

SB

223

SFIN

FILE

SARAH PALIN
GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR@GOV.STATE.AK.US



STATE OF ALASKA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
JUNEAU

P.O. Box 110001
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811-0001
(907) 465-3500
FAX (907) 465-3532
WWW.GOV.STATE.AK.US

January 15, 2008

The Honorable Lyda Green
President of the Senate
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 111
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear President Green:

Under the authority of art. III, sec. 18, of the Alaska Constitution, I am transmitting a bill providing for and relating to the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of paying the cost of a scientific crime detection laboratory.

This revenue would be utilized for the construction of a "state of the science" crime lab that will serve the needs of Alaska's citizens and law enforcement agencies for at least the next 40 years.

Over the last 30 years, both the types of evidence analysis and the number of cases submitted by law enforcement for assistance from the crime lab have increased tremendously. Currently, the crime lab provides expert assistance in the areas of fingerprints, biological screening, hair analysis, trace screening, blood alcohol content, drug analysis, DNA, crime scene investigations, shoe prints, and firearm/toolmark ballistics.

Forensic science continues to improve. New technology and added analysis are expanding the importance of forensic science in criminal justice investigations; examples include arson analysis equipment, laser examination equipment, vacuum metal deposition chamber examination equipment, trace evidence examinations, space and equipment examinations, toxicology, and question document analysis. Additionally, expanded processing space is necessary to examine evidence from small items such as drug baggies and blood stained clothing to larger items such as entire vehicles. The new crime lab will have sufficient space to accommodate such improvements.

The Honorable Lyda Green

January 15, 2008

Page 2

The crime lab has managed to provide an excellent level of assistance to law enforcement during this time of growth. However, in the past five years, the growing demand for lab services has exceeded the capacity of the lab to provide all the services needed by Alaskans. Alaska needs a new crime lab. The new crime lab will provide 80 thousand square feet with room for future expansion.

Section 1 of the bill adds a new section to the uncodified law of the state authorizing the issuance and sale of state general obligation bonds in the principal amount of not more than 100 million, if ratified by a majority of the qualified voters of the state who vote on the question. The full faith, credit, and resources of the state would be pledged to the payment of the principal of and interest and redemption premium, if any, on the bonds.

Section 2 of the bill adds a new section to the uncodified law of the state establishing the "scientific crime detection laboratory project fund" if the voters ratify the issuance of the bonds, to which shall be credited the proceeds of the sale of the bonds except for the accrued interest and premiums.

Section 3 of the bill adds a new section to the uncodified law of the state appropriating 100 million from the scientific crime detection laboratory project fund and up to 6 million in anticipated investment earnings to the Department of Public Safety to be allocated to the design and construction of a state scientific crime detection laboratory in Anchorage.

Section 4 of the bill adds a new section to the uncodified law of the state appropriating from the general fund to the state bond committee \$500,000 or as much of that amount as is found necessary to carry out the provisions of this bill and to pay expenses incident to the sale and issuance of the bonds.

Section 5 of the bill adds a new section to the uncodified law of the state providing that the amount withdrawn from the public facility planning fund (AS 35.10.135) for the purpose of advance planning for the capital improvements financed under this bill shall be reimbursed from the proceeds of the sale of the bonds.

Section 6 of the bill adds a new section to the uncodified law of the state providing that the unexpended and unobligated balance of the appropriation made in sec. 3 lapses and is appropriated to the state bond committee to redeem bonds sold under this bill. Further, sec. 6 provides that amounts expended from the general fund to pay the principal, interest, and redemption premium on the bonds shall be

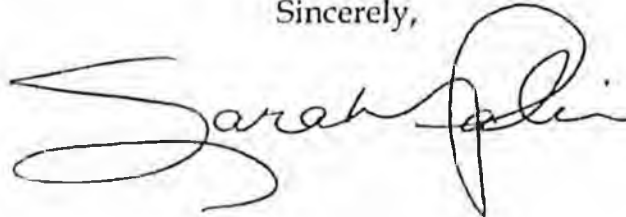
The Honorable Lyda Green
January 15, 2008
Page 3

reimbursed from this appropriation to the extent that the money is not needed to redeem the bonds.

Section 7 of the bill amends the uncodified law of the state to add a new section directing the submittal to the voters for ratification at the next general election the question of whether the state shall issue its general obligation bonds in the principal amount of not more than 100 million for the purpose of paying the cost of design and construction of a scientific crime detection laboratory.

I urge your prompt and favorable action on this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Palin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "S" and a distinct "P".

Sarah Palin
Governor

Enclosure



State of Alaska
Department of
Public Safety

Sarah Palin, Governor
Walt Monegan, Commissioner

Sponsor Statement
SB 223

The Department of Public Safety is seeking funding through statewide general obligation bonds to build a "state of the science" crime lab that will serve the needs of Alaska's citizens and law enforcement agencies for at least the next 40 years.

