

Confirmation:

DEPT. of

Public

SAFETY



Official Business


# Alaska State Legislature

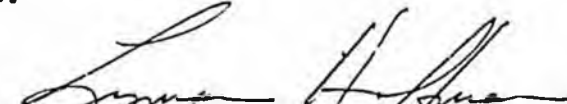
P.O. Box V  
State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

## HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS

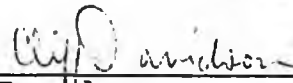
April 29, 1987

The State Affairs Committee has considered Governor Cowper's appointment of Arthur English to the post of Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety. The committee recommends that the full body confirm his appointment.

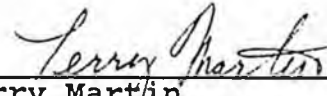
  
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Fran Ulmer, Chair

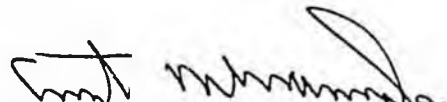
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lyman Hoffman, Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
H. A. (Red) Boucher

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cliff Davidson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Donley

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Martin

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Curt Menard

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fran Ulmer, Chair

2

RESUME

ARTHUR A. ENGLISH /

4640 Canterbury Way  
Anchorage, AK 99503

562-5280 - H  
243-1222 - W

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of Birth: 1-20-32  
Place of Birth: Seldovia, AK  
Marital Status: Wife Carol J. English  
Sons Stan and Scott English  
Military: U. S. Air Force - Four Years Air Police

EXPERIENCE

1981 - Present: Purcell Security Services, Division of  
Nana Development Corp.  
Vice President and General Manager - Contract  
Industrial Security Service  
Provide security for major oil companies at  
Prudhoe Bay and other commercial businesses in  
Anchorage

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1960 - 1981: Alaska State Troopers - As Follows

1980-81 Captain - Fairbanks - Detachment Commander

1978-80 Director's Office - Varied Administrative Duties

1976 Promoted to Captain - Assigned to Anchorage  
as Detachment Commander

1974-76 Lieutenant Assigned to Commissioner's Office  
with Varied Responsibilities in both Divisions

1972-74 Sergeant - Division Operations Officer  
Responsible for Civilian Operations as well  
as Trooper Functions

1968-72 Corporal - Anchorage Operations Commander.  
Administrative Responsibilities in the  
Director's Office

1962-68 Assigned to Kenai as Officer in Charge of  
the Kenai Peninsula

1960-62 Trooper - Anchorage Civil and Patrol Sections

REPRESENTATIVE DAVE DONLEY

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE  
DISTRICT ELEVEN - SPENARD

P.O. BOX V, JUNEAU 99811  
(907) 465-3892



RECEIVED APR 13 1987

CHAIRMAN  
LABOR AND COMMERCE  
COMMITTEE

MEMBER  
STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
HEALTH, EDUCATIONAL  
AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
INTERNATIONAL TRADE  
SUB-COMMITTEE

April 8, 1987

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Representative Fran Ulmer, Chair  
House State Affairs Committee

From: Representative Dave Donley *DD*

Re: Overview of the Department of Public Safety

I'm writing to request that the House State Affairs Committee host an overview of the Department of Public Safety, specifically regarding collective bargaining, binding arbitration, and policy decisions being made in response to substantial budget cuts proposed for FY 88.

For your information, I've enclosed a copy of a letter from the Public Safety Employees Association. I believe the questions raised in this letter deserve a review and your committee would be an ideal forum.

Please call me at 3892 if you have any questions or need additional information.

cc: Robert Piazza

Enclosure



## Public Safety Employees Association



Edward L. Stauber  
President

P.O. Box 92624  
Anchorage, AK 99509-2624

Representing Alaska's Finest

(907) 276-6464

March 16, 1987

The Honorable Dave Donley  
House of Representatives  
P.O. Box V  
Mail Stop 3100  
Juneau, AK 99811

Dear Representative Donley:

Recently I had the opportunity of talking to many legislators concerning the Department of Public Safety in reference to the proposed budget cuts and long term affects to the citizens of the State of Alaska.

The State is faced with a tremendous problem of how to cope with declining revenues and maintain a semblance of services which are statutorily required. We have been meeting, and shall continue to meet, with many of you in hopes of formulating an alternative budget which we feel meets the needs of Alaska.

During the initial budget presentation for the Department of Fish & Wildlife, I was amazed. I was amazed because of the number of positions being deleted and amazed at the Department's allegations that services can be maintained. I was also amazed that the Acting Commissioner admitted that these divisions were top heavy with supervisors, yet his budget document showed a retainment of the supervisors while eliminating the working people.

During the past four years, the Department of Public Safety has experienced numerous position cuts. These cuts have resulted in a staffing level which equals those prior to the oil boom. In short, we are close to the level we were when the State's population and road system were far less than we now have. Historically during periods of declining revenues, other State's have experienced an increase in crime and related offenses. It seems logical to assume our enforcement responsibility shall increase in the months to come.

