet. We hired a local, in January, as an Officer. He will be attended the three-month Public Safety Academy starting February 21, 2021.

SPECIAL PROJECTS:

Ray Majeski continues to conduct an evidence audit and disposal. This project started with audit/disposal needs dating back over a twenty-year span. We are currently caught up to 2008.

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING:

The Dispatch position is an open recruitment. Out of the three applicants that we had last quarter, one was offered the position and declined.

We continue to provide weekly training in-house training to our supervisors and conduct daily shift trainings to Officers.

Officer Steele was sent to Fairbanks for a one week supervisor development course. This officer is currently filling the role of Officer in Charge (OIC), a position that fulfills the duties of a shift Sergeant.

Dispatch Supervisor, Tara Smith traveled to Wasilla for a one-week course Emergency Telecommunications Course.

Officer Christner was sent Anchorage for a one-week FTO training. The course is designed to train the Officer to be a Field Training Officer for new recruits.

Jail Officer Norwood went to Palmer to attend the three-week Municipal Corrections Academy.

Officer Moelder attended a three-week Lateral recertification at the Sitka Public Safety Academy.

All sworn personnel attended 16 hours of Basic Active Shooter Level 1, the training was provided by the FBI here in Sitka.

In mid-December the Department signed up for Police One Academy. Police One Academy is an international training provider that is recognized through Alaska Police Standards Council for continuing education credits for the roughly 1800 courses they provide. In this last quarter Department personnel have completed over 28 different training topics. Some of the training that are of note: Use of Force, De-escalation, anti-bias, anti-harassment, domestic violence response, community policing strategies, drug trends, emotional and psychological disorders, missing and exploited children.

In the past quarter the cumulative hours of training that Police Department personnel have completed adds up to approximately 824 hours!

PROJECTS:

We are still in the building phase of building the RMS program to our specific needs. We have received a fifty-thousand-dollar Homeland Security Grant to strengthen and update our security system.

Closed out 2018 Homeland Security Grant in January. That grant provided for radio consoles and wiring for infrastructure at the Police Department, EOC, and Fire Department.

Installed in-car video cameras from the 2019 Homeland Security Grant.

Updated digital cameras in the jail from the old analog system.

STATISTICS:

The following are the number of calls for the last quarter, November 2020 through Feb 17, 2021.

- Phone calls answered: 7284
- 911 Emergency calls: 815
- Calls for Service: 1955
- Incident Reports: 186

*815 of the 7284 calls were 911 calls.

*Any call that requires action from staff is a Call for Service. This may be generated from a 911.

*Any Call for Service that rises to the level of needing documentation is labeled an Incident Report. This may be generated from a 911 or a call for service.