

Kenai Peninsula Borough I.*1.

Alaska Committee

Proclamation Page Number Laydown

WHEREAS, in 1904 and 1905, the local newspaper put a call out for the town of Seward to form a fire department; and

WHEREAS, until that time, businessmen split up and performed different parts of "fire fighting" when the need arose; and

WHEREAS, the Seward Chamber of Commerce officially organized the "fire men" into an actual group known as the Seward Volunteer Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, 1906 is recognized as the year the Seward Volunteer Fire Department was officially established and the Chamber began acquiring equipment and property and built a fire hall; and

WHEREAS, by 1916 the Department grew into its own organization and shed the affiliation with the Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, for 100 years the Department has provided emergency response for fires, avalanches, floods, earthquakes and tsunamis; and

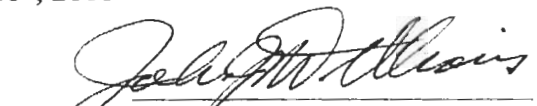
WHEREAS, the Seward Volunteer Fire Department continues to demonstrate a progressive philosophy and a Statewide voice in leadership in Alaska's fire service, yet maintains a traditional and historical presence in serving the community; and

WHEREAS, this progressive, traditional link works well for Seward, due greatly to the leadership of past Fire Chiefs such as Chief Kielcheski, Oscar Watsjold, John Gage and current Chief David Squires and the nearly 40 current members of the Department, and the outstanding support of the Seward community over the past century.

NOW THEREFORE I, John J. Williams, Mayor of the Kenai Peninsula Borough, do hereby extend my congratulations and most sincere appreciation to the

SEWARD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

on the occasion of their
100th ANNIVERSARY
October 21st, 2006


John J. Williams
Kenai Peninsula Borough Mayor

