Juneau Police Department
Annual Report
7-01-08 to 6-30-09

Juneau Police Department Honor Guard
L-R Brandon Lawrenson, Dave Wrightson, Mike Wise
Ken Colon, Krag Campbell and Daniel Cheshire
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”

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Message from the Chief

It is an honor and a pleasure to present the 2008/2009 Juneau Police Department annual report. I am extremely proud of the men and women; both sworn and civilian who make up our police department. Every hour of every day of the year, they strive to make our city a better place to live. This report indicates some significant success!

Total Part I crimes, a measure of the level of serious crime in our community, were down 14.7% from 2007 levels. That is on top of a 6.4% decline the year before. This is a very encouraging trend. I am also encouraged to report that our case clearance rates are higher than the national average in all categories. That is both a tribute to our investigators and to the citizens of Juneau who stay involved with our community.

Our community crime rate continues to be well below the national average in most categories of crime and our officers’ use of force is down from last year’s levels. These are other indicators of success.

I would like to thank Mayor Bruce Botelho, City Managers Rod Swope and Kim Kiefer, the entire City and Borough of Juneau Assembly, and all the residents of this wonderful community for your continued and genuine support.

Chief Greg Browning
June 2009
Our Department

The Juneau Police Department is more than 108 years old! We were created in the fall of 1900 with passage of local ordinance #5. Obviously, many things have changed over those years. Some time this coming year we anticipate adding a “History” section to our web page that will outline some of the major changes our department has experienced as well as highlight some colorful events that occurred in our past.

In FY 2008, the Department consisted of 93 authorized positions; 53 sworn staff and 40 civilians. The Patrol Unit provides uniformed services to the community around the clock and consists of 37 FTE’s and 4 paid reserve officers. Our communications center staff of 15 FTE’s is responsible 24/7 for police and fire dispatch and 911. The Records Unit has 7 FTE’s. The organizational chart on the following page outlines all of the units and staff at our department.

The CBJ Mobile Incident Command vehicle, the Juneau Police Department, and the bomb robot.
In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.
Chief Greg Browning has over 30 years of law enforcement experience and is starting his fourth year as Chief at JPD. He is responsible for the operation and direction of our department and is passionate about bringing the best police services that he can to our community.

Assistant Chief Page Decker brings more than 38 years of police experience to JPD, having worked in Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan and Arizona prior to joining JPD in 2007. He acts as the Commander of the Department when the Chief is away. On a daily basis he manages the administrative and functional matters of operation and support for JPD.
Jerry Nankervis is the Commander of Operations at JPD. He has over 22 years of experience with the Department. He has 24 hour responsibility for the delivery of patrol and special operations functions as well as being the fleet manager. He reports to the Assistant Chief of Police.

Cindee Brown-Mills is the Administrative Manager for the Department. She reports to the Assistant Chief of Police. She is responsible for the Department’s fiscal activities, records, personnel recruitment, crime analysis, computer systems and facilities. She also acts as one of the Department’s public information officers.

**Strategic Plan**

During this year, a strategic planning committee was formed at JPD consisting of staff members from nearly all units of the Department. The committee was charged with developing a comprehensive plan that would set achievable goals and help move the Department forward. After many hours of cooperative effort, a good plan emerged that was published and implemented (the full plan can be viewed on our website, juneaupolice.com).

One of the goals in the Plan is to reduce the crime rate and increase prevention in our community. In our efforts toward prevention we hope to increase officer time in the community by implementing mobile computing and field reporting.
Since the development of the Strategic Plan, we have installed mobile data terminals (MDT’s) in the patrol cars and are well on our way to field based reporting. The MDT’s allow officers to perform license and wanted person checks in their cars without the need for assistance from dispatch. The officers can see what calls for service are pending and what the other officers are working on and where they are. They also can provide their disposition codes for calls they have handled.

