



THE STATE  
*of* **ALASKA**  
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June 18, 2025

The Honorable Andrew Gray  
Chair  
House Judiciary Committee  
1500 Benson Blvd  
Anchorage, AK 99503

Dear Chair Gray,

Thank you for your correspondence today providing written questions for the Alaska Department of Law ("LAW") relating to the detainees housed by the Alaska Department of Corrections ("ADoC"). With this letter, please accept the following responses on behalf of LAW to the committee's questions:

**Have there been any legal, administrative, or civil rights proceedings related to DOC's housing of ICE or USMS detainees?**

**Have there been claims regarding use-of-force, conditions, or due process?**

*We are not aware of any specific legal proceedings against ADoC by ICE or USMS detainees relating to conditions of confinement.*

**Is DOC or the Department of Law budgeting for potential future claims?**

*The Department of Law's FY 26 operating budget (HB 53) does not include funds appropriated for this specific purpose.*

**What role, if any, does the State play in federal immigration enforcement?**

**If such a role exists, what are the respective responsibilities of the State and the Federal Government?**

*These are not legal questions and LAW is not able to provide a response.*

**Is Alaska actively supporting or passively facilitating these operations?**

*This is not a legal question and LAW is not able to provide a response.*

**Are state funds, personnel, or infrastructure being used for civil immigration enforcement functions?**

*This is not a legal question and LAW is not able to provide a response.*

In your recent correspondence to ADoC regarding the scheduled House Judiciary Committee hearing on June 20, 2025, you also provided a list of written questions to be answered by ADoC at the hearing. Some of your questions are legal in nature and best answered by LAW.

To that end, I am providing the following additional written responses for the committee's consideration:

**What are the legal authorities, terms, and effective dates of Alaska's detention agreements with federal agencies?**

*Alaska Statute 33.30.031(e) authorizes the commissioner of corrections to "enter into an agreement with the United States, another state, a municipality of this state, or another state agency, to provide a correctional facility for the custody, care, and discipline of a person held under authority of the law of that jurisdiction."*

*The remainder of this question is addressed in the Detention Services Intergovernmental Agreement ("IGA") between the Alaska Department of Corrections and the U.S. Marshal's Service, effective January 1, 2024.*

**Does the agreement operate under Public Law 106-553 (Section 119, Department of Justice (DOJ) Appropriations Act of 2001), as cited in the base Inter Governmental Agreement (IGA)?**

*The IGA recites that it is entered into pursuant to Section 119 of the Department of Justice Appropriations Act of 2001 (Public Law 106-553). The Alaska Department of Law does not comment on the federal government's authority to enter into the IGA.*

**What are the specific start and end dates of the original IGA and its most recent modification (Modification 3, effective May 1, 2025)?**

*The period of the IGA and the modification are recited in those documents.*

**What federal detention standards apply to these detainees (e.g., Federal Performance-Based Detention Standards, May 2022)?**

*The IGA identifies the standards that apply to federal detainees in DoC custody.*

**Are all required incident reports, videos, and reviews available for oversight?**

*The answer to this question likely depends on who is requesting to view the records. Documentation created about and referencing specific detainees may be confidential criminal justice information. See AS 12.62.160(a) and AS 12.62.900(5), (11).*

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if the committee has any additional or follow-up questions. I can be reached by email at [law.legislation@alaska.gov](mailto:law.legislation@alaska.gov)

Sincerely,

*Parker Patterson*

Parker W. Patterson  
Senior Assistant Attorney General

cc: Governor's Legislative Office

