

**ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE
JOINT MEETING
SENATE JUDICIARY STANDING COMMITTEE
HOUSE JUDICIARY STANDING COMMITTEE**

January 25, 2013

1:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

SENATE JUDICIARY

Senator John Coghill, Chair
Senator Lesil McGuire, Vice Chair
Senator Fred Dyson

HOUSE JUDICIARY

Representative Wes Keller, Chair
Representative Bob Lynn, Vice Chair
Representative Neal Foster
Representative Lance Pruitt
Representative Max Gruenberg
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux
Representative Charisse Millett

MEMBERS ABSENT

SENATE JUDICIARY

Senator Bill Wielechowski
Senator Donald Olson

HOUSE JUDICIARY

All members present.

COMMITTEE CALENDAR

OVERVIEW: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

- HEARD

PREVIOUS COMMITTEE ACTION

No previous action to record.

WITNESS REGISTER

JOSEPH MASTERS, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Presented an overview of Department of Public Safety (DPS).

COLONEL KEITH MALLARD, Director
Division of Alaska State Troopers
Department of Public Safety (DPS)
Anchorage, AK

POSITION STATEMENT: Presented an overview of the Division of Alaska State Troopers.

ACTION NARRATIVE

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CHAIR JOHN COGHILL called the joint meeting of the Senate and House Judiciary Standing Committees to order at 1:33 p.m. Present at the call to order were Senators McGuire, Dyson, and Chair Coghill; and Representatives Gruenberg, Millett, LeDoux, Lynn, Foster and Chair Keller.

OVERVIEW: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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CHAIR COGHILL stated that the business before the committee would be an overview of the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

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JOSEPH MASTERS, Commissioner, Department of Public Safety (DPS), introduced himself and Colonel Keith Mallard, Director, Division of Alaska State Troopers.

REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG asked who from DPS would typically appear and testify before the legislature.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS replied that he would introduce some bills and Lieutenant Rodney Dial would probably testify on certain issues, but the bulk would fall to Kelly Howell, the DPS Legislative Liaison.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS reported the mission of the Department of Public Safety is, "To ensure public safety and enforce fish and wildlife law."

SENATOR DYSON remarked that the implication with regard to fish and wildlife is that DPS can do no more than enforce the law. He asked if the same was true with regard to public safety, that DPS can only enforce the law.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS replied that language is in statute and DPS meets its mission in a variety of ways, only one of which is through the enforcement of laws. Other ways are through education and assisting other agencies with their missions.

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SENATOR DYSON noted that Governor Parnell put missions and measures information in statute and the legislature was supposed to review the missions and analyze the appropriateness of the measures. He recommended discussing the measures with the departments and taking suggestions about changes.

CHAIR COGHILL agreed with the suggestion.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS reviewed the following core services of DPS:

- Law enforcement patrol and investigations are done primarily through the Division of Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers.
- Rural law enforcement.
- Domestic violence and sexual assault programs.
- Statewide public safety programs.
- Resource protection.
- Highway safety.

Also contained in the statutory mission is a requirement for DPS to support other law enforcement agencies. This is done through direct investigative support from the enforcement divisions to other law enforcement agencies. For example, in 2012 AST provided over 7,000 assists to other law enforcement agencies within the state. Three hundred and thirteen were more serious offenses and were direct investigative assistance by the Alaska Bureau of Investigation.

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REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG asked if any thought was given to combining under DPS the various law enforcement entities of the railroad, university, airports, and others.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said he had not seen a strong argument to indicate that such consolidation would be advantageous, although there were some entities that have their law enforcement authority provided at the extension of the Department of Public Safety. For example, commercial vehicle enforcement officers are under the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF). They carry very specific special permissions from the commissioner of public safety and assist the Alaska State Troopers.

CHAIR COGHILL said it was a legitimate question because legislators make policy calls regarding authority and benefit issues.

REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG suggested that there might be some cost-savings in doing so. He related a personal experience on the Alaska Marine Highway and wondered if that state entity had limited law enforcement authority.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said something that needs to be in the equation is the potential for overextending DPS personnel. For example, under DNR, the Alaska State Park rangers have a very wide array of duties but just a small portion relate to law enforcement. It may not be cost efficient or effective for DPS to provide those law enforcement duties, but the people in the state parks still need to have the other functions served.

