

1/26/09

OVERVIEW:

DEPT.

OF

PUBLIC

SAFETY

Department of Public Safety

Department Overview



presented to

House and Senate Judiciary Committees

January 26, 2009



Department of Public Safety

"The mission of DPS is to ensure public safety and enforce
fish and wildlife laws"

DIVISIONS

- Administrative Services
- Statewide Services
- Fire & Life Safety
- Alaska State Troopers (AST)
- Alaska Wildlife Troopers (AWT)

BOARDS & COUNCILS

- Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC)
- Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA)
- Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC)
- Alaska Fire Standards Council (AFSC)



Alaska State Troopers

“preserve public peace, protect life, property, and resources”

Detachments

Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement

Bureau of Investigations

Bureau of Judicial Services

Bureau of Highway Patrol

Village Public Safety Officer Program

DPS Training Academy

- 119,217 calls for service
- About 10% result in criminal cases
- 13 Homicides in 2008, 100% solved
- 72 open cold cases, 4 investigators
29 closed, continued progress
- Marijuana grow operations and meth labs continue to decline, but Heroin, Oxycontin and drug importation cases are filling the void. Street value 19m
- Alcohol importation arrests increased by over 30%. 291 arrests made
- 337 Sexual Assaults and 375 Sexual Abuse of Minor cases
- 67,750 Prisoner transports, 7 CSOs added to rural areas
- 740 SARs, 289 Saves
- BHP Creation - 62 highway fatalities, 19 alcohol related
- 22 Trooper vacancies (of 301 PCN's); Next academy starts 2/26/09
- Recruitment is a top priority. Current pool likely to fill all commissioned positions going into FY2010



VPSO Program

“preserve public peace and protect life and property in rural villages”

VPSO Contracts

- Aleutian Pribilof Island Association
 - Bristol Bay Native Association
 - Chugachmiut
 - Tlingit-Haida Central Council
 - Kawerak
 - Tanana Chiefs Council
 - Association of Village Council Presidents
 - Kodiak Area Native Association
 - Manilaq
 - Copper River Native Association
- Current number filled = 51
 - Funding will allow 60 VPSOs
 - Pay raises \$17.00 to \$21.00
 - More applications recently received, especially from rural Alaska
 - Turnover rate appears to be improving
 - 19 started recent academy, 12 remain
 - Rural Grants – equipment, supplies and training
 - Trooper Support - Village oversight visits 2340
 - 238 DV and Assault arrests - up 51%
 - 57 DUI arrests - up 63%
 - Probation and Parole
 - D.A.R.E, 20 VPSOs Trained



Alaska Wildlife Troopers

“enforce fish and game laws; preserve public peace; protect life, property, and resources”

Detachments

Wildlife Investigations Unit

Marine Enforcement

Aircraft Section

- 58,584 Resource user contacts
- 8.5% Violation to contact rate
- Boating Safety - 8,195 contacts
Deaths; 2007=17 2008=12
- 5 AWT Vacancies (of 96 PCN's)
- Cooperative USFWS, NMFS, JEA,
Public Safety Techs
- Focus on wildstock protection
- Computer Forensics growing
- Training efforts
- Challenge - Relative inexperience level



Fire & Life Safety

“prevent the loss of life and property from fire and explosion”

Life Safety Inspections Bureau

Plan Review Bureau

Training & Education Bureau

Office of Rural Fire Protection

Joint Pipeline Office

- Fire Deaths - 24 in 2007, 19 in 2008
- 1543 Inspections (143% increase over 2007) with compliance at 35%.
- 1024 Plan reviews (20% Increase over 2007)
- 11 deferred jurisdictions, audited every 2 years
- Online plan review process
- Fire and Building Officials Forum - 2nd annual to be in April
- “Raven Island” interactive computerized fire safety game for kids
- Office of Oil & Gas Systems and Facilities



Statewide Services

“preserve public peace, protect life, property, and resources”

Criminal Records and Identification
Bureau

Automated Fingerprint Identification
System (AFIS)

Alaska Public Safety Information
Network (APSIN)

Permits and Licensing

-Security Guard Licensing

-Civilian Process Server

-Concealed Handgun Permits

Sex Offender Registration

Statewide Information Services

Network Support Group

- APSIN re-design into final development stage
- Information Technology Development
- Mobile Data Terminals (MDT)
- In car video (iCOP)
- Records Management System
- Information Sharing through “Alaska Law Enforcement Information Sharing System” (ALEISS)
- Traffic and Criminal Software (TraCS)
- 2458 Registered Sex Offenders, 107 non-compliant
- 7802 Active Concealed Handgun Permits
- 60,443 Fingerprint cards - 26,877 are criminal cards
- Challenge; Digital Network Storage and migration to new technologies



Office of the Commissioner

“provide support and policy direction to divisions and agencies within the department”

Office of Professional Standards

Alaska Police Standards Council

Alaska Fire Standards Council

Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Crime Detection Laboratory

- New unit to conduct internal investigations, complaint follow-up and tracking
- APSC expanded by two members to incorporate line officer
- APSC has accepted VPSO training to be applied toward basic certification
- Training & Certification is offered to 6100 career firefighters and volunteers
- CDVSA funding to 24 Victim Service Programs across Alaska; 8000 victims served
- Funded 77 DV/SA Training sessions for Law Enforcement, Advocates, Prosecutors, First Responders, Court Personnel
- Focusing on strategic planning to boost DV/SA prevention activities at local and state levels
- New ABC Board Director
- Short term-non perm Investigator PCN upgraded to a PFT at ABC



Crime Detection Laboratory

"provide forensic services to the Alaskan community"

SECTIONS

Breath Alcohol

Blood Alcohol

Biological Screening

DNA

Controlled Substances

Fire Debris (Arson)

Firearm/Toolmarks

Latent Prints

Shoe/Tire Impressions

Evidence

- 4500 cases submitted -78% turned in 30 days or less.
- Case backlog reduced 24% currently 600
- Fire Debris analysis (Arson) restored as an available service
- Filled 10 lab vacancies, becoming fully staffed for the first time since 2002
- CODIS samples backlog: 6000, to be caught up by July 09
- Lab accreditation successfully renewed
- Challenge - Lab space. Built in 1988 to accommodate 23; currently have 40



More On The LAB

Emerging/Immediate Trends

Property Crimes

y-STR

Low Copy DNA

Mitochondrial DNA

Cold Cases

Post Conviction

- DNA is the fastest advancing forensic science
- 30% increase in solved property crimes with DNA
- New DNA techniques help solve cold cases
- New DNA techniques help exonerate the innocent
- Lab is currently developing the needed science to perform y-STR, Mitochondrial DNA and Low Copy DNA
- Existing lab facility incapable of supporting Mitochondrial and Low Copy DNA
- New Lab update - Land lease with MOA near agreement. Design complete, under validation review for scope and design

QUESTIONS ?

