

ALASKA INNOCENCE PROJECT

March 9th, 2026

To Whom it may Concern
Re: HB 189 – PFDs for the Wrongfully Convicted
Potential Recipients of Past PFDs Under This Bill:

My name is Jory Knott, and I am the Executive Director of the Alaska Innocence Project (AKIP). We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created to identify and exonerate wrongfully convicted individuals in the state of Alaska, to foster a culture in support of its work through education and outreach, and to prevent future wrongful convictions and hasten the identification and release of innocent people through changes in policy and practice.

We are the only organization in Alaska that specializes in wrongful conviction, however, we utilize many resources. From our research into the exoneration database, which houses complete data on all national exonerations, anecdotally through attorneys with the Alaska Public Defender and the Office of Public Advocacy, and our own case files. We have discovered only 5 potential recipients that might receive back PFDs under this legislation.

These five individuals are:

EXONEREES LIKELY TO QUALIFY:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>CONVICTED</u>	<u>EXONERATED</u>	<u>YEARS</u>	<u>RELEASED</u>
George Frese	Fairbanks	1999	2015	16.8	2015
Kevin Pease	Fairbanks	1999	2015	16.3	2015
Marvin Roberts	Fairbanks	1999	2015	15.8	2015
Eugene Vent	Fairbanks	1999	2015	16.4	2015

EXONEREES THAT MAY QUALIFY:

Layo Sinegal	Petersburg	1995	2000	2.5	1997
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AKIP are strong supporters of HB 189. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jory Knott
Executive Director
Alaska Innocence Project