



Seldovia Gazette

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Seldovia, AK

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Tuesday, Aug. 31, 2010

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Our Local Police Report

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Call 911 for emergencies or assistance

The following report covers Police related business for the time period of 7/01/10 -8/02/2010

- Police assisted in the clearing of the parking lot near the harbor so the 4th of July booths could be put in place.
- Police flagged traffic for the SVT biathlon race on the 2nd of July.
- Police checked on an elderly couple following a report by a concerned citizen. All was found to be fine.
- Two bicycles were observed abandoned near the head of Seldovia Bay. It appears someone was hiking in the area but a citizen reported the bikes had been at that location for over a week.
- Police assisted a motorist by jump starting their vehicle.
- Police responded and contacted a young man after reports were received he was throwing rocks at a building. The youngster's guardian was called and no formal action was taken.
- Police observed a youngster loose control and fall on his bicycle. The child's mother came on scene and, other than some road rash, the child was not seriously injured.
- A man outside of town reported the neighbor's two dogs were on his property and were acting aggressively toward him. Police called the owner and the dogs were caught up.
- An investigation of a felony assault with a machete resulted in a man being arrested and charged with a felony assault. He was arraigned and released on a \$5000 cash bail and a third party custodian and was ordered not to consume alcohol or be in bars or liquor stores. Trial was set for September.
- Police called EMT's following a lady needing assistance and waiting at the firehall.
- EMT's were called following a lady who injured herself in the 5K race on July 4th.
- Police conducted traffic control for the 4th of July parade.
- Homer Flight Service called the Police when an airplane that was destined for Seldovia failed to close their flight plan. Police responded to the airport and the aircraft was found to be safe on the ground. Flight Service was called and advised.
- A camera lost during the 4th of July activities was turned in at the Police Department. The owners were located and the camera was returned.
- Two youngsters were observed inside the Boy's & Girl's Club and Police were called. The two children said they were in need of golf balls and went inside to find some. They said the door was not locked but those in charge stated it was. The case was referred to the Juvenile Justice Office in Kenai for follow up.
- A 4-wheeler was observed without registration stickers. A written warning was left directing the owner to register the vehicle or park it.
- Police responded to the office of the Byler Construction following a 911 hang up. It was determined the wet weather had shorted the telephone line and it had defaulted to the 911 exchange.
- A motorhome owner was assisted after the vehicle she was driving failed to start. Police were able to jump start the vehicle.

