

Adam Berg

From: Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2013 9:40 AM
To: Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Timothy Clark; Adam Berg
Subject: Fwd: Arming VPSO

Sent from the iJonathan; please excuse brevity.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ron & Joan Leighton <akdilligas@starband.net>
Date: September 20, 2013, 9:29:54 AM AKDT
To: <Rep.Jonathan.Kreiss-Tomkins@akleg.gov>
Subject: Arming VPSO

Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, I'm a retired law enforcement officer who retired in 1987. I also after retiring held a VPSO position in Kasaan. I feel that if the State of Alaska can afford to most all of their other law enforcers than they can easily train and arm Village Public Safety officers. Although during my two plus years of in my VPSO position did not pack a firearm, I always thought that should a situation arise that I would need one what would I do? I would probably retreat and arm until back up arrives which back then could be a day or two as we had no road into Kasaan.

After I left this position a lady who was doing a study through the university of Alaska Anchorage contacted me and one of the questions she asked me, if some one was doing something violent and you needed him to stop what would you do. I told her there were many scenarios, but I could yell halt or my wife will shoot you and you would like it as she's the village health aid and would have to treat you!

This is a serious situation and has to be properly addressed through legislation. I'm in favor of training and arming all VPSO's in the state. I know not only human intervention, but wild animal intervention would warrant a need for being armed. If during your debate opposition dictates that they shall remain unarmed then the same would justify unarming all law enforcement officers in the state. All law enforcements number one roll is to protect life and property, this includes all VPSO's. Jonathan I'm going to be in Ketchikan attending the federal subsistence hearings which end on Friday the 26th, if you need to contact me you may email me or phone me at 907 617 2089!

I hope this goes well and a decision to arm them is reached!
Warm regards
Ron