We are trying to utilize the media and computer information networks more efficiently for public education and crime prevention. We have begun issuing more press releases about crime prevention tips, crime trends and persons of interest in addition to our newsworthy arrest and accident information releases. The public has access to our “daily bulletin” on-line and can see what the Police Department has done in the last 24 hours. We have developed a “Twitter” homepage as well.

A separate committee was formed to study our service delivery model at JPD. We have elected for years to assign patrol officers to follow up on most of the complaints they investigate. This practice is not consistent with what many large departments do around the country: they assign cases requiring follow-up to their detectives (our Investigations Unit).

A switch to the more traditional model of service delivery will require us to make some changes in how our personnel are deployed. The increased workload for the Investigations Unit will necessitate transferring some officers out of Patrol and into that unit. We believe this change will positively affect our officer’s involvement with the public and our ability to follow up on case investigations. We realize we have struggled with having case officers available to victims in the past. This change should centralize case status information within the Department and make it easier for victims to contact their case officer. Solvability factors will be applied to streamline our investigative process and allow us to focus our efforts on crimes we are more likely to solve.

Domestic violence and related family crimes continue to be extremely prevalent and therefore costly to the CBJ. Our ability to break the “cycle of violence” remains a difficult problem without some kind of intervention for the victim families. In that effort the Police Department will implement a unique program. We have been awarded funding to hire a social worker as a police department employee to assist the victims of family violence. This person, known as a Police Crisis Intervention Specialist or PCIS, will follow up on all domestic related complaints and ensure that victims are provided referral and other social service program assistance. A central point of contact for family crisis issues, this person will track cases as they occur and ensure that victims receive Police Department contact following the emotional event. Educating victims and their families about the community based resources available to them is an important facet of this program. The PCIS will at no time require or force victims to participate in criminal proceedings. Rather the PCIS will work to assist victims make court appearances and provide them with support in their time of crises. This is central to successful prosecutions which is key to “breaking the cycle”.

“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”
In 2008, the JPD successfully applied for a “Byrne” grant to fund the PCIS position. The Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance, Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program allows states and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system. We applied for and were granted $147,543 for each of the three years of the award. The awarded monies will pay for this new civilian (full time employee), a vehicle, and other items essential to the position.

Crime Reporting

The Juneau Police Department fielded 42,453 calls for service in 2008, down 5.7% from 2007. JPD averages 116 calls for service each day of the year. The busiest day of the year is typically July 4. 2008 was no exception; JPD either responded to or initiated 181 separate incidents on the holiday.

Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics

The Juneau Police department participates in the federal Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. JPD classifies crimes according to federal standards and supplies the FBI with those reports. The FBI enters the information into their database and uses it to track statistics, trends and other information about crime. Other police agencies also supply the FBI with information even though reporting is not mandatory.
Below is a sampling of crime statistics from Juneau and other Alaskan cities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Violent Crime</th>
<th>Murder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>280,068</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2,647</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juneau</td>
<td>30,988</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
<td>30,817</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>306</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenai</td>
<td>7,472</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ketchikan</td>
<td>7,516</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Forcible Rape</th>
<th>Robbery</th>
<th>Aggravated Assault</th>
<th>Property Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>263</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>1,830</td>
<td>9,211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juneau</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>1,175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>1,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenai</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ketchikan</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>536</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Burglary</th>
<th>Larceny/Theft</th>
<th>Vehicle Theft</th>
<th>Arson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage</td>
<td>1,191</td>
<td>7,254</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juneau</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairbanks</td>
<td>227</td>
<td>1,155</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenai</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ketchikan</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recognizing a need, the International Association of Chief’s of Police (IACP) formed the Committee on Uniform Crime Records in the 1920’s to develop a system to report crime statistics uniformly. This committee completed a plan for crime reporting that became the foundation of the UCR Program in 1929. The plan included offense definitions for seven major offense classifications known as Part I crimes and gauged fluctuations in the overall volume and rate of crime. The seven Part I crimes included the violent crimes of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, and the property crimes of burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft. In 1979, arson was added by congressional mandate.