- A man locked his keys inside his vehicle at the harbor and Police assisted him in unlocking the door.
- A man reported his vehicle had been stolen from the Jakolof Bay Harbor within a two hour period and it had been returned, parked in a different location with damage to the driver's door. The investigation revealed four young men got their vehicle stuck and one of them took the man's vehicle to pull the other one out and, in doing so, damaged the man's vehicle. The charges would be a Felony but the complainant decided to handle the matter civilly after finding who all was involved. No further action was taken by the Police Department.
- A report of a 4-wheeler in a ditch near Barabara Creek Bridge resulted in a man receiving a Basic Speed citation for exceeding a safe speed for the conditions.
- A man was served civil papers on two separate occasions after the papers were received by the Police.
- A fire was reported to the Police at the Jim Hecks residence at approximately 2.4 mile, Jakolof Bay Road. Police and fire personnel responded and the fire was extinguished but not before the chicken coop was completely destroyed along with the baby chickens. It is thought the heat lamp started the fire. The blaze was kept from spreading to the timbered area and the home.
- A stereo was reportedly stolen from a vehicle in the Russian Trailer Park sometime since December 2009.
- A report of a black bear in the area resulted in the bear being transported out of town after it was caught in the humane trap built last year by the Police Department. If you have a bear in your area call the Police and we'll attempt to trap it and remove it from town.
- A landing net was stolen off a boat in the Jakolof Bay Harbor on July 16th. Anyone having any information is asked to contact the Police Department.
- Police assisted a local lady after she had locked her keys in her vehicle. After a time the vehicle was opened and the lady was able to catch the ferry.
- Police assisted a local contractor by flagging traffic when he moved his excavator to the landfill from town.
- A man reported his Nodwell rolled off the driveway at his residence and into a ditch. The complainant stated he didn't know what would cause the machine to come out of gear and go down the driveway unless someone was tampering with it. The investigation continues in this matter.
- Police were contacted and a fire at the landfill was reported. Assistance was requested of the Fire Department. Police and Fire Personnel responded and the Fire Personnel extinguished the fire. The wind had caused an ember to leave the fire pit and ignite some material that was slated for burial below the landing.
- A report was received regarding damage to a fence on Anderson Way when a vehicle drove through it sometime during the night of July 23rd. Investigation continues in this matter. Anyone having information is asked to contact the Police Department.
- A report was taken regarding someone staying aboard the Mel Annie K which is stored in the boat haul out facility. The owner had not been to Seldovia for one year and said it could have occurred anytime within that time frame. If you saw anyone aboard the boat please let the Police know.
- A man reported he had two knives stolen from his vehicle that was parked in the parking lot at the Seldovia Harbor while he was out commercial halibut fishing.
- A second airplane failed to close their flight plan and the Homer flight Service called requesting Police check the airport. The man and his passengers were still on scene when Police arrived and Flight Service was contacted.
- A report was taken regarding a dog bite wherein a person was bitten when attempting to groom a dog which had never been groomed. Chief Anderson was out of town at the time of the incident. A report was filed at the Police Department but no further action was taken.
- A small walkie talkie was found at the locked gate on the east end of Jakolof Bay. If you lost your radio, contact the Police and describe the item and it will be returned to you.
- A man reported a small brown dog was barking at him and nipping at his ankles on Main Street. The Police located the animal and contacted the owner who came and took the dog off the street.
- A lady visiting our area broke her ankle and had to be picked up by boat on the beach between Seldovia Point and Barabara Creek. The Coast Guard Auxiliary transported EMT's to the area but found the beach too rocky to take their vessel ashore. The Police responded with a Fire Fighter and picked up the EMT's off the Coast Guard vessel and then went ashore and picked up the injured lady. She was treated by EMT's and then transported to the Seldovia Harbor where she boarded the Kachemak Voyager and traveled to Homer for medical treatment. At the request by the Police the Kachemak Voyager postponed their departure time so the injured lady could be transported to Homer. Thanks go to Captain Jose Carlough and the crew for their assistance.
- A report was taken regarding a possible Theft of Services after a man paid for lodging with a check that was not covered by the bank. Messages had been left repeatedly for the man to contact the hotel owner and he has not replied. Investigation into the matter is underway.
- Three people have had their fingerprints rolled due to employment purposes at their request.

Tips From Andy...

The "Tips from Andy" are provided as information, to our citizens and friends to be alert to potential situations that may arise. Both the Chief and I have checked on the reliability of the advice through sources like Google, BreakTheChain, Hoax-Slayer or Snopes, etc. But it is important to note, that even with the checking of this information, we are relying on the truth of yet another internet source.

Jury Duty Scam

Alaska State Troopers are warning the public against a scam hitting the nation aggressively pursuing identity theft through jury duty summons.

The caller claims to be a jury coordinator and states that you failed to show up for jury duty. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth. The caller claims they need the information to check their system for an error and so the fictitious arrest warrant can be cleared. **DO NOT COMPLY!!!** By providing the caller with your personal information, you become the victim of identity theft.

Most of us take summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty that this new scam has surfaced. This scam has been reported in 11 states. The scam is particularly insidious because the callers pretend to be with the court system and use intimidation tactics over the phone to try to bully people into giving information. The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud.