The Department started accepting evidence for analysis in 1978 with 2 chemists, 2 latent examiners and one explosives expert. In 1986, the current crime lab was built. Its 18,000 square feet were designed as a workplace for six scientists and support staff. The number of analysis has increased tremendously since that time. Over the last 30 years, both the types of evidence analysis and the number of cases submitted by law enforcement for assistance from the crime lab have increased tremendously.

The crime lab has managed to provide an excellent level of assistance to law enforcement during this time of growth. However, in the past five years, the growing demand for lab services has exceeded the capacity of the lab. This results in unavoidable delays in analyzing evidence. Large backlogs now exist. In order to preserve the quality of work, the crime lab had to reduce the quantity of case work coming in; thus, some services were outsourced while others were discontinued.

Forensic science continues to improve. New technology and added analysis are expanding the importance of forensic science in criminal justice investigations; examples include arson analysis equipment, laser examination equipment, vacuum metal deposition chamber examination equipment, trace evidence examinations, space and equipment examinations, toxicology and question document analysis. Additionally, expanded processing space is necessary to examine evidence from small items such as drug baggies and blood stained clothing to larger items such as entire vehicles. The new crime lab will have sufficient space to accommodate such improvements.

Additionally, DNA has created an entirely new area of testing and the number of cases involving DNA submitted to the crime lab is increasing steadily. DNA testing work includes current cases and many older "cold" cases. The design of the proposed new crime lab incorporates all the elements necessary to expand the use of DNA evidence as a crucial tool for solving crimes, providing justice to victims and ensuring Alaska is on the leading edge for implementing effective criminal justice tools.

The new crime lab will provide eighty-three thousand square feet with room for future expansion. The design of the proposed new crime lab incorporates all the elements necessary to expand the use of forensic evidence as a crucial tool for solving crimes, providing justice to victims and ensuring Alaska is on the leading edge for implementing effective criminal justice tools.

"Public Safety Through Public Service"

Office of the Commissioner
5700 E. Tudor Road – Anchorage, AK 99507 – Voice (907) 269-5086 – Fax (907) 269-4543
Juneau Office – Voice (907) 465-4322 – Fax (907) 465-4362



State of Alaska
Department of
Public Safety

Sarah Palin, Governor
Walt Monegan, Commissioner

February 25, 2008

The Honorable Bert Stedman, Co-Chair
Senate Finance Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 516
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Senator Stedman:

Following is the response to your request for information concerning costs associated with construction of the new Crime Laboratory in Anchorage.

Some of these figures are estimates of actual costs that may be different. The costs were determined by using other existing labs. These comparison labs are the Public Health Lab/Medical Examiners in Anchorage and the Virology Lab in Fairbanks.

We estimate that operational costs for the 83,000 square foot building will be \$1.3 million. This figure reflects cost of utilities, cleaning services, and IT costs. The current operating cost for the existing lab is \$236,000. The actual cost will be significantly changed based on the configuration of the final design.

The following is a breakdown provided by Department of Transportation and Public Facilities Engineer Matt Tanaka of the construction costs for the building as you requested. Again, the figures are estimates. The final determination will be based on the final design.

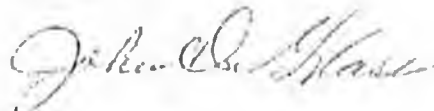
"Public Safety through Public Service"

Department of Public Safety
Office of the Commissioner
P.O. Box 111200, Juneau, AK 99811-1200
Voico (907) 465-4322 - Fax (907) 465-4362

PROJECT BUDGET	
<u>Design</u>	
A/E Design	\$7,319,707
Design Management, Administration	\$492,740
CM/GC Contractor Pre-Construction Services	\$329,820
Building Permit	\$749,084
Subtotal:	\$8,891,000
<u>Construction</u>	
Construction Contract	\$85,214,999
Wetlands Mitigation	\$600,000
Construction Management, A/E Inspection, Testing, Startup	\$6,880,679
Laboratory Equipment	\$4,429,860
Artwork	\$851,200
Laboratory Staff and Office Move	\$80,000
Project Contingency	\$3,327,095
Land Lease	\$0
Cost of Bond Issuance	\$525,580
Subtotal:	\$101,909,414
Project Total:	\$110,800,000
Less Prior Appropriation:	(\$4,800,000)
FUNDING REQUEST:	\$106,000,000

I hope that this is the information that you requested. If I may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to have one of your staff or yourself contact me directly.

