

## FY20/21 Key Issues – Department of Public Safety

1. **Laboratory Services:** In FY20 the Legislature provided \$342.5 DGF and 2 PFT positions to reduce the backlog of work and meet HB 49 requirements regarding the turnaround time for processing sexual assault test kits. The Legislature also approved an additional \$150.0 Fed.
  - a. Has the program reduced its backlog, and is the Department meeting statutory requirements for processing sexual assault test kits?
  - b. Have the added positions been filled, and how many positions remain vacant?
  - c. How will the Governor's FY21 request for \$872.8 UGF and four PFT positions reduce the current backlog and meet operational requirements?
2. **Alaska State Troopers (AST):** The FY21 proposal would station an additional 15 Alaska State Troopers in rural Alaska and add another 16 PFT positions in AST Detachments. This proposal includes \$2.7 million to reduce vacancy.
  - a. What is the status of AST retention and recruitment efforts, and how many positions are currently filled out of the 389 included in the FY20 Management Plan?
  - b. How does the Department calculate the cost of adding an Alaska State Trooper?
    - i. Are one-time start-up costs (training, vehicle, supplies) included in this request?  
If not, how will the Department pay for those costs?
  - c. Will these added positions focus on Legislative intent of prioritizing the investigation of sex crimes in rural Alaska?
3. **Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Program:** In FY20, the Governor vetoed \$3.0 million from the VPSO Program.
  - a. What is the status of FY20 grant funding: have all available funds been distributed to grantees? Do grantees report additional need beyond what has been provided?
  - b. Has the Department met Legislative intent regarding collaboration with the VPSO grantees to develop a recruitment and retention plan?
4. **Anchorage Emergency Communications Center:** The FY21 proposal includes funding and 7 PFT positions for a new emergency communications center. The Department also plans to transfer positions in from existing facilities and cancel services contract work with external agencies.
  - a. Which facilities or service contracts will be impacted, and will there be a savings?
5. **Fire and Life Safety:** How has the Department worked to reduce the turnaround time for building plan review, and what is status of these efforts?
  - a. The FY21 request includes \$436.1 GF 4 PFT positions. How quickly could the Department fill these positions and reduce the current turnaround time?
6. **Alaska Wing Civil Air Patrol:** In FY20, the Governor vetoed \$250.0 UGF for the Alaska Wing Civil Air Patrol, eliminating all state support of the program.
  - a. What are the impacts of this reduction?
  - b. Has the Department met Legislative intent to "strengthen the liaison between the State and the Civil Air Patrol's capabilities in partnership with the Department's mission"?