

Requested by: Mayor Keller

Adopted: April 9, 2007

Vote: Cox, Ewing, Holler, Koskela, Menard and Metiva in favor

**CITY OF WASILLA
RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 07-13**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE WASILLA CITY COUNCIL ADOPTING AND SUPPORTING
THE ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD 297TH SUPPORT BATTALION THROUGH THE
AMERICA SUPPORTING AMERICANS ADOPTION PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, American military forces are either engaged in defending or are prepared to defend and support American interests and principles; and

WHEREAS, the Adopt-a Unit program created by America Supporting Americans on March 4, 1968 provides a mechanism whereby all branches of the United States Armed Services can be "adopted" by American communities; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this adoption program is to create a bond between American communities and the military men and women who bravely serve their country; and

WHEREAS, this bond is intended to support the morale of said service men and women without regard to individual political ties or affiliations; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the challenges confronting American service men and service women, it is appropriate and fitting that the City of Wasilla in the State of Alaska show its support by adopting the Alaska National Guard 297th Support Battalion.

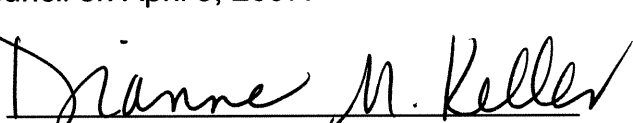
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Wasilla City Council, that we hereby adopt and offer ongoing respect and support, in time of war and in time of peace, to the Alaska National Guard 297th Support Battalion; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we designate Joan Matthews as the official primary liaison between the City of Wasilla, the newly adopted Alaska National Guard

297th Support Battalion and America Supporting Americans, as the organization which has facilitated this adoption; and

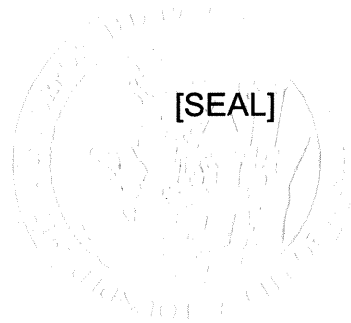
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we encourage all City employees, businesses, service clubs, charitable organizations, and private citizens to become involved in supporting this adoption.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on April 9, 2007.


DIANNE M. KELLER, Mayor

ATTEST:


KRISTIE SMITHERS, MMC
City Clerk





**CITY OF WASILLA
LEGISLATION STAFF REPORT**

RE: RESOLUTION SERIAL NO. 07-13 REGARDING COUNCIL ADOPTION AND SUPPORT OF THE ALASKA NATIONAL GUARD 297th SUPPORT BATTALION THROUGH THE AMERICA SUPPORTING AMERICANS ADOPTION PROGRAM

Agenda of: April 9, 2007

Date: April 2, 2007

Originator: Mayor Dianne M. Keller

Route to:	Department	Signature/Date
	Police Chief Youth Court, Dispatch, Code Compliance	
	Culture and Recreation Services Director Library, Museum, Sports Complex	
	Public Works & Recreation Facility Maintenance Director	
X	Finance, Risk Management & MIS Director Purchasing	<i>Dianne E. Colligan</i>
X	Deputy Administrator Planning, Economic Development, Human Resources	
X	City Clerk	<i>K. Smith</i>

REVIEWED BY MAYOR DIANNE M. KELLER:

Dianne M. Keller

FISCAL IMPACT: yes \$ or no

Funds Available yes no N/A

Account name/number:

Attachments: Email from Linda Patterson

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The City was recently contacted by Linda Patterson, President and Founder of the America Supporting Americans (ASA) organization. She has asked the City to join and participate in this program. Attached you will find an email from Linda Patterson to Mr. Winston Gillies, owner of Global Seafoods, who participated in the program last year by providing salmon to the Alaska National Guard 297th Support Battalion.