Keeping Records Safe

[Click Here to Go Directly to Social Security Online Website](#)

[Click Here for Article about Keeping Your Records Safe - Jean Chatzky](#)

A Letter From A Corporate Attorney To The Employees of His Company

1. Do not sign the back of your credit cards. Instead, put 'PHOTO ID REQUIRED.'
2. When you are writing checks to pay on your credit card accounts, **DO NOT** put the complete account number on the 'For/Memo' line. Instead, just put the last four numbers. The credit card company knows the rest of the number, and anyone who might be handling your check as it passes through all the check processing channels won't have access to it.
3. Put your work phone # on your checks instead of your home phone. If you have a PO Box use that instead of your home address. If you do not have a PO Box, use your work address. Never have your SS# printed on your checks. (DUH!) You can add it if it is necessary. But if you have it printed, anyone can get it.
4. Place the contents of your wallet on a photocopy machine. Do both sides of each license, credit card, etc. You will know what you had in your wallet and all of the account numbers and phone numbers to call and cancel. Keep the photocopy in a safe place. I also carry a photocopy of my passport when I travel either here or abroad. We've all heard horror stories about fraud that's committed on us in stealing a Name, address, Social Security number, credit cards. In case your luggage is lost, take another list in your carry on bag, especially if you are abroad and need immediate access to those numbers.

Unfortunately, I, an attorney, have first hand knowledge because my wallet was stolen last month. Within a week, the thieves ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from DMV to change my driving record information online, and more. But here's some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:

5. We have been told we should cancel our credit cards immediately. But the key is having the toll free numbers and your card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them.

6. File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where your credit cards, etc., were stolen. This proves to credit providers you were diligent, and this is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important of all: (I never even thought to do this.)

7. Call the 3 national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and also call the Social Security fraud line number. I had never heard of doing that until advised by a bank that called to tell me an application for credit was made over the Internet in my name. The alert means any company that checks your credit knows your information was stolen, and they have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit.

By the time I was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases, none of which I knew about before placing the alert. Since then, no additional damage has been done, and the thieves threw my wallet away this weekend (someone turned it in). It seems to have stopped them dead in their tracks.

If you are willing to pass this information along, it could really help someone that you care about.

BEWARE - New Credit Card Scam

Snopes.com : <http://www.snopes.com/crime/warnings/creditcard.asp>

About.com: http://urbanlegends.about.com/library/bl_credit_card_fraud.htm

This one is pretty slick since they provide YOU with all the information, except the one piece they want.

Note, the callers do not ask for your card number; they already have it.. This information is worth reading. By understanding how the VISA & Master Card Telephone Credit Card Scam works, you'll be better prepared to protect yourself.

One of our employees was called on Wednesday from 'VISA', and I was called on Thursday from 'Master Card'.. The scam works like this: Caller: 'This is (name), and I'm calling from the Security and Fraud Department at VISA. My Badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern, and I'm calling to verify. This would be on your VISA card which was issued by (name of bank). Did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for \$497.99 from a Marketing company based in ?'

When you say 'No', the caller continues with, 'Then we will be issuing a credit to your account. This is a company we have been watching and the charges range from \$297 to \$497, just under the \$500 purchase pattern that flags most cards. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (gives you your address), is that correct?'

You say 'yes'. The caller continues - 'I will be starting a Fraud investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 1- 800 number listed on the back of your card (1-800 -VISA) and ask for Security.'

You will need to refer to this Control Number. The caller then gives you a 6 digit number. 'Do you need me to read it again?'

Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works. The caller then says, 'I need to verify you are in possession of your card'. He'll ask you to 'turn your card over and look for some numbers'. There are 7 numbers; the first 4 are part of your card number, the next 3 are the security Numbers that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make Internet purchases to prove you have the card. The caller will ask you to read the 3 numbers to him. After you tell the caller the 3 numbers, he'll say, 'That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your card. Do you have any other questions?' After you say No, the caller then thanks you and states, 'Don't hesitate to call back if you do, and hangs up.

You actually say very little, and they never ask for or tell you the Card number. But after we were called on Wednesday, we called back within 20 minutes to ask a question. Are we glad we did! The REAL VISA Security Department told us it was a scam and in the last 15 minutes a new purchase of \$497.99 was charged to our card.

