

**ATTACHMENT #5**  
**JUNEAU POLICE DEPARTMENT**

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BRYCE JOHNSON  
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July 23, 2014

Marc Cheatham M.S.  
JIA Deputy Airport Manager  
1873 Shell Simmons Dr. Suite 200  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Mark,

Officers of the Juneau Police Department have recently become responsible for security at the Juneau International Airport. As the Lieutenant supervising those security efforts, I request that trees in the greenbelt across Yandukin Drive from the airport have branches trimmed to a height of eight feet above the ground. Often, elevated highways, parking structures, and secure parking lots limit how close someone can get to an airport with a weapon while being concealed from the view of others. This trimming would allow for increased visibility of pedestrians who use the well-worn walkways between the airport and various businesses. The trimming would also discourage transient camping in this area.

The lack of visibility creates several potential problems. The public and employee parking areas for the airport are not fenced, and a pedestrian can easily access those areas. There have been cases in other jurisdictions where explosives were placed under vehicles as a distraction or a tool to injure first responders in association with a larger incident. In the current physical environment, a potential suspect could move from dense cover, across the three-lane road, and into the parking lot with only a few seconds of exposure when someone could see the suspicious behavior.

Also, visitors cross this greenbelt on foot regularly and are currently in the position of entering transient camps or other dangers unaware. JPD has had a previous case of trying to contact a suicidal transient in that area, and the heavy plant growth made it more difficult to find the subject while at the same time allowed other people to come upon the situation without realizing the danger.

While I appreciate the privacy and attractiveness greenbelts provide, most airports have more barriers to public access than JIA which is why I am asking that this greenbelt have the branches trimmed to eight feet above the ground.

Sincerely,

  
Bryce Johnson  
Chief of Police



Lt. Kris Sell  
Special Operations