

Commissioner Joseph Masters
Department of Public Safety

Commissioner Masters was raised in Unalaska. Following his graduation from high school, the Commissioner pursued a career in law enforcement that spanned more than 24 years. He began his career as a Village Public Safety Officer in Unalakleet. Following his time as a VPSO, Masters served as police officer in both Unalakleet and Unalaska. The majority of his law enforcement career was within the ranks of the Alaska State Troopers, serving in both rural and urban Alaska. However, Commissioner Masters has also served with the division of Fish and Wildlife Protection. Shortly after retirement from the Alaska State Troopers in 2005, Commissioner Masters began working for Doyon Universal Services, where he was the Director of Security for Petrochemical Operations.

In September of 2008, then Governor Sarah Palin appointed Joseph Masters to Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety in September.

Commissioner Masters has served on many Boards, commissions, and committees. Commissioner Masters has served on the Board of the Alaska Native Justice Center, the Alaska Inter-Tribal Council, the Committee on Government to Government Relations, the Matanuska-Susitna Commission on Police Powers, the Board of Western Community Oriented Policing, and the Civil Air Patrol. Masters is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police, the Alaska Peace Officers Association, the American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers, the Fraternal Order of Alaska State Troopers and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association. In Alaska, he is considered an expert in the area of law enforcement policy, procedures, training and management.

Commissioner Masters currently lives in Anchorage with his wife, Michelle. Together they have three children who are now grown.