CHAIR COGHILL remarked that legislators often get pushback from constituents on how park rangers sometimes use that authority.

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COMMISSIONER MASTERS stated that another statutory requirement of DPS is to provide search and rescue support to agencies and municipalities. Last year the department participated in more than 700 search and rescues involving over 1,000 individuals. He noted that the state relies on volunteer and professional organizations statewide in this effort. Another area that DPS meets its obligations is by providing training for most law enforcement agencies within the state, including Village Public Safety Officers (VPSO) and Village Police Officers (VPO). DPS is also responsible for maintaining the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN). This includes a number of databases and access portals to systems such as the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) that all law enforcement agencies in the state use on a daily basis. Maintaining evidence submitted to the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory is another important support service.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS reviewed the organization of the department starting with the commissioner's office. The primary divisions within the department are the Division of Alaska State Troopers, the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers, the Division of Administrative Services, the Division of Statewide Services, and the Division of Fire and Life Safety. Also housed within DPS are the Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, the Alaska Police Standards Council, and the Alaska Fire Standards Council. He explained that each council operates autonomously, but DPS assists with the administrative functions of finance and human resources.

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REPRESENTATIVE PRUITT joined the meeting.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said the duties of the Division of Administrative Services are primarily the financial components related to operating DPS. [These include finance, human resources, administration, budget, grants management, procurement, supply, and facilities management.]

He informed the committee that the Division of Statewide Services provides the interface between the DPS and other law enforcement agencies. The Criminal Records and Identification Bureau houses the Alaska Public Safety Information Network (APSIN), the Alaska Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AAFIS), Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR), Civilian Process Server and Security Guard Licensing, the Sex Offender and Child Kidnapper Registry, and Concealed Handgun Permits. This division is also responsible for application support for mainframe and small computers, network development, operation, and security, and Web services.

CHAIR COGHILL asked if Uniform Crime Reporting was part of the national reporting.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said yes.

REPRESENTATIVE LYNN noted that law enforcement in Arizona was using small, portable fingerprint identification devices that tied into a local database. He asked if DPS was using or anticipated using a similar system.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS responded that DPS was always looking at how new technology might make the job more efficient and effective, particularly with regard to information sharing and

record keeping. However, with the current focus on basic infrastructure and justice issues, DPS probably would not be looking at that technology in the near future.

He reviewed the offices within the Division of Fire and Life Safety. These include the Training and Education Bureau, the Life Safety Inspections Bureau, the Plans Review Bureau, the Office of Rural Fire Protection, and the Joint Pipeline Office. The two broad areas of focus are fire safety education and outreach, particularly for homes, and regulation, primarily plan review of commercial buildings and residential structures that have more than three housing units. He noted that none of the fire-related fatalities in the last several years had occurred in the larger commercial units.

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COMMISSIONER MASTERS reviewed the scientific capabilities of the Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory. It provides biological screening as well as tests for controlled substances, DNA/CODIS, evidence, firearms and tool marks, fire debris, forensic toxicology, and latent prints.

SENATOR DYSON lauded the new, state-of-the-art crime lab, and asked the commissioner to comment on the backlog on processing DNA samples and the issue of removing records from the database when an individual was not charged or found not guilty.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS responded that the DNA backlog, particularly in sexual assault cases had been reduced dramatically. He offered his understanding that none of the backlog predated 2011. He described this as a significant accomplishment and opined that it spoke well of how the move was conducted and the new lab brought on line.

SENATOR DYSON maintained that on sexual assault cases, the evidence should be turned around in days or weeks at the very most. He added that having evidence that dated back to 2011 seemed to be a problem.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS explained that in most of those cases, the suspects are unknown or there is nothing to compare the sample to.

SENATOR DYSON asked how quickly new samples are processed.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS estimated that between 80 and 85 percent of cases submitted to the lab are analyzed and returned within 30 days. He offered to follow up with the exact figures.

