Alaska State Troopers B Detachment is understaffed

Police per 1,000 residents

Current demand for service often exceeds Troopers in the field

Patrol teams work 12-hour shifts, 6am-6pm and 6pm-6am. During peak demand, about 1pm to 1am, more Troopers are needed to answer calls than are currently scheduled. In order to cover these calls, Troopers are working overtime and forgoing annual leave. This can result in delayed responses to citizen calls, and health and retention issues for Troopers.
How to meet demand in B Detachment

Proposed staffing

Number of Troopers by hour Mat-Su West and Palmer Posts

Proposed shift schedule retains the existing 6am-6pm shifts, but reduces the day shift to 5 Troopers and adds a relief shift of 3 Troopers from 1pm-1am to handle peak demand.

For each Trooper on the road, 3.2 PCNs are needed

Once we account for report writing, regular days off, vacation time, sick leave, and time in court, 3.2 Troopers must be assigned to a post to have one Trooper available for service when using 12-hour shifts. While Troopers can temporarily cover with overtime and defer leave, having fewer than 3.2 PCNs for each Trooper needed to service calls results in operational difficulties, such as an inability to take leave. Inability to take leave is a contributing factor to a lack of training opportunities, poor Trooper physical and mental health, and recruitment and retention problems.

Total B Detachment staffing includes Glennallen post, supervisors, CSU, and Judicial Services

The total recommended staffing at B Detachment is 71 sworn staff. This total staffing recommendation includes one supervisor per post per shift, plus command, the Crime Suppression Unit (CSU), and Judicial Services.