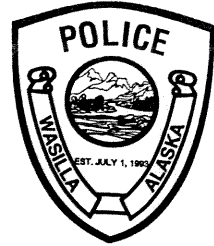




# WASILLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## INFORMATION MEMORANDUM 94-11

Date: February 14, 1994  
From: Chief Irl T. Stambaugh *IS*  
Thru: Mayor John C. Stein  
To: City Council  
Subject: Wasilla Feed Burglary

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In response to the attached *Frontiersman* article concerning the Wasilla Feed burglary investigation, please find the following statistics detailing our investigation of that case.

During the course of the investigation, we conducted approximately 145 hours of investigation. This included follow-up on Crimestoppers' tips that were received, interviewing former employees, and tracking down people who were suspects in the burglary. These names were given to us by Wasilla Feed employees. The investigation involved several officers of WPD, who contacted suspects. AST, Mat-Su Narcotics, and Palmer PD also helped with various leads that came to our attention.

AST and WPD had gone as far north as Big Lake to conduct searches of houses and out buildings where the property was supposed to have been.

We had made several trips to Palmer including one to a pet show where the saddles were reported to have been. These leads all produced nothing.

Anchorage PD was notified and had done a follow-up on a sighting of the bird in Anchorage.

Crimestoppers notices turned up no real lead that could be verified as fact. Due to the case being 3 days old when taken by WPD and no witnesses coming forward, the case was closed in early December after 5.5 months of investigation. As Officer Chmielowski was the lead officer assigned to the case, the hours shown are his hours spent on this case. They do not reflect the hours put in by other agencies/officers.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Hours Investigated</u>
July 1993	40
August 1993	20
September 1993	20
October 1993	40
November 1993	25

# Burglary victims withhold city taxes

By **KAREN MONTOYA**

Frontiersman reporter

Angry because the Wasilla police department hasn't nabbed the burglars who broke into Wasilla Feed last summer, the owners of the store have become the city's first official tax protesters.

They've also become the first to be sued for not paying their sales taxes.

Glenna L. Stanley, co-owner of Wasilla Feed, has not paid anything in sales taxes since January 1993, according to court documents. And she's not going to start, she says.

"I had \$15,000 worth of stuff stolen and they're telling me

they won't do anything for me so why should I pay?" she said.

In the complaint filed against Stanley and her husband Randy on Feb. 1, the city claims Wasilla Feed hasn't paid the sales tax since it first went into effect in January.

Though Stanley disputes the dates, she admits she's won't pay the taxes and blames the outstanding debt on the fact she doesn't want to support the police force which depends on the tax revenues to survive.

She said she's been involved in a dispute with the city since her store was burglarized last

See TAXES, Page A12

## Taxes: Wasilla sues protesters

Continued from Front Page

July. "They haven't done anything about it," she said.

That burglary was in fact, the Wasilla Police Department's first-ever criminal investigation. During the theft, burglars broke into the pet store killed a bird, stole several pets and drove off with a load of pet supplies.

Alaska State Troopers first responded to the burglary. But they handed the case over to the Wasilla Police almost immediately. An officer was instructed to leave the procession line during the department's swearing-in ceremony at Wasilla City Hall on its first day in existence.

Wasilla Police said they have responded to over 30 tips and spent hours investigating the case, but Stanley disagrees. According to her, she knows who

stole her animals and merchandise during the burglary but the police have refused to act. The department denies this.

Stanley also points to a second burglary at her store several weeks later. During that break-in a crook walked out with a jar full of money that was being collected as a reward fund to help catch the first thieves.

Wasilla Police investigated that crime too. They still haven't caught anyone.

"We haven't given up hope yet," said Angella Long of the Wasilla Police Department.

The city of Wasilla raised about \$3 million in sales tax during its first year. A little more than \$1 million goes to the Wasilla Police Department. The rest goes to capital improvement projects and other things, said Long.

The Stanleys began running Wasilla Feed in the late 1980s. The couple filed chapter 11 bankruptcy in 1990.

Though she admits she's having financial difficulties, she claims it is the principle, not finances, that has kept her from paying her portion of the two-percent sales tax.

"I'm hit twice in three weeks and they haven't done anything," said Stanley.

But Long disagrees.

"The problem is every other business in the community pays their taxes and they may not even call the police ever," Long said.

The complaint asks for 15-percent interest on the outstanding amount due plus \$200 for every time the store has refused to hand over records, says Wasilla City Attorney Richard Deuser.

Frontiersman 2/11/94