



In October of 1978, an historic contract was signed by the State of Alaska and the City and Borough of Juneau. This contract resulted in the state constructing a regional fire training center in Juneau, one of five in the state. The CBJ provided the site and managed the construction project. The building remained the property of the state. The CBJ was to manage the training center for ten years, at which time the title would be conveyed to their ownership. This concept met the requirements and best interests of both the CBJ and the state.

On October 22, 1988, ownership of the training center was transferred from the state to the City and Borough of Juneau. The facility has recently undergone major repair and renovation and offers some very unique features for training.

A second cooperative effort between the CBJ and the state resulted in a classroom and office space designed for use by both agencies. Additional plans are being developed for innovative training and expansion to meet the increasing needs of Southeast Alaska.

In 1986 the Southeast regional fire training center was renamed the “William A. Hagevig Regional Fire Training Center” in appreciation to Mr. Hagevig and honor him for his outstanding accomplishments in the fire service. Mr. Hagevig was greatly respected throughout the state of Alaska. He was dedicated the fire service in Alaska for over 35 years.

Mr. Hagevig began his career in the fire service in 1954 as a volunteer with the Ketchikan Volunteer Fire Department. In 1956, he joined the City of Ketchikan’s fire department where he



remained until retirement a 1969. In Juneau, he became the director of Fire Service Training for the State of Alaska. He also became an active member of the Douglas Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Hagevig was responsible for the design and implementation of the Fire Service Training Program for career and volunteer fire departments throughout the state. This included the development of training and professional development standards. He row publications and training manuals; established a state wide Itinerant instructor program; develop and implement that fire instructor training standards, testing and certificate in; develop curriculum is an assisted and coordination of the Associates of Art Fire Science degree program at the University of Alaska; and supervised capital construction funds (\$7.1 million) for five regional fire training centers and negotiated construction and service contracts with Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Bethel and Kotzebue (cities in which the centers were built). He served as a member of the Governor's Task Force on fire prevention and control and is a member of the Alaska Safety Advisory Council. He retired from his employment with the State of Alaska in 1985.

Mr. Hagevig passed away on October 23, 1991. His work and volunteers in touch many lives in his memory will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew him and those he helped with his tireless humanitarian efforts.