

# FAKE NEWS

There have been a number of stories going around about the EMS and Delta Medical Transport. I wanted to inform the community of the actual truth.

**FAKE NEWS...** Delta Junction does not need an EMS service... **THE TRUTH...** in the first fourteen days of July, there were sixteen emergency calls, and all were transported to Fairbanks.

**FAKE NEWS...** A volunteer service can be established... **THE TRUTH...** A new volunteer service will not be covered by insurance according to Hale and Associates. Insurance companies are moving away from volunteer services because they are a higher liability.

**FAKE NEWS...** A volunteer service easily can be established with community members... **THE TRUTH...** The cost of education to become an EMT at UAF Technical College can range anywhere from \$6,000 to \$28,000 for Alaska residents and \$15,000 to \$66,000 for non-residents.

**FAKE NEWS...** Being an EMT will not take up much of your time... **THE TRUTH...** On average, it takes 5 hours to respond to an emergency call. How many community members can take 5 hours off work to volunteer their time? Thursday there was a car accident with two ambulances out. That would require 4-6 volunteers.

**FAKE NEWS...** It will only cost \$500,000 to run an EMS service... **THE TRUTH...** Todd McDowell, State of Alaska EMS Manager, confirmed that the cost to run an Advanced Life Support Service like Delta Medical Transport will cost **\$1.4 million**.

**FAKE NEWS...** Fort Greely will cover EMS services if Delta does not have a service in place... **THE TRUTH...** After talking with the Garrison at Fort Greely, they will not cover Delta Junction. Their priority is to the instillation and our soldiers. Because of their requirements to have an ALS service on Fort Greely they will also not cover Delta Junction if we are unable to cover Fort Greely with an ALS service.

**FAKE NEWS...** Other ASAA schools will be able to participate in sporting events in Delta Junction... **THE TRUTH...** ASAA school sanctioned sports “requires that all athletes from ASAA member schools are provided with sound and consistent medical expertise to enhance the safety of their athletic experience”.

**FAKE NEWS...** This is the City’s problem... **THE TRUTH...** This is a Community problem. The “City” is only 1/5 of the population. The community of Delta Junction is coming very close to losing EMS services.

**FAKE NEWS...** I am healthy and do not need and ambulance service... **THE TRUTH...** Nobody expects to get hurt. Nobody expects to break a leg, fall off a roof, get into a boating accident, wreck their four-wheeler, get attacked by a moose or hit a moose on the roadways. Nobody plans for injuries. The food for thought is “What are you willing to give up by getting rid of EMS services? Are you willing to lose your best friend, family member, yourself or your children?”