CHAIR COGHILL asked what the CODIS acronym stands for.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS answered that CODIS is the federal database where electronic DNA fingerprints and profiles are collected and stored. The acronym stands for Combined DNA Index System. With regard to an earlier question, he explained that in Alaska DNA information is collected on felony arrest, not on conviction. If an individual is later found not guilty, there is a process to remove the information from the database.

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REPRESENTATIVE PRUITT asked if it was a laborious process to remove DNA information from CODIS. He opined that the responsibility to clear the information should not be placed on an individual who was found not guilty.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS offered to follow up with specific information about the process, but he did not believe it was laborious.

CHAIR COGHILL expressed interest in getting the specific information.

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COMMISSIONER MASTERS confirmed he would send all information to the respective chairs for distribution.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS deferred to Colonel Mallard to discuss the Trooper divisions.

[2:01:20 PM](#)

COLONEL KEITH MALLARD, Director, Division of Alaska State Troopers (AST), Department of Public Safety (DPS), informed the committee that AST is comprised of five detachments distributed geographically statewide. Within the division are the Bureau of Investigations, the Bureau of Judicial Services, and the Bureau of Highway Patrol. AST also oversees the Statewide Drug and Alcohol Enforcement Unit and the VPSO Program Office, which oversees the VPSO grant, the D.A.R.E. program, the School Resource Officer component, the LECC program, and the summer camp programs for Western Alaska.

The Alaska Wildlife Troopers has four detachments, a Wildlife Investigations Unit, a Marine Enforcement Section, and an Aircraft Section for both wildlife troopers and state troopers.

CHAIR COGHILL asked for confirmation that the AST Aircraft Section handled both wildlife enforcement and search and rescue.

COLONEL MALLARD said yes and added that the Aircraft Section supervises how aircraft are utilized and ensures that the pilots are properly trained and licensed. The division has one helicopter and will soon have a second, both of which are primarily used for search and rescue.

CHAIR COGHILL offered his understanding that they were not air ambulances, which was stretching the division's capacity on search and rescue. He asked how the new helicopter would be configured.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS explained that it would be the same design as the one that was currently located in Anchorage. It would have a wide cargo compartment in the back that would facilitate a stretcher. He confirmed that AST did not have the capability to act as an air ambulance and did not have the personnel to staff that sort of response.

CHAIR COGHILL said he wanted to highlight that because the 911 working group discussion was that the expectation is that distress calls will be picked up because of improved cellphone and satellite phone coverage. He noted that AST was often if not always called first, whereas it used to be the military. He asked if any other entity or agency had helicopter rescue capability.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS clarified that the Alaska National Guard currently had a rescue squadron based out of Joint Base Elmendorf/Richardson and it deployed a Black Hawk helicopter on rescue missions. He added that most rescue coordination in the Interior comes from a 911 phone call, which is routed to the Department of Public Safety or Alaska State Troopers. Depending on the need, the rescue coordination center would then be called for a military assist.

CHAIR COGHILL relayed that most fixed wing planes in the Interior are not suited to land where most 911 calls originate off the road system, and he looked forward to the arrival of the new helicopter.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS informed the committee that the contracts were signed, the civilian pilot was being hired, and delivery was anticipated in June 2013.

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COLONEL MALLARD reviewed the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) data for Alaska. He said the statewide data for calendar year 2011 was based on 34 reporting law enforcement agencies. He displayed a map to show the locations of the contributing agencies.

He reminded the committee that the crime index offenses are categorized as either violent crimes or property crimes. Violent crimes include murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, and motor vehicle theft.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS clarified that this was not all the crimes that occurred in Alaska; the UCR index was a select list of crimes the FBI compiled to utilize for managers and policy makers to make judgments on what crime was occurring in a particular area.

SENATOR DYSON highlighted that the UCR data was from reported crimes, not indicted or convicted. He asked him to comment on ratios and which crimes were more likely to have false reports.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS confirmed that these were only reported offenses to law enforcement. He said that crimes like homicide and murder were difficult not to report, robberies generally were highly reported, aggravated assault reports depended on the area of the state and circumstances, forcible rapes and sex crimes in general were very under-reported.