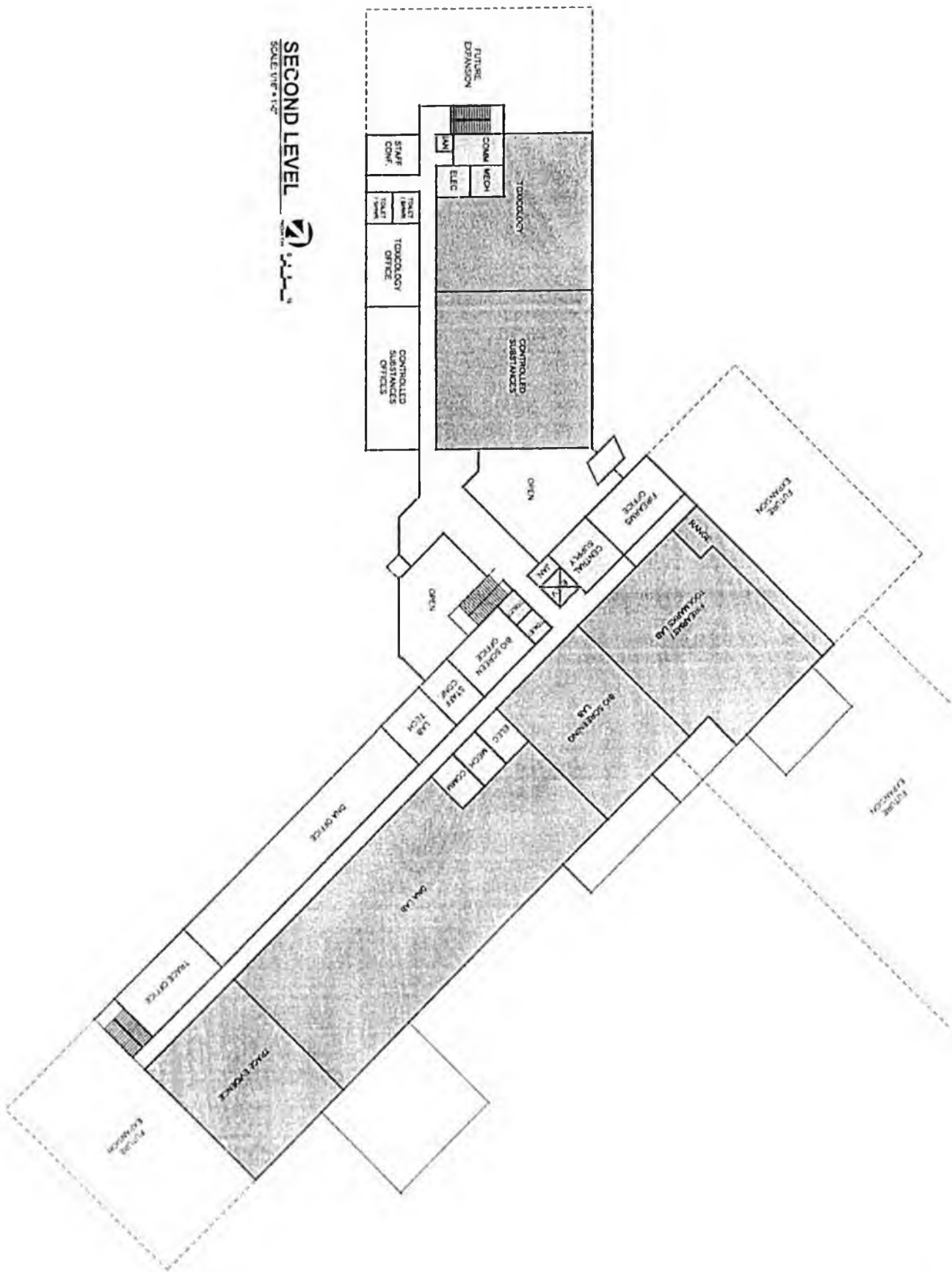
Sincerely,



John D. Glass
Deputy Commissioner

"Public Safety through Public Service"

Department of Public Safety
Office of the Commissioner
P.O. Box 111200, Juneau, AK 99811-1200
Voice (907) 465-4322 – Fax (907) 465-4362



SECOND LEVEL
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"



SHEET NO. 202 DATE 11/13/08 DRAWN BY J.S. CHECKED BY J.S. PROJECT NO. 202	PROJECT NO. 202 PROJECT NAME PROJECT LOCATION	PREPARED BY LIVINGSTON SLOANE, INC. 3025 ANCHORAGE BOULEVARD SUITE 201 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503 TEL: 907.562.7008 FAX: 907.562.0578	STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - STATEWIDE SERVICES NEW CRIME LABORATORY ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Crime Lab Replacement

FY2009 Request: \$100,000,000
 Reference No: 41600

AP/AL: Appropriation
 Category: Law and Justice
 Location: Statewide

Project Type: Construction

Contact: Dan Spencer, Director, Administrative Services

House District: Statewide (HD 1-40)
 Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2008 - 06/30/2010

Contact Phone: (907)465-5488

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

This project would fund a new crime laboratory building.

Fund/Proj:	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	Total
G/O Bonds	\$100,000,000						\$100,000,000
Total:	\$100,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000,000

State Match Required One-Time Project Phased - new Phased - underway On-Going
 0% = Minimum State Match % Required Amendment Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	Amount	Staff
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Sec 1, Ch 82, SLA 2006, Page 81, Lines 15-16 \$4,800,000 General Funds

Project Description/Justification:

The current crime lab facility was constructed in 1986 to house the state's forensic laboratory functions that serve all law enforcement agencies in the state. The facility is no longer physically capable of housing the personnel and instrumentation necessary to meet the state's forensic analysis demands.

