

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS



House Finance Committee Overview

By Commissioner Joe Schmidt



MISSION STATEMENT:

"The Alaska Department of Corrections enhances the safety of our communities. We provide secure confinement, reformatory programs, and a process of supervised community reintegration."

OUR GOALS

- *To protect the public.*
- *To reduce recidivism.*
- *To delay the need for new sentenced prison beds.*
- *To insure that an offenders incarceration is spent productively.*

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AT A GLANCE

- 1,500 Staff
- 12 Facilities in Alaska (with another under construction)
 - *One of six states operating both pre-trial & sentenced facilities*
- Out of state contract of 1,000 beds in Hudson, Colorado
- 13 probation field offices
- 15 contract jails
- 789 community residential center beds
- 290 electronic monitoring placements
- 5,900 prisoners in facilities
- 6,000 offenders on supervision
- 38,000 bookings per year (22,000 individuals)
- 1 in 36 Alaskan adults are under our supervision

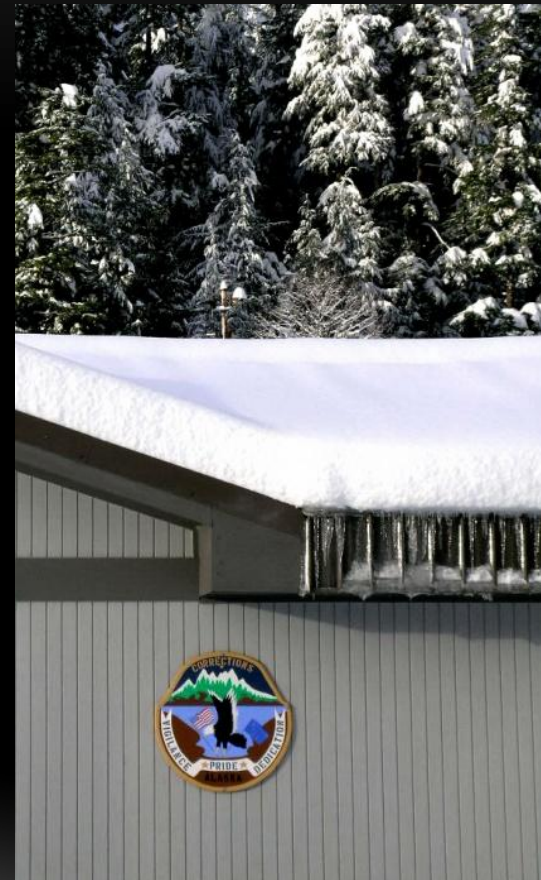
DIVISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT

- Division of Administrative Services
 - Director – Leslie Houston
 - *Budget, Finance, Internal Audit*
 - *Procurement*
 - *Information Technology*
 - *Research & Records*
 - *Facilities Maintenance CIP Unit*



DIVISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED...

- Division of Institutions
 - Director – Garland Armstrong
 - Deputy Director – Bryan Brandenburg
 - 12 In-State Institutions
 - Classification & Furlough
 - Out of State Contract (GEO Group)
 - Inmate Transportation
 - Point of Arrest



DIVISIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUED...

- Division of Probation & Parole
 - Director – Donna White
 - 13 Regional Probation Offices
 - Electronic Monitoring
 - Community Jails
 - Community Residential Centers (CRCs)



POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Inmates are classified into custody levels

- **Close/Maximum** (Spring Creek Correctional Center in Seward)
- **Medium**
- **Minimum**
- **Electronic monitoring**
- **Community Residential Centers (CRCs)**



POPULATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

- Inmates are housed by custody level.
- Similar risk inmates are housed together; helps reduce risk of assaultive and predatory behavior.
- Community Residential Centers (CRCs) and Electronic Monitoring (EM) placement for those who qualify.
- This allows for low-risk offenders to maintain community connections and assist with re-entry. Frees-up hard beds for those that require it.
- Use of half-way house beds has increased 15 percent since 2008; use of EM is up 77 percent.

PROGRAM STRATEGY

- The average length of sentence is 160 days; 90 for a misdemeanor, 280 for a felon.
- In short, the strategy is to offer shorter programs, but more of them. ... To offer reformatory programs to the greatest number of offenders.
- The program strategy is to focus on substance abuse, anger management, criminal thinking, parenting, education and vocational training.

PRISONER JOBS

- Food Services
- Laundry
- General Maintenance
- Lawn Care and Landscaping
- Custodial
- Animal Care



P.A.C.E.

PROBATION ACCOUNTABILITY WITH CERTAIN ENFORCEMENT

- Alaska PACE is modeled after Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) program. Following the model developed by Judge Steven Alm, PACE aims to reduce crime and drug use among criminal offenders. PACE identifies probationers who are likely to violate their conditions of probation; notifies them that violations will have consequences; requires frequent randomized drug and/or alcohol tests; and responds to violations with swift terms of incarceration.
- PACE is a program made possible through the joint cooperation of the Alaska Court System, the Anchorage Police Department, the Department of Law, the State Public Defender's Office, the Office of Public Advocacy, the Department of Corrections and the Department of Public Safety.
- The program began as a pilot project in Anchorage Superior Court on July 12, 2010 with 29 probationers. The number of probationers placed in PACE will increase as the parties work together.

GOOSE CREEK CORRECTIONAL CENTER



WHEN OPEN IN 2012-13, GCCC WILL:

- Consist of **five buildings** with 435,000 square feet on 150 acres.
- Provide **1,536 beds** for medium security sentenced inmates
 - *1,480 general capacity beds*
- **Employ** a staff of up to 347.



GCCC: OCCUPANCY RAMP-UP PLAN

- **Ready for occupancy** March, 2012 ... the last four months of FY 2012
- **Open** with 30 selected prisoners, small staff contingent
- **Exercise physical plant processes:** electronic systems, intercoms, doors, run kitchen, laundry.
- Prisoners will move from mod to mod.
- **Full ramp-up will begin July 1, 2012** (FY 2013). Transfer of prisoners and hiring staff paced over 12 months.
- **Seasoned Correctional Officers will have an opportunity to transfer to Goose Creek** when it opens.
- **Staff will be recruited and hired to backfill vacancies.** Hiring will occur at institutions throughout the state.

QUESTIONS?