Long story - short - we made a real fraud report and closed the VISA account. VISA is reissuing us a new number. **What the scammers want is the 3-digit PIN number on the back of the card.** Don't give it to them. Instead, tell them you'll call VISA or Master card directly for verification of their conversation. The real VISA told us that they will never ask for anything on the card as they already know the information since they issued the card! If you give the scammers your 3 Digit PIN Number, you think you're receiving a credit. However, by the time you get your statement you'll see charges for purchases you didn't make, and by then it's almost too late and/or more difficult to actually file a fraud report.

What makes this more remarkable is that on Thursday, I got a call from a 'Jason Richardson of Master Card' with a word-for-word repeat of the VISA scam. This time I didn't let him finish. I hung up! We filed a police report, as instructed by VISA. The police said they are taking several of these reports daily! They also urged us to tell everybody we know that this scam is happening. Please pass this on to all your family, friends and neighbors. By informing each other, we protect each other.

Good Advice about emails

A friend who's a computer expert received the following from a system administrator for a corporate system. It is an excellent message that absolutely applies to all of us who send emails. Please read the short letter below, even if you're sure you already follow proper procedures. Do you really know how to forward emails? Only 50% of us do.

Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail and hate it? Every time you forward an email there is information left over from the people who got it before you. Namely their email addresses and names. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses build and build, until all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus and his/her computer can send that virus to every email address that has come across his computer. Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell or send them junk mail in the hopes that you'll go to the site and he'll make five cents for each hit. That's right, all of that inconvenience over a nickel! How do you stop it? There are several easy steps. Try the following if you aren't doing it already:

(1) When you forward an email, delete all of the addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). That's right, delete them. Highlight them and delete them, backspace them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You must click the 'Forward' button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you don't click 'Forward' first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

(2) Whenever you send an email to more than one person, do not use the To: or Cc: fields for adding addresses. Always use the BCC: (blind carbon copy) field for listing the addresses. This way the people you send to will only see their own email address. If you don't see your BCC: option click on where it says To: and your address list will appear. Highlight the address and choose BCC and that's it, it's that easy. When you send to BCC your message will automatically say 'Undisclosed Recipients' in the 'TO:' field of the people who receive it.

(3) Remove any 'FW ' in the subject line. You can rename the subject if you wish or even fix spelling.

(4) Always hit your Forward button from the actual email you are reading. Ever get those emails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it? By Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many emails just to see what you sent.

(5) Have you ever gotten an email that is a petition? It states a position and asks you to add your name and to forward it to 10 or 15 people or your entire address book. The email can be forwarded on and on and can collect thousands of names and addresses. A FACT: The petition is actually worth a couple of bucks to a professional spammer because of the wealth of names and addresses contained there. Do not put your email address on any petition. If you want to support the petition, send it as your own personal letter to the intended recipient. Your position may carry more weight as a personal letter than a laundry list of names and addresses on a petition. (And don't believe the ones that say that the email is being traced, it just ain't so!)

Some of the other emails to delete and not forward are:

1. The one that says something like, 'Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great run across your screen.' Or sometimes they'll just tease you by saying 'some-thing really cute will happen.' IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN! (We're still seeing some of the same emails from 10 years ago!)
2. I don't let the bad luck ones scare you, they get trashed.
3. Before you forward an 'Amber Alert', or a 'Virus Alert', or some of the other emails floating around now-a-days, check them out before you forward them. Most of them are junk mail that's been circling for YEARS! Just about everything you receive in an email that is in question can be checked out at Snopes. Just go to www.snopes.com. It's really easy to find out if it's real or not. If it's not, don't pass it on.

Another way to check if a real virus exists is to pull up Google as a web browser and type in the title of the suspect virus, ie: mad cow virus, then enter it. Google will display a number of sources that will verify it as a virus or as a hoax.

So please, in the future, let's stop the junk mail and the viruses and be a good email neighbor.