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COLONEL MALLARD reviewed the Alaska Crime Index Offense Summary from 2001 through 2011; these were reported incidents and the trend was downward.

He reviewed the Alaska Crime Rate Summary for 2001 through 2011 and explained that the crime rate relates the incidence of crime relative to population. He pointed out that the crime rate also trended down.

REPRESENTATIVE FOSTER asked if the trend was the same in rural Alaska.

COLONEL MALLARD said he would follow up with data broken down by region, but these were statewide numbers.

SENATOR MCGUIRE asked if DPS attempted to discern the reasons for trends in crime statistics.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS responded that DPS does look at movements in crime rates and it appears that they are driven by policy changes and departmental activities. The Governor's "Choose Respect" initiative, for example, has increased reporting rates for sexual assault.

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SENATOR MCGUIRE suggested that it would be helpful if those observations were shared with the legislature, because that could be a place to allocate resources.

SENATOR DYSON commented that, "The improvements all correlate with Commissioner Masters assuming the responsibility."

COMMISSIONER MASTERS expressed appreciation for the comment.

CHAIR COGHILL observed that the Department of Law (DOL) would provide a different view of the issue when it presents the Governor's proposed crime bill to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS informed the committees that the next few charts would show that in most areas the raw numbers of crimes were dropping. He also pointed out that crime rates (per 100,000 population) were on the decline in all crime areas.

SENATOR DYSON encouraged members to look at the last 5-6 years for the trend, not back as far as 2001.

CHAIR COGHILL commented that when the population is small, a few major events make big difference in the trend lines.

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COLONEL MALLARD reviewed the Alaska Violent Crime Offense Summary for 2001 through 2011 and pointed out that the number of offenses trends upward, whereas the rate summary shows some decline. The reported instances of violent crime show mixed results: aggravated assault trends up, robbery trends up, murder generally trends down, and the trend for forcible rape is stagnant. He opined that increased reporting in the last 3-4 years probably accounted for the latter.

COLONEL MALLARD reviewed the Alaska Property Crime offense Summary for 2001 through 2011 and highlighted that the numbers of reported property crimes were declining.

CHAIR COGHILL commented that the cynical view is that the number of reports has declined because the victims have given up on getting help. "In some areas that is actually true because of your workforce," he added.

COLONEL MALLARD responded that the detachment commander in the Fairbanks area designated a patrol unit to investigate property crimes and it has shown some success. In addition, two investigators in the Mat-Su Valley have been assigned to property crimes.

CHAIR COGHILL observed that property crimes cause people to feel hugely violated and very unrepresented.

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COLONEL MALLARD reviewed the 2011 data, which showed that property crimes represented 81 percent of reports and violent crimes represented 19 percent. Violent crime reports were broken down as follows: murder 1 percent, forcible rape 10 percent, aggravated assault 76 percent, and robbery 13 percent.

CHAIR COGHILL asked if violent crime included both misdemeanors and felonies.

COLONEL MALLARD responded that they were just felony-level cases.

Property crimes reports were broken down as follows: burglary 15 percent, larceny/theft 78 percent, and motor vehicle theft 7 percent.

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COLONEL MALLARD informed the committee that data for 2008 through 2011 shows a clear upward trend of assaults on Troopers. The reports differentiate assaults with a firearm, knife, other, and hands/feet. He said hands/feet assaults increased the most and this might be due to efforts to educate Troopers about when it is appropriate to charge assault when there is physical contact with an officer. He noted that the national trends were similar; physical assaults on police officers were rising.

CHAIR COGHILL asked in what venue Troopers receive training about when to charge assault.

COLONEL MALLARD said training continues throughout a person's career. Troopers are initially educated at the Public Safety Academy followed by ongoing in-service training about the difference between physical contact with an officer and hands/feet assault of an officer.

SENATOR DYSON asked if he would expect the rates to be similar for all police officers.

COLONEL MALLARD surmised that the trend would be similar statewide if all the data were collected and analyzed.

SENATOR DYSON observed that knife assaults on Troopers were close to zero and highlighted that both bodies would see a bill to remove specialty knives from the list that were illegal under Alaska law.