Today the UCR Program is a cooperative statistical effort made by more than 17,000 city, university and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies. The collected data is used by criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media, and other students of criminal justice for various research and planning purposes. In 2007, law enforcement agencies active in the UCR Program represented more than 285 million U.S. inhabitants or 94.6% of the total population.
UCR rates are often expressed in terms of occurrence per set amount of population, usually 100,000. Using local crime numbers and populations, the rate per 100,000 people can be calculated.

The following charts illustrate Juneau’s Part 1 crime statistics for the past five years. Also included with the charts are 2008 clearance rates for those particular crimes. Clearances are reported to UCR when the police have identified and arrested a suspect, or when the suspect has been identified but hasn’t been arrested for some reason beyond the control of the agency.

*Arrests have been made for all four homicides since 2006.
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”

**Forcible Rape**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearance</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Aggravated Assault**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clearance</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>91%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”
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The one homicide in Juneau in 2008 was cleared in 2009 and therefore is not reflected in the 2008 statistics

**Crime Rates**

The chart below depicts the Crime Rates as expressed per 100,000 people for Juneau (2008), and the United States (2007) average.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Violent Crime</th>
<th>Murder</th>
<th>Forcible Rape</th>
<th>Robbery</th>
<th>Agg Asslt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juneau</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Crime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juneau</td>
<td>3,792</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>3,142</td>
<td>148</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>3,263</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>2,178</td>
<td>363</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.

Use of Force

Juneau police officers made 1,197 arrests in 2008. The officers reported using force to effect only 22 of those arrests. Only 1.8% of the arrests made by the Police Department required the use of force. The following charts illustrate the point.

Officers at the Juneau Police Department take great pride in their ability to diffuse most situations without using force. The officers are provided with many hours of training regarding the use of force and understand that it is to be used only when necessary. Police officers derive their authority to use force to effect arrests and protect lives from Alaska State Statutes.
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The use of force against police officers, particularly deadly force, is also tracked by the FBI. Fallen officers are memorialized by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund (NLEOM), a nationwide organization. In 2008, 133 police officers were killed in the line of duty. Since 1792, the NLEOMF reports that 18,662 officers have died serving their community and country. That is a staggering number, and even more sobering when you visit the Memorial in Washington D.C., where the names of four Juneau Police officers are etched on the marble walls with the others. September 11, 2001 was the deadliest day for law enforcement officers in the United States. On that day, 72 officers were killed as a result of the terrorist attacks on New York City.

JPD Chaplain Sam Dalin

Lauren Hatch, daughter of Ofc. Blain Hatch, sings the National Anthem at the 2009 Police Memorial service.

Alex Reishus, daughter of the late Officer Karl Reishus, places a wreath during the 2009 Police Memorial service.
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”

Patrol

The majority (37) of the sworn officers at JPD are assigned to Patrol. These officers currently work a blended 10 and 12 hour shift schedule and are divided into five “teams”. Each of the teams is supervised by a Sergeant. As in most police departments, Patrol is the backbone and face of our organization.

Lieutenant Ed Mercer currently has the responsibility of managing patrol services. Lt. Mercer came to JPD from Sitka PD and brings 17 years of law enforcement experience to the position. He is also one of the Department’s two polygraphists. He reports to the Operations Commander.
Patrol is responsible for responding to most of the calls for service that come to the JPD, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Patrol is also tasked with following-up on those calls unless the decision is made to forward the incident to the Investigations Unit due to either the severity or complexity of the crime.

Sgt. Paul Hatch celebrates finding the dessert table during the 2008 JPD Picnic.

All our officers are required to work a minimum of two years as a patrol officer before being eligible to promote or transfer to another unit, such as Community Services or Investigations. This requirement ensures that officers learn the community and the Department’s expectations as well as the applicable policies, procedures and laws. After two years of service in Patrol, officers are eligible to volunteer for ancillary duties including: the SWAT team, EOD team, Firearms instructor, Field Training Officer, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement and many others.

