



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Public Safety**

Commissioner's Office

5700 E Tudor Road  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507  
Main: 907.269.5511  
Fax: 907.338.105

DATE: February 3, 2023

TO: Chair Dunbar, Senate Community and Regional Affairs Committee

FROM: Department of Public Safety, Village Public Safety Officer Program

RE: Department of Public Safety overview presentation on 2/2/2023 follow-up

Honorable Chair Dunbar:

During the Department of Public Safety overview presentation before the Committee on February 2, 2023, Senator Gray-Jackson asked if the department had a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) located in Akutan. The response provided Joel Hard, the Director of the VPSO program, was not accurate. The department does have a VPSO assigned in Akutan, but the VPSO is still completing training. Director Hard has directly followed-up with Senator Gray-Jackson to clarify the error, and this memo is to advise of the needed clarification.

Respectfully,

Lisa Purinton  
Acting Legislative Liaison  
Department of Public Safety  
[Lisa.purinton@alaska.gov](mailto:Lisa.purinton@alaska.gov)