

# QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE HAINES BOROUGH PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

The Haines Borough (HB) Public Safety Commission (PSC) operates under Haines Borough Code 2.54. The PSC operates to promote positive public relations with the Police, Fire, Emergency Medical Departments and any Public Safety issues.

The HB PSC began meeting in January of 2007, following the appointment of enough PSC members to achieve a quorum.

The members of the PSC are:

Laverne Bryant  
Jan Hotze  
Arthur Jess  
Paul Nelson  
David Voth

The PSC elected new officers for 2007 as follows:

|                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| Chairman:      | Paul Nelson |
| Vice Chairman: | David Voth  |
| Secretary:     | Jan Hotze   |

The dates, time and place for the PSC quarterly meetings are set as follows:

April 2, 2007, 5:00 pm at HB Assembly Chambers  
July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2007, 5:00 pm at HB Assembly Chambers  
October 1, 2007, 5:00 pm at HB Assembly Chambers  
January 7, 2008, 5:00 pm at HB Assembly Chambers

PSC set the quarterly meeting dates to assist members of the Public who wish to testify. During the first quarter of 2007 PSC is also meeting weekly to review and make recommendations on the HB Police Department Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM).

The PSC also reviewed the "EMERGENCY OPERATIONS GUIDE" for the Haines Borough (HB) and found parts of which had not been reviewed and/or corrected for over 10 (ten) years. For example, phone numbers of Public Works employees who are no longer employed by the HB are listed as emergency contacts. PSC recommends the guide be reviewed and corrected annually. PSC requests a copy of the revised guide be provided to PSC as soon as it is available and annually thereafter.

The PSC continues review of the PPM. The sections, listed as Rules and Regulations (RR) numbers 1 thru 17 of 24, have been reviewed by PSC. PSC suggests changes to Sections 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16 and 17 be made by the HB and resubmitted to PSC. Review of the remaining sections is ongoing.

PSC recommends that a copy of the HB Police Department Policies and Procedures Manual (PPM) (with section 12 B. deleted) and the EMERGENCY OPERATIONS GUIDE be available to the public at the library, HB office and Police Department dispatch window.

The PSC heard testimony from members of the community regarding their concerns and problems encountered with the HB Police Department.

Based upon the testimony of members of the community, the PSC brings the following issues to the attention of the HB Assembly:

1. HB Police Department failed to respond to complaints and failed to communicate with person making the complaint. IE, no action taken upon complaints made to the HB Police Department.
2. The drug/alcohol testing program for employees and/or applicants for employment of the HB Police Department cannot be implemented, due to lack of local facilities, placing the HB out of compliance with AS23.10.650
3. Warrant less searches of property allegedly have taken place in the HB by outside agencies.
4. Polygraph testing is used internally in the HB Police Department, despite the fact it cannot be used in a court of criminal law.
5. Automotive traffic in Haines consistently fails to obey stop signs.
  - a. HB Police Department is not enforcing the stop sign law.

Based upon concerns of the community, the PSC requests the HB Assembly to consider the following:

1. What can be done to get the HB drug testing policy into compliance with State Law?
2. What can be done to eliminate the failure of the HB Police Department to respond to complaints
3. Should polygraph testing be used internally in the HB Police Department?
4. Should the HB Assembly require the HB Police Department and/or Borough Offices to forward a copy of all complaints received regarding the operation or performance of the HB Police Department to the PSC?
5. Should the PSC review the applications of all new hires to the HB Police Department, Fire Department and Emergency Services Department prior to hiring?

The PSC intends to address the stop sign compliance issue by developing a plan to increase Public awareness and compliance with these traffic laws.

Quarterly report ratified and approved by the Haines Borough Public Safety Commission on April 9, 2007.

THE HAINES BOROUGH PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
APRIL 9, 2007