The lab provides forensic analysis to all local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in Alaska in the areas of latent fingerprints, firearms, trace evidence, and other criminalistics services, blood and breath alcohol analysis, drug analysis, and DNA analysis. Additionally, the crime lab provides crime scene response and courtroom testimony.

The advent of DNA analysis and its use in solving crimes has resulted in establishment of an entire new section, including personnel, instrumentation, and evidence analysis, whose space has to be fit into a facility that was already crowded at best. With new laws requiring large classes of convicted criminals to provide DNA samples, the expansion of interconnected DNA databases nationwide, and significant improvements in DNA technologies, this section will only continue to grow in both importance to the law enforcement community and in its physical space requirements.

Bringing this section into the lab has already forced other sections of the lab into spaces such as the garage and maintenance areas that were previously available for processing large items of evidence such as vehicles and for dealing with large quantities of evidence such as from a major crime scene.

All sections of the lab are experiencing ever increasing backlogs of requests for forensic exams. This is due in part to agencies increasing the number of police personnel and in part to the success of new technologies such as DNA and electronic fingerprint processing. Both increase the demands on the lab.

In simple terms, we have outgrown the current facility. The existing space is 18,000 square feet and houses 42 full time employees. The building is at the limits of its ability to house staff and equipment. Without more space, the capacity of the laboratory to perform analyses and meet their desired end result of expanding their forensic databases, such as the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) database, is limited.

The department has begun site selection and preliminary design work, using funding from a FY2007 capital appropriation. A site within the Municipality of Anchorage has been identified and the department is working with the Municipality to acquire a long-term lease.



Municipality of Anchorage



4501 Pringle Street • Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1500 • Telephone (907) 786-8500 • <http://www.muni.org>

Mayor Mark Begich

Anchorage Police Department

Co-Chairman Kevin Meyer
Finance Room 519
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Representative Meyer:

I wholeheartedly support legislative funding through state wide obligation bonds for the new crime lab. As Chief of the Anchorage Police Department, I can say that the growing demand for services as we investigate more and more evidence-dependent criminal cases has overburdened the present crime lab support.

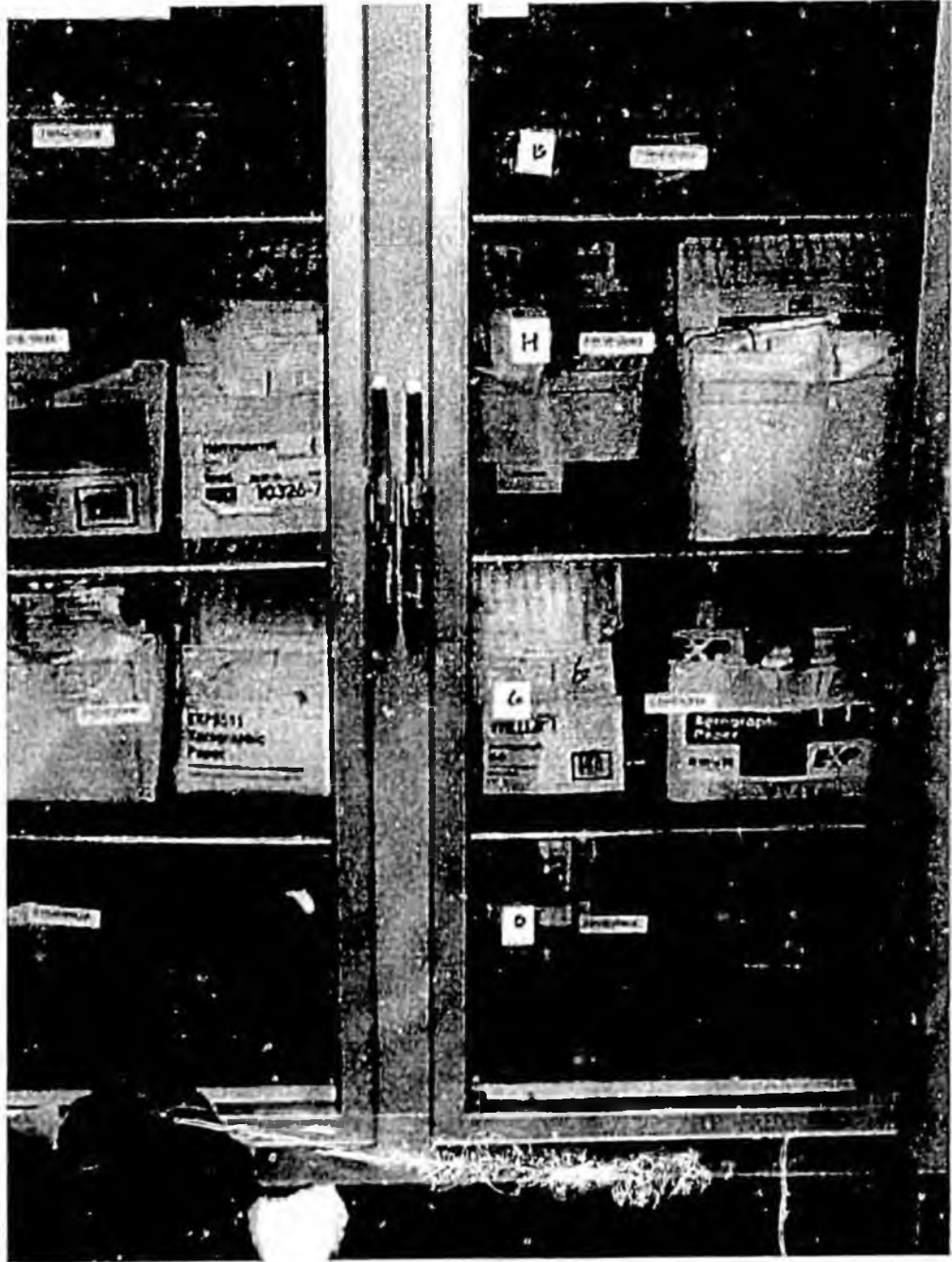
As a function of the sheer volume of cases that the crime lab must deal with, it has become an unacceptable state of affairs that evidence pertaining to property crimes is sometimes never processed. DNA processing in person crimes is a long process, and while the technology to improve services and meet the expectations of the public is available to provide analysis of firearms crimes, arsons, and other evidentiary based cases, a commitment must be made to ensure that Alaskans secure their right to fair and equal access to justice.