Sergeant Scott Erickson shares information on the day’s events with the patrol officers at shift briefing.
In addition to the normal patrol functions of the Department, officers are afforded the opportunity to work selective enforcement programs that are funded by grants awarded to JPD. We work cooperatively with the USDA Forest Service to provide additional patrol to areas such as the Mendenhall Campground, Auke Rec and Lena Point during hours when there may be no Forest Service officer on-duty. The Alaska Highway Safety Office provides grant monies to compensate JPD officers for participating in the “Click it or Ticket” and Driving While Intoxicated campaigns. Officers assisted with the Gold Medal Basketball Tournament again this year by providing security for the event.

During 2008, JPD officers effected 1,197 arrests. Seventy six of those arrests were juveniles. Arrests for warrants totaled 124. Officers served 212 summonses and issued 5,324 moving violation citations. The City and District Attorney’s offices prosecute criminal offenses, but for infractions such as traffic tickets, the officers present their own testimony in court. These are known as “officer prosecute” offenses. For “optional court” citations, the person receiving the citation can either go to court or pay the fine by the court dates. Many people mail or come directly to JPD to pay the fine.

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This is an often seen image for drivers in Juneau, but not nearly as often appreciated! JPD officers make more than 5,000 traffic stops each year.

Community Services Officer Rebecca Notmeyer greets a member of the public at the service window at the police station.
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”
In 2008, JPD welcomed eleven new officers to our ranks. In 2009, we have added three more. During their first year, officers attend fifteen weeks of training at the DPS Training Academy in Sitka and receive nearly six hundred hours of one-on-one training with an experienced patrol officer here at JPD.
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Special Operations

The Special Operations functions encompass the Metro Drug Unit, Community Services Unit, Office of Professional Standards and Training, School Resource Officers and the Investigations Unit. It is comprised of 21 employees that cover a broad spectrum of duties for the Department.

Troy Wilson is the Special Operations Lieutenant. He reports to the Captain. He is responsible for the Investigations and Drugs units, the Community Services Officers, the Professional Standards and Training Sergeant, the School Resource Officers and the Reserve Officers. He also oversees the SWAT/EOD/CNT teams. Lt. Wilson has more than 14 years of experience at JPD.

Community Services Unit
(L-R) Bob Dilley, Jennifer Adams, Kathy Underwood, Alisha Sell, Patti Rumfelt, Dave Campbell and Blain Hatch
The responsibilities for parking enforcement, commercial passenger vehicle (CPV) administration, parade permits, junk and abandoned cars, wood smoke, litter and bear complaints rest with the Community Services Officers. These staff members regularly work Monday through Friday but sometimes are tasked with weekend or evening duty specifically to target CPV and litter issues, or to provide traffic control for large events like high school football or open houses at the Governor’s Mansion. 8,782 parking citations were issued in 2008.

SRO’s Blain Hatch and Jason VanSickle demonstrate the Taser with the assistance of Ofcs Wise and Abbott & the kids show their defensive tactics training moves during the Junior Academy, June 2009.

The two School Resource Officers work out of the Department Headquarters but are assigned schools throughout the Borough for which they are responsible. These officers teach D.A.R.E. classes among others, to the students. They also investigate many incidents that happen at the schools and frequently act as conflict mediators. During the summer months these officers are generally tasked with special assignments such as bike patrol or other directed enforcement activities. In June 2009, they instituted the first JPD Junior Police Academy. 21 kids enrolled in the week long class.

Investigations Unit
(L-R) Kim Horn, Ed Mercer, Russ Haight, Elias Joven, Dave Campbell, Stacy Eldemar, Dom Branson, Jim Quinto and Bob Kolvig
The Investigations Unit is assigned major offense crimes. The majority of its case load includes sexual assault and sexual abuse cases. It also investigates fraud and other property crimes as appropriate. The unit handled 185 cases in 2008. With implementation of the new service delivery model, nearly all criminal cases requiring follow up will be assigned to the Investigations Unit, thereby increasing the case load for this unit. The officers assigned to Investigations get additional training in the areas of homicide and sexual assault investigation, computer forensics and interviewing.

