

Department of Public Safety

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
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February 11, 2020

The Honorable Neal Foster Co-Chair House Finance Committee Alaska House of Representatives

The Honorable Jennifer Johnston Co-Chair, House Finance Committee Alaska House of Representatives

Re: Point of clarification from the February 6th, 2020 House Finance Committee meeting on Public Safety

Dear Representatives Foster and Johnston:

During the February 6, 2020 House Finance Committee hearing on the Department of Public Safety (DPS) FY 2021 Budget Proposal, there was information provided to a question from Representative Knopp that I would like to clarify. Representative Knopp inquired about the number of state dispatcher positions being moved from Soldotna to Anchorage. I answered Representative Knopp incorrectly, stating that DPS did not have any dispatch positions in Soldotna. My apologies to the committee for the misstatement.

The Soldotna Communications Center is a hybrid facility that uses both Kenai Peninsula Borough employees and DPS employees in the center. DPS has eight (8) authorized positions in Soldotna that will be moved to Anchorage once the Anchorage based central communications facility is opened on July 1, 2021. All employees in their current positions will have the opportunity to move with their position to Anchorage. The facility that DPS fully contracts with is the City of Wasilla owned MATCOMM dispatch center. There are no DPS employees embedded in the MATCOMM facility; rather DPS pays the City of Wasilla just over \$1.9 million per year for dispatch services.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to clarify this information for the committee.

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Sincerely,

Amanda Price

Commissioner

Department of Public Safety

Amanda Frice