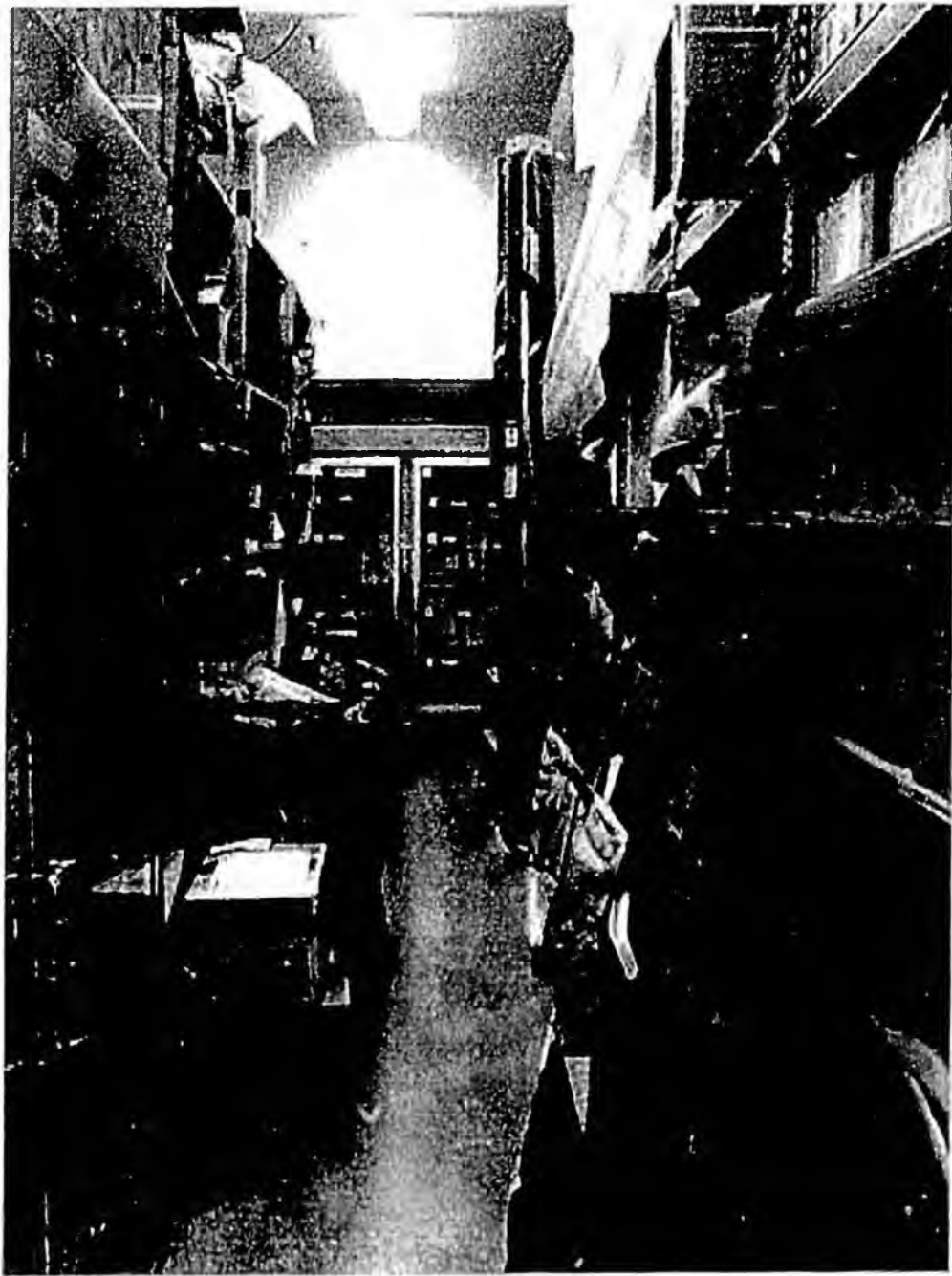
A well managed, state of the art crime lab is foundational to that right of fair and equal access to justice for all of our citizens. The prospect of timely and complete processing of evidence is a key component in the achievement of that assurance. We cannot continue to fall short of that expectation.