Our community already supports our troops in so many ways; however, we do not belong to an organization that "officially" recognizes these acts of kindness and support. Please also know that 1st Lt. Russell, an Alaska National Guard soldier, has requested an Alaskan community to adopt the unit. These soldiers are based out of Fort Richardson and many of them are our neighbors in the valley. Currently, Patricia "Tric" Ortiz, the Arizona Representative of ASA has been the "official" representative for our Alaskan troops as no one in Alaska has yet officially adopted them.

I believe that by adopting this resolution, it will give our community some specific mechanisms to continue their involvement and support of our local troops. This would

be a small price to pay for all that our troops do for us. I believe that our community would be honored to support the request we have received for us to “officially” adopt the Alaska National Guard 297th Support Battalion.

I have contacted Joan Matthews who is with the AMVETS organization and she has agreed to be the official primary liaison for our community. She supports their request 100% and is excited about this opportunity. If the resolution is adopted by the Council, Wasilla will be the first city in Alaska to participate in the program.

Mayor Keller

From: Linda Patterson [artavia101@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2007 12:13 PM
To: 'Global Seafoods LLC / The Gillies Fishing Family'; randall.russell@us.army.mil; Tric Ortiz, ASA AZ State Rep.
Cc: Faye McDonald, ASA TN State Rep.; John Stein, ASA KY State Rep.; Tric Ortiz, ASA AZ State Rep.; Pam Cates, ASA TX State Rep.; Valorie Moats, ASA FL State Rep.; Carisse Lejeune, ASA FL State Rep.; Mayor Keller; joanandmatt@hotmail.com
Subject: RE: Received a wonderful honor from the 297th!
Importance: High

Winston,

Please accept America Supporting Americans (ASA) congratulations on receiving such an honor from your troops and so well deserved. To add to your outstanding support for this unit, ASA just got off the phone with Mayor Diane Keller, City of Wasilla, Alaska and Joan from their local American Legion Post. We are proud and honored to say that this unit is scheduled to be formally adopted by the City of Wasilla slated on their April calendar meeting. We learned that there has been much support coming out of Wasilla for their National Guard unit but this will make it "official" and part of ASA national program joining our family of cities across the USA. Wasilla, Alaska will be the "FIRST CITY IN YOUR GREAT STATE" to join ASA! As soon as that action is taken we will be honored to post it on our global website www.asa-usa.org

I know a lot of work, energy and spirit went into getting this "official action" for the HHC 297th and I surely know 1st LT Russell, his unit Commander and troops will be thrilled to receive this awesome news. We also recognize a great lady and tremendous supporter Patricia (Tric) Ortiz, who has stayed the course in her pursuit of helping to make this happen, by searching and contacting and finding you Winston and Global Seafoods. ASA is fortunate and continues to be blessed for having her as our Arizona State representative.

While our troops must stay focused on their dangerous missions before them so is ASA in our mission, leaving no soldier behind and believe me we have many... Your team working together thru numerous communications back and forth with ASA AZ State Representative Tric has achieved our ultimate goal and answered the request of these awesome soldiers; being adopted by an Alaska City – Wasilla – HOOAH!!

Linda Patterson, President & Founder
 AMERICA SUPPORTING AMERICANS (ASA)
www.ASA-USA.ORG
 (310) 459-5625

P.S. Winston please take a photo with your flag we would love to share it with all the troops and cities who log on to ASA

From: Global Seafoods LLC / The Gillies Fishing Family [mailto:global.seafoods@acsalaska.net]
Sent: Friday, March 23, 2007 12:26 PM
To: randall.russell@us.army.mil
Cc: artavia101@earthlink.net; tri_of_the_trades@msn.com
Subject: Received a wonderful honor from the 297th!

I received the flag and certificate from you and the troops –it did bring tears to my eye then and now as I write this. It is the troops that deserve all the thanks and honors for the work you are doing. You and the rest of the troops are protecting me and every American from the terrorist. I do pray for each of you every day. To think I have a flag that was flown over Kandahar is amazing. Please thank all involved for me.
 God Bless our Troops and our Country (and may our country be worthy of Gods blessings);
 Winston Gillies

3/30/2007