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There has been much criticism and publicity regarding Public Safety employees making extremely high salaries. The usual remarks are that high salaries are a product of abuse of binding arbitration for contract settlement. The truth of the matter may not lie there. For instance, when the article in the paper appeared about two Public Safety employees making over \$100,000 a year because they were on sea duty, the response by the Public Safety Commissioner was that it was because of an arbiter's decision. That was a misleading remark. The facts are that one of the employees was not in our bargaining unit and was not subject to an arbiter's decision; in the other case, it was management's decision to have one employee performing work which expended hours equaled that of two employees. Often times the binding arbitration issue is used as a scapegoat for just plain bad management.

In the past four years, some of the salaries for the Department of Public Safety have sky rocketed. A great portion of the cause is that we have fewer people employed yet the same workload and response criteria. Translated, this means employees are working more hours during the year. Notwithstanding the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Federal law requires time and a half payment for overtime hours.

In the past, much criticism by the legislative body has been expressed regarding the cost of supplying employee housing in remote locations. In 1982, this Association was the leader in increasing the rental structure in hopes of approaching a break even status. Unfortunately, we did not have the luxury of involvement in the State leases for housing units. Some of the leases the State entered into are outrageous. I requested the Commissioner of Administration to investigate a State lease for housing units. That request was denied. Therefore, we believe there was mismanagement, if not a violation of law. The employees again are faced with the brunt of costing the State too

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much to do the State's business. The result is the elimination of housing in the budget. When the State was asked how they plan to cope with the problem that some of these housing units are actually the office of the Department, no response was received. Often times the Alaska State Trooper or Fish & Wildlife Protection Officer residing in remote locations and occupying State housing performs a dual function; the function of being a rentor and the function of using their private residence as the State Trooper's office. An additional benefit with this scenario is the fact that the spouse of the employee is often an uncompensated secretary and dispatcher for the Department.

In recent years, the take home vehicle policy was eliminated. Of course, the hierarchy continued to take vehicles home. Upon reflection of the cost savings with this elimination, Governor Sheffield determined that the take home vehicle policy should be reinstated. I personally know that some of the reasons for the reinstatement was that the State lost tremendous cost saving trade-offs. These trade-offs were the greater exposure of law enforcement to the general public, quicker response time and unreported work hours for the convenience of the employee having the vehicle.

With the current budget, the State is going to eliminate the Public Safety Training Academy. I recently asked legislators if they could determine the amount of revenue the Academy was generating through training to non-state entities. There should be some consideration comparing the expenditures for the Academy, the amount of revenue received which goes back into the General Fund, and the functions performed by the Training Academy. The image of the Alaska State Troopers, the Fish & Wildlife Protection Officers, Fire Marshals and VPSO's has been outstanding. Most people in the State view these people with pride and integrity. Their teamwork and consistency greatly admired. I question how this fine record of teamwork, consistency and

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pride can exist without the employer explicitly training all the employees for the State's goals and responsibility without a controlled training environment.

Also in the budget introduction, the Acting Commissioner introduced the classification of Prisoner Transport Officer. Recently the State paid a consultant tens of thousands of dollars to study this. Although I have not seen the study, apparently the result was that with the initiation of Prisoner Transport Officers a tremendous savings could be found. In the late 1970's, while that same consultant was a part of the State's Management team, the Department of Public Safety conducted a study which showed that by re-classifying Judicial Service Officers (who will now be called Prisoner Transport Officers) to State Troopers, a tremendous cost savings factor could be obtained due to greater flexibility and dual functions. Which study should we believe?

While negotiating past contracts, the Public Safety Employees Association introduced some creative ways of decreasing personnel costs. Most of these were frowned upon by the State. For instance, we proposed that in lieu of overtime, compensation time be accumulated. Then the employee could attend training classes by using their compensation time. In short, we proposed that the employee earn their salary for attending training by working overtime hours, thereby decreasing the overall monthly cost to the State. This proposal also maintained if an employee had compensation time earned and there was a slack period of time where the State could do without that employee, the employee could then be on comp time. This also would have resulted in a decrease of the monthly salaries paid by the State. The State refused this proposal because "it sounded too good to be true". We did go to binding arbitration. When the arbiter heard the State's claim that they weren't willing to participate in compensation time, he denied the introduction of language into

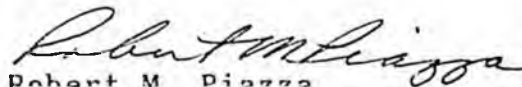
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the Agreement. The end result is that the State continued to pay overtime, criticize the arbitration process and complained about the high overtime cost.

One of the popular buzz words in Juneau lately seems to be "PRIVATIZATION". Although "Rent-A-Cops" do perform a necessary function in the private sector, does the State want the transportation of felonious and dangerous criminals done by anyone less than someone who is empowered to, and specifically trained to, protect the citizens, the State, and potential liability? Does the State wish to enforce drunk driving laws with anyone less than those who have the specific training to ensure prosecution through the court system? Does the State want drug and abusive chemical enforcement conducted by other than those specifically trained and with a clean background check? Does the State want to eliminate Investigative units? Does the State want to diminish its power to ensure all buildings used for public access meet fire codes? The long term effects to fish and wildlife resources have already suffered. In short, can the State afford to, or desire to give the citizens of this State those services at less than the current level of competence?

I appreciate your willingness to hear P.S.E.A.'s position and am available to discuss this further with you at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Piazza  
Business Representative

RMP/cd