Sincerely,

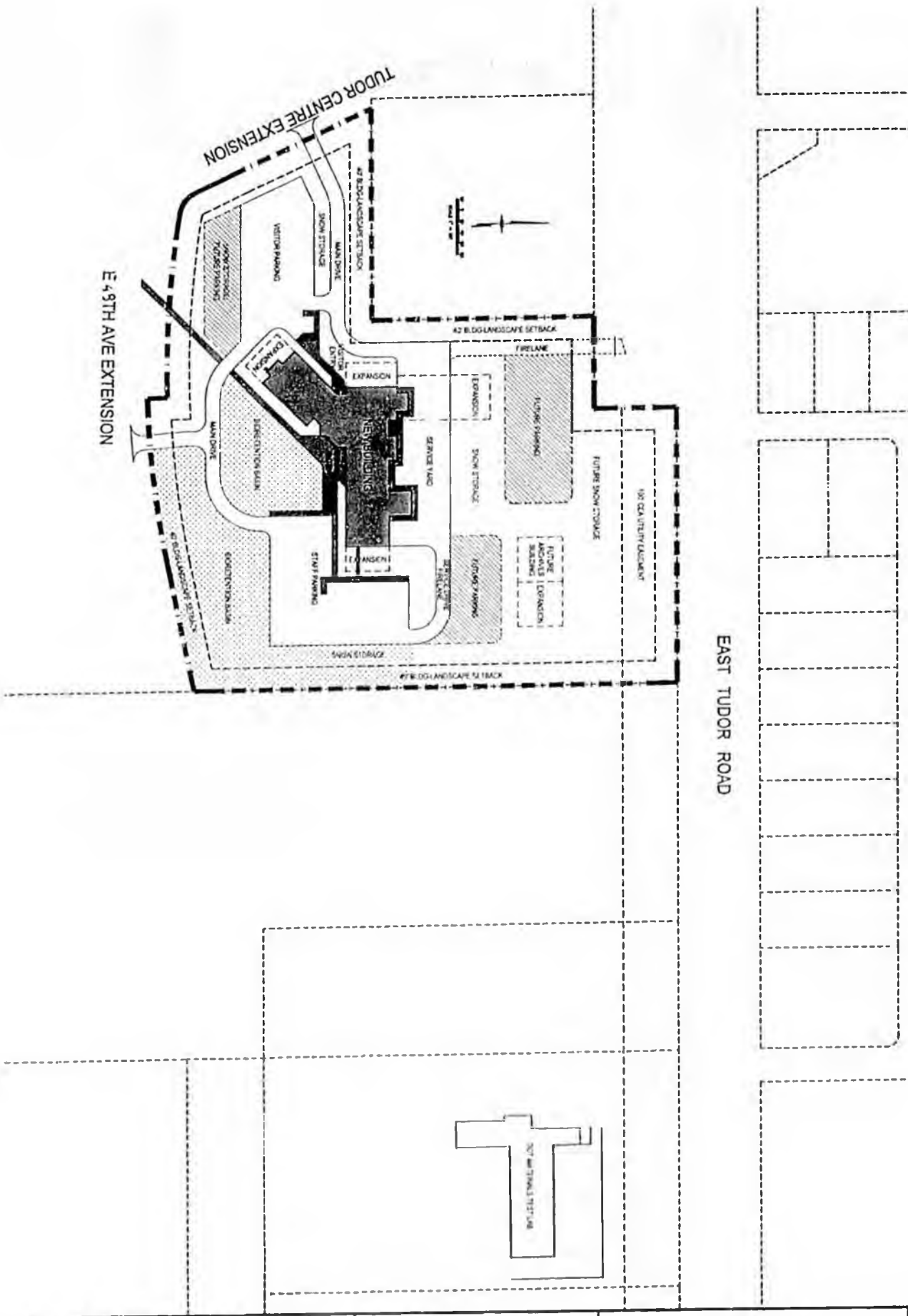
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Heun".