Much attention has been placed this year on the increased illicit use of Oxycontin/Oxycodone in our community. Oxycontin is a highly addictive prescription drug that is used to treat severe pain. It affects the lungs, heart, gastrointestinal tract and other smooth tissue. Its side effects are similar to other opioids; constipation, nausea, sedation, dizziness, vomiting, headache, dry mouth, sweating and weakness. Pinpoint pupils are a sign of opioid overdose. Oxycontin addiction will leave users suffering physically painful symptoms if their bodies do not get more. Signs of addiction include but are not limited to: slow breathing, small pinpoint pupils, confusion, nodding off, dizziness, weakness, apathy, cold/clammy skin, nausea, vomiting and seizures.

Oxycontin can be crushed and then ingested, snorted, smoked, or diluted and injected. For these reasons, and because of the effects it creates, Oxycontin is often used in place of heroin. In 2008, JPD investigated 125 drug related cases and made 38 drug arrests, several of which were high profile Oxycontin dealers. Due to the high cost of obtaining this drug, many users will resort to theft and burglary as a source of income to fund their addictions. JPD will continue to do everything possible to locate and arrest these illicit drug dealers and users. For more information on Oxycontin search the World Wide Web.
Communications

The staff in the Communications Center has made another herculean effort again this year to ensure the community has round the clock coverage. With a short staff, these employees have put in long hours ensuring 911 calls are answered (9,812 calls this year), fire fighters are dispatched and police officers dispatch needs are met, as well as answering JPD telephones after normal business hours. Four dispatchers were hired this year and should provide needed relief when they complete their training. We appreciate the excellent work done by these folks.

Lieutenant Kris Sell has 24 hr responsibility for managing the Communications Center and the Electronic Technician’s position within JPD. She has nearly 12 years of law enforcement experience with the Juneau Police. She currently supervises 8 dispatchers and 3 lead dispatchers. She reports directly to the Assistant Chief, and is currently the President of the Juneau Chapter of the Alaska Peace Officer’s Association.

Members of the Communications Unit enjoy a breakfast made especially for them courtesy of the Chief and Assistant Chief. The meal was provided to recognize the dispatchers for their hard work and professionalism.
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Records

(L-R) Shannon McCormick, Brook Bassett, Cindy Ruby, Sandi Branum and Heidi McKeown stand behind their supervisor, Karen Childers.

The Records Unit is the grist mill of our organization. It ensures police reports and other records are processed in a timely manner. The employees “meet and greet” all the visitors to our facility. They answer calls during normal business hours and provide general assistance to customers. Without the efforts of these individuals, our cog in the wheel of justice would come to a grinding halt. Staff from Records also assists with JPD’s participation in the annual city-wide surplus auction and the JPD abandoned car auction. They assist in cataloging the items as well as staffing the auction. In 2008, the Records Unit accepted $606,945 in fees and fines that was transferred to the City’s treasury and processed 2,314 records requests.

The 2009 abandoned car auction was well attended in spite of the chilly temperatures. JPD impounded 1,259 vehicles in 2008.
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Crisis Negotiations Team
And
Explosive Ordinance Disposal

The Crisis Negotiations and Explosive Ordinance Disposal Teams (CNT and EOD) are highly specialized groups. The members of these teams get specialized training and are tasked with responding to specific events. The EOD team responded in whole or part to about 10 incidents last year. The most newsworthy event involved the discovery of WWII munitions in a foot locker. When the EOD team locates a suspicious device or object, it most often will X-Ray the object or examine it by another means. If unable to determine if the object is explosive, the object may be moved to a place where it can be rendered “safe”. The JPD EOD team is the only team of its kind in Southeast Alaska.

The bomb robot is used to place an explosive charge at the trunk of a vehicle containing suspicious materials during EOD training.

The Crisis Negotiations Team is utilized for “stand-off” or “barricaded” type of incidents. It works closely with the SWAT team. The members of this group coordinate their efforts to establish and maintain contact with hostile suspects via a “throw phone” or other device. The goal of this group is to secure a peaceful resolution at every call out. Like the EOD team, our CNT is the only one of its kind in Southeast Alaska. In the spirit of community relations, our CNT and EOD teams are available to assist other agencies throughout Southeast Alaska.
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S.W.A.T.
(Special Weapons and Tactics)

Officer Jim Quinto, Sgt. Scott Erickson and Officer Krag Campbell in SWAT/EOD Training, Apr 2009

History: The Juneau Police Department SWAT (formerly known as SERT – Special Emergency Response Team) team was brought into existence because of the tragic loss of two officers in the line of duty on April 17, 1979. At 1724 Evergreen Ave, a man fired several rifle shots at a passing vehicle and then barricaded himself in his home with numerous weapons. Officers Jimmy Kennedy and Rick Adair responded to the incident. As they approached the home, the man opened fire on the police car occupied by the two officers, killing them both. A siege ensued which resulted in one other officer being injured before the man turned a handgun on himself and committed suicide.

After the initial shock caused by the deaths of two of Juneau’s finest, the Department evaluated the tragedy and selected and trained a group of officers equipped to handle situations of this nature; hence was born the idea of a “special” team.

The Juneau SWAT team was first utilized in March 1981. The team deployed tear gas and made a successful entry into a building, however the suspect believed to be inside was not located. In 1982, the SWAT team received funding to purchase weapons and other specialized equipment and to pay for additional training.
The SWAT team first assisted another agency in July, 1983. The Alaska State Troopers believed they had trapped several armed burglars inside a store. (Prior to 1988, JPD and AST shared jurisdiction and responsibilities for police services within the City and Borough of Juneau. In 1988, the decision was made by AST to concentrate their limited staffing on areas that were not sufficiently served by a local law enforcement agency.) The JPD SWAT team responded and located one suspect who was taken into custody without incident.

In 1984, SWAT was called to assist with the capture of escaped inmates from the Lemon Creek Correctional Facility. The team was also used to assist the U.S. Marshal’s office during the arrest of two federal fugitives.

Today: The JPD SWAT team consists of members from among our sworn staff. The team is available to other Southeast communities in need of assistance whenever it is requested. The team has an established training calendar and is utilized about ten times a year in various situations ranging from warrant arrests to barricade calls. Because of the training, philosophy and professionalism of the team, to date no members of the public or the team have sustained any serious injuries when the SWAT team has responded to a call.

The goals of the SWAT team haven’t changed in the nearly thirty years of its existence: to prevent the loss of citizen and officer life.
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”

Lt. Troy Wilson pauses for a moment of reflection at the gravesite of Officer Rick Adair in Evergreen Cemetery during the 2009 Police Memorial service.

Department Awards

The annual JPD Awards Banquet was held on September 20, 2008. The banquet was well attended by staff, spouses, significant others and even some parents. The banquet is held to honor employees for their efforts and recognize exemplary performance. Awards are given to employees and to members of the community. The recipients of this year’s annual awards were: Civilian of the Year – Branden Holloway, Dispatcher of the Year – Margie Ramos, Manager of the Year – Bob Dilley, Officer of the Year – Sarah Hieb. Other awards handed out were: Jackie Renninger Community Service Award – Kathy Underwood, Outstanding Police Service Medal – Kim Horn.
“In partnership with the people of Juneau, our mission is to make our city a place where people can live safely and without fear.”

Conclusion

We hope you have found this edition of our Annual Report to be interesting and informative. It continues to be a pleasure serving this community, and we look forward to another year of progress at the Juneau Police Department.

L- Lead Dispatcher Margie Ramos receives her award from Chief Browning
Below- Custodians Steve Williams and Rick Smith