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CHAIR KELLER asked if data on Trooper assaults was collected before 2008.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said there was no specific reason for providing just four years of data because it had been collected for a number of years. However, it was his belief that there was better reporting by law enforcement agencies in recent years.

CHAIR COGHILL commented on the change in Trooper demographics and society in general.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS added that the anecdotal perception, both statewide and nationally, is that assaults on officers are on the rise and they seem more severe.

CHAIR COGHILL expressed interest in knowing how many of the assaults on Troopers fall inside the category of domestic violence and sexual assault.

REPRESENTATIVE GRUENBERG indicated that correctional officer data would likely show a similar trend.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said he would agree anecdotally.

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COMMISSIONER MASTERS enumerated the following FY13 successes:

- Completion of the new crime lab as previously discussed.
- The Public Safety Academy dining hall addition, which will help meet some of the requirements of feeding officers in training while in Sitka, will be completed in about a month.
- A new Post in Selawik opened the first part of the year and crime statistics and anecdotal information indicate that it is having a positive effect. The 2012 assault data shows a large increase in misdemeanor assault arrests and a corresponding, significant decrease in felony assaults.
- A new King Air 350 was placed into service several months ago and, as previously discussed, there would be a new helicopter based in Fairbanks.
- Domestic violence and sexual violence prevention planning.
- Highway safety.

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CHAIR COGHILL asked if the community still had a VPSO.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said yes, although the position was vacant until recently. He offered his belief that the Northwest Arctic region was still underserved, but DPS had made significant efforts to get VPSOs in communities in that region.

CHAIR COGHILL asked if the Troopers in Selawik had land and air capabilities.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said the aircraft that operates out of Kotzebue is dedicated to moving Troopers where needed within the region.

CHAIR COGHILL asked about prisoner transport to the Lower 48.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS explained that DPS has moved prisoners between Alaska and the Lower 48 using seat fares on commercial aircraft and the King Air, which accommodates up to eight prisoners at a time. When Goose Creek opens, the Department of Corrections has another way to bring prisoners back more economically.

CHAIR KELLER asked for information on the cost per hour to operate the King Air 350 as opposed to using charter services.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS agreed to follow up with the information.

CHAIR COGHILL said that when he last fished on the Gulkana River a Fish and Wildlife Trooper was flying around in either a J-4 or J-5. He asked if DPS or ADF&G managed that plane.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS responded that the Alaska Wildlife Troopers have a number of Piper Super Cubs. Those are maintained through the DPS Aircraft Section and primarily used for wildlife enforcement.

He said he also wanted to highlight that there had been a concerted effort to get domestic violence and sexual assault primary prevention programs into CDVSA. He explained that these programs deal with very specific attempts to change public norms, social norms, how people view relationships, how they view what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. For example, "Green Dot" is a bystander intervention and prevention program, "Lead On" is a teen leadership program in schools, and "Coaching Boys into Men" uses coaches to demonstrate leadership and educate student athletes.

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SENATOR DYSON asked to receive a copy of the curriculum and lesson plans used in the schools.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said he could provide information for "Coaching Boys into Men" and possibly for "Fourth R."

CHAIR COGHILL recognized that the Council on Domestic Violence was represented in the audience.

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COMMISSIONER MASTERS told the committee that highway safety was both a success and challenge. The concerted efforts in the last four years resulted in the lowest number of fatal crashes on record. The preliminary data from 2012 indicates that it is the lowest on record for the percentage of DUI and alcohol-related fatalities. There also appears to be the highest rate of voluntary seatbelt use. He attributed these successes to enforcement efforts of the Bureau of Highway Patrol, the efforts of the Alaska Highway Safety Office, and the efforts within the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOTPF) and EMS organizations in the state.

CHAIR COGHILL mentioned [double] fines and asked the number of safety corridors in the state.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS described the five highway safety corridors on the Sterling Highway, Seward Highway, KGB Road, Parks Highway exiting Wasilla northbound, and another section of the Parks Highway. He highlighted that DOTPF does not establish a new safety corridor without an enforcement component. He confirmed that the fines were double in the safety zones.

SENATOR DYSON asked about a forthcoming report on the meetings that followed the 8.5-hour shutdown of the Glenn Highway.

COLONEL MALLARD relayed that the report would include suggestions that could be used statewide. He noted that a similar group was meeting to discuss the Seward and Sterling highways and the Peninsula.

SENATOR DYSON said part of the discussion was about options to keep traffic moving, and those suggestions could affect budgets for highways.

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REPRESENTATIVE FOSTER asked if any consideration was given to doubling fines in school zones.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS offered to follow up with an answer.

SENATOR MCGUIRE complimented Commissioner Masters on the improvements due to the safety corridor and additional patrolling on the Seward Highway.

CHAIR COGHILL spoke of the inconvenience associated with having a car impounded as evidence after a fatal accident. The insurance company has no access to the vehicle and cannot settle the claim. He suggested that there might be a better protocol.

COLONEL MALLARD said the agencies were looking at alternatives to reduce shutdown times on highways. With regard to the insurance issue, he expressed hope that the circumstance was atypical and if not, he would like to hear about it.

CHAIR KELLER highlighted the need for the Knik Crossing.

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COMMISSIONER MASTERS reviewed the following challenges that DPS is currently facing:

- In the last several years, the Division of Alaska State Troopers has articulated the need to increase core police

services in large urban areas. The population in these areas has increased steadily, particularly in the Mat-Su Valley. With the exception of Anchorage, the municipal police departments have very small footprints within AST's areas of responsibility. The growth areas are outside those municipalities so they are dramatically affecting the Troopers' calls for service. Since 2000, the numbers of calls for service have doubled in the Mat-Su Valley and increased markedly in the Fairbanks region and the Kenai Peninsula. Seventeen Troopers from that post are assigned to patrol and that is not enough to provide 24/7 coverage. Staffing deficiencies manifest in a number of ways including complaints that Trooper responses are not timely. He relayed that DPS was addressing the need to increase staffing levels in finance subcommittee discussions.

CHAIR COGHILL said he'd noticed that when Trooper response is slow, property crime victims are tempted to vindicate themselves and that may result in another crime.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS agreed.

- VPSO infrastructure and retention is another challenge. DPS has made concerted efforts to put law enforcement in rural communities, some with Trooper posts but mostly by adding VPSOs. In 2008, 45 communities had VPSOs and today 67 or 68 communities are covered. About 65 communities in rural Alaska would still benefit from VPSO coverage. It is a shared responsibility with the community and state to recruit and support these positions.

REPRESENTATIVE FOSTER emphasized the importance of supporting VPSOs in rural Alaska and that the legislature needs to fund things like rents, supplies, and equipment. The positions that haven't been filled should be funded because they help with the infrastructure.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS said the personal services funds for VPSOs that are available because the position hasn't been filled, are reinvested into the program to assist communities in basic unmet infrastructure needs like helping to finish an office, finishing a roof, changing electrical, putting a heating unit in, and purchasing gasoline for patrol.

- Another challenge is the impact of federal grant reductions. DPS currently receives about \$15 million in federal funding and about \$4.2 million is needed this year

to backfill that federal funding. In FY14 federal funds available to the department total about \$10 million. Those funds are used to fund successful positions at the Bureau of Highway Patrol and Sexual Assault Units. The finance subcommittee meetings will include discussions about maintaining those successful positions.

CHAIR COGHILL asked if the positions in the Sexual Assault Unit were heavily dependent on federal funds.

COMMISSIONER MASTERS explained that DPS has several grant programs, the largest of which is American Reinvestment Recovery Act (ARRA) stimulus funds. Those funds were utilized specifically to fund sexual assault investigators and increase capabilities in the area of Internet crimes against children, Internet child pornography, and distribution as well as putting investigators in child sexual abuse units and adult sexual assault units in several locations. Those funds will end in 2013.

- The last challenge was the Bureau of Highway Patrol funding, which is also federal.

CHAIR COGHILL and CHAIR KELLER thanked Commissioner Masters and Colonel Mallard.

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There being no further business to come before the committees, Chair Coghill adjourned the Senate and House Judiciary Standing Committees at 2:57 p.m.