Rob Heun
Chief
Anchorage Police Department

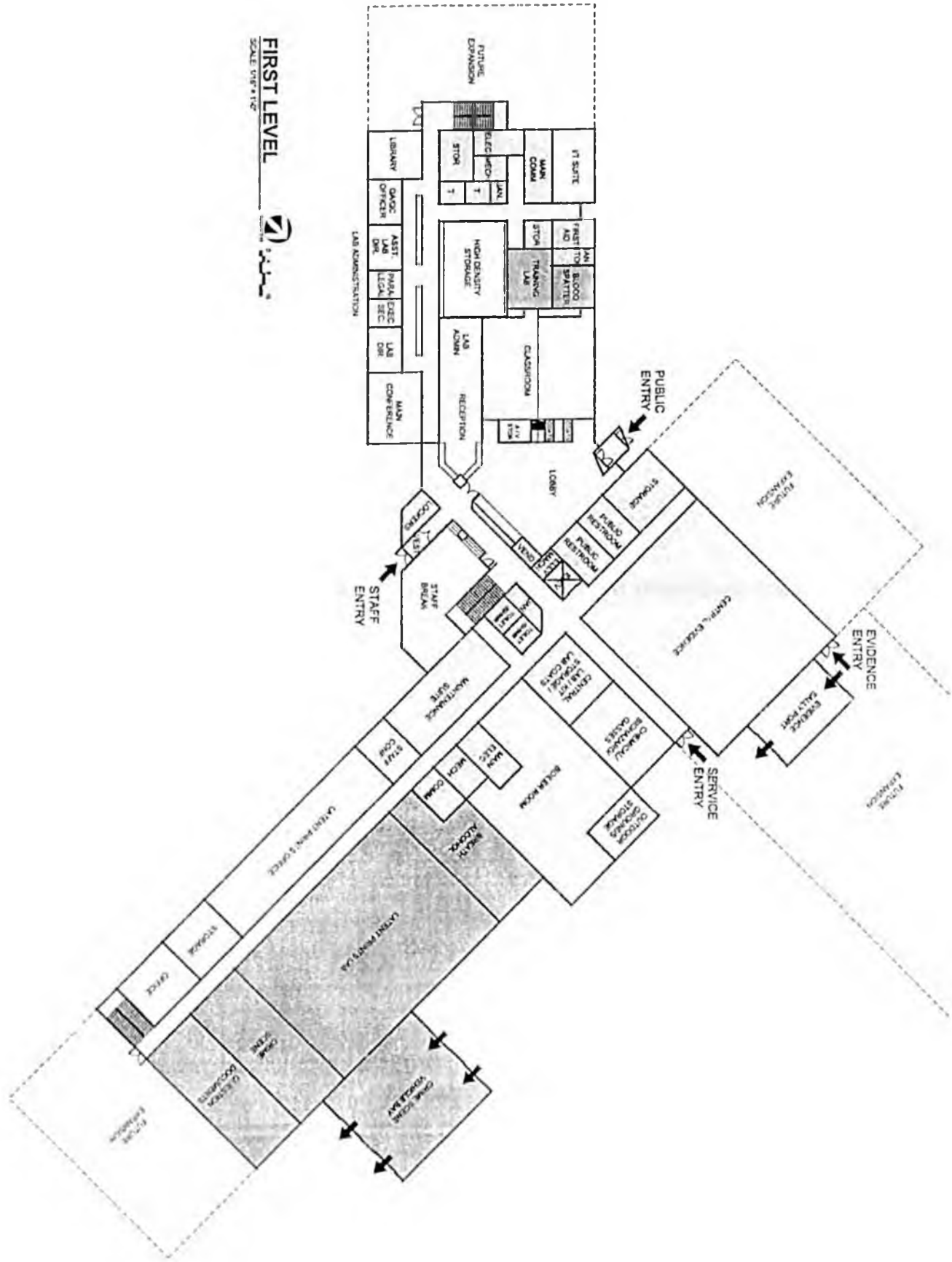








SHEET NO. C1	CONCEPTUAL DESIGN CIVIL SITE PLAN	PLANNED BY LIVINGSTON SLONE, INC. 3800 ARCTIC DRIVE (VARC) SUITE 201 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99503-8760 TEL: 907.562.0758 FAX: 907.561.4178	STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - STATEWIDE SERVICES NEW CRIME LABORATORY ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
		PROJECT NO. DRAWING NO. SHEET NO.	DATE BY CHECKED BY



FIRST LEVEL
SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

SHEET: A1	CONCEPTUAL DESIGN AND FIRST LEVEL FLOOR PLAN	DATE: 10/20/18 DRAWN BY: J.S. CHECKED BY: J.S. SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"	PLANS DEVELOPED BY: LIVINGSTON SLOANE, INC. 3000 ARCTIC BLVD. SUITE 201 ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99515-1101 TEL: 907.562.2388 FAX: 907.561.6128	STATE OF ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY - STATEWIDE SERVICES NEW CRIME LABORATORY ANCHORAGE, ALASKA
	NOTES: 1. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE (IBC) AND THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE (IPC). 2. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE (IEC) AND THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL AND PLUMBING CODE (IMC). 3. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL FIRE AND SAFETY CODE (IFSC). 4. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE (IECC). 5. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL SMOKE AND ALARM CODE (ISAC). 6. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES (AGS). 7. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL GREEN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CODE (IGBC). 8. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION CODE (ISDCC). 9. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL WELL-BEING AND PRODUCTIVITY CODE (IWPC). 10. ALL WORK SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2015 INTERNATIONAL RESILIENCE AND DURABILITY CODE (IRD).			



