

ALASKA LEGISLATURE

HONORING

DAVE MILLER

The members of the Thirty-Second Alaska State Legislature are proud to honor Dave Miller for his outstanding leadership, dedication, and commitment to the City and Borough of Sitka while serving in the Sitka Fire Department over his twenty-five-year career. Dave's contributions benefited the citizens of Sitka immensely.

Dave joined the Sitka Fire Department as a volunteer in 1988 and was originally in charge of the kitchen at Sheldon Jackson College. Seven years later, he was hired as the Department's engineer and became a career firefighter. In 1999, he was named fire chief. Dave soon took a five-year detour, serving in the Sitka Police Department. He reapplied for the fire chief position when city hall had difficulty filling the vacancy in 2009. He told the administrator at the time, "You may as well hire me. I'm already here and ready to work."

As both fire chief and chair of Sitka's Local Emergency Planning Committee, Dave's leadership skills were instrumental in leading the City through the devastation following multiple landslides on August 18, 2015 that tragically claimed three lives. His compassionate approach and unwavering dedication to the mission resulted in a flawlessly executed response to the emergency and offered closure for the affected families.

His expertise in emergency management proved once again to be instrumental as he worked tirelessly in the Emergency Operations Center to guide the City through its COVID-19 response efforts. Dave met daily with federal, state, and local stakeholders to plan and respond appropriately, ensuring the health and safety of Sitka's citizens through uncertain times.

Dave and his wife, Denise Blankenship, will make their permanent home in Sitka. But they plan to travel a bit for the next couple of years, "and try to figure out what we want to do when they grow up."

It is with great pleasure that the members of the Thirty-Second Alaska State Legislature honor Dave for his many contributions to the people of Sitka and offer sincere congratulations on his retirement.



Louise Stutes
LOUISE STUTES
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

JTH
REP. JONATHAN KREISS-TOMKINS
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PETER MICCICHE
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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