Municipality of Anchorage



4501 Elmire Road • Anchorage, Alaska 99507-1599 • Telephone (907) 786-8500 • <http://www.muni.org>

Mayor Mark Begich

Anchorage Police Department

March 14, 2008

Senator Bert Stedman
Finance Committee Co-chair
Finance Room 516
State Capitol Building
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Stedman:

I wholeheartedly support legislative funding through state wide obligation bonds for the new crime lab. As Chief of the Anchorage Police Department, I can say that the growing demand for services as we investigate more and more evidence-dependent criminal cases has overburdened the present crime lab support.

As a function of the sheer volume of cases that the crime lab must deal with, it has become an unacceptable state of affairs that evidence pertaining to property crimes is sometimes never processed. DNA processing in person crimes is a long process, and while the technology to improve services and meet the expectations of the public is available to provide analysis of firearms crimes, arsons, and other evidentiary based cases, a commitment must be made to ensure that Alaskans secure their right to fair and equal access to justice.

A well managed, state of the art crime lab is foundational to that right of fair and equal access to justice for all of our citizens. The prospect of timely and complete processing of evidence is a key component in the achievement of that assurance. We cannot continue to fall short of that expectation.

Sincerely,

Rob Heun
Chief
Anchorage Police Department

Community, Security, Prosperity



CITY OF HOMER

POLICE DEPARTMENT

4060 HEATH STREET HOMER, AK 99603-7609

EMERGENCY 911
TELEPHONE (907) 235-3150
TELECOPIER (907) 235-3151

Senate Finance Committee

Senator Bert Stedman
Senate Finance Co-Chairman
State Capitol Bldg., Rm. 516
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

March 14, 2008

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Homer Police Department I would like to express my support for the funding of a new crime laboratory under Senate Bill 223. Small, rural departments like ours derive a huge benefit from the State of Alaska Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory. Not only do we submit evidence to the crime lab on a regular basis, but personnel from the lab deliver ongoing training to our officers, provide on-scene evidence technicians for extremely serious crimes, and testify in the Homer Court. The technology involved in Criminalistics as well as the volume of evidence we submit to the Crime Lab in Anchorage has changed drastically since the current lab was built twenty-two years ago. We strongly support the funding of a new State of Alaska, Department of Public Safety Crime Detection Laboratory.

Sincerely,

Lt. Randy Rosencrans
Homer Police Department



FAIRBANKS POLICE DEPARTMENT

911 Cushman Street
Fairbanks, AK 99701-4616
Phone: (907) 450-6500
Fax: (907) 452-1588
Email: fpd@ci.fairbanks.ak.us



Senators Bert Stedman and Lyman Hoffman, Co-Chairs
Senate Finance Committee
Room 516/518
State Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801

March 14, 2008

Co-Chairs Stedman and Hoffman:

Hello! My name is Dan Hoffman; I currently serve as the Chief of Police for the City of Fairbanks. I recently had the pleasure of coming to Juneau and testifying before the Senate Judiciary Committee regarding criminal justice issues in the State of Alaska.

One of the common and reoccurring themes that continued to come up over our two days of testimony involved the critical need for a new State Crime Lab. As you are well aware, every public safety department and agency in the State of Alaska utilizes the current Crime Lab facility in Anchorage. Over the past several years, a combination of increasing cases and developments in new technology (most notably advances in DNA analysis) has led to a severe "bottleneck" in services that impact our criminal justice system on a statewide basis.

Currently, there are significant backlogs in the areas of sexual-assault evidence examination, DNA analysis, and latent-print examination. All of these situations result in circumstances where criminals remain unidentified and at-large, and where victims are denied justice.

From my perspective, one of the primary themes/questions that arose from the recent crime summit was "*where does the application of additional resources give us the biggest bang for our buck?*" Given the critical, statewide services that our Crime Lab provides, I believe that it certainly satisfies these criteria!

Speaking as a municipal police chief, Executive Board member of the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police, and as current Chair of the Alaska Police Standards Council, I respectfully urge you to fully support those efforts necessary to build a new crime laboratory that will adequately meet the needs of the citizens of Alaska.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel P. Hoffman".

Daniel P. Hoffman, Chief
Fairbanks Police Department

cc Walt Monegan, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety