

**3/23/09**

**PRESENTA-  
TION:  
ALASKA  
INTERNET  
CRIMES  
AGAINST...**

**Lynda Zaugg**

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**From:** Apache [apache@wwwjnu02.legis.state.ak.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 19, 2009 10:55 AM  
**To:** LIO Juneau; Peg Warren; Lynda Zaugg  
**Subject:** Teleconference Order Form

**Meeting:** new

**Sponsor and/or Committee Name:** Sen H&SS

**Date of Teleconference:** 3/23/09

**Start Time:** 1:30

**End Time:** 3:00

**Chairing Site:** Juneau Capitol Building

**Juneau Room:** #205

**Testimony:** yes

**Testimony Time Limit:** other - see instructions

**Executive Session:** no

**Contact Person:** Lynda Zaugg

**Telephone Number:** 465-4906

**Email Address:** [lynda\\_zaugg@legis.state.ak.us](mailto:lynda_zaugg@legis.state.ak.us)

**LIO Sites:**

anchorage  
fairbanks

**Other sites may add:** yes

**Offnet Name(s):**

**Subject of meeting and/or Bills on Agenda:**

Joint meeting with Sen. Judicial  
Presentation: Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, Detective Ron Tidler, Anch. Police Dept.  
(Invited Testimony only)



- Sergeant Derek DeGraaf
- Alaska State Troopers
- Alaska Bureau of Investigation (ABI)
- Computer and Financial Crime Unit (CFCU)
- Anchorage

# Alaska State Troopers



- Current Status of Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force participation
- Specifically, the Computer and Financial Crime Unit (CFCU)

# Top Issue for ICAC



- Alaskan's Accessing and Distributing Child Pornography with File Sharing Software (Peer to Peer Network)
- Limewire, Bearshare, Phex

# Candidates File Sharing Child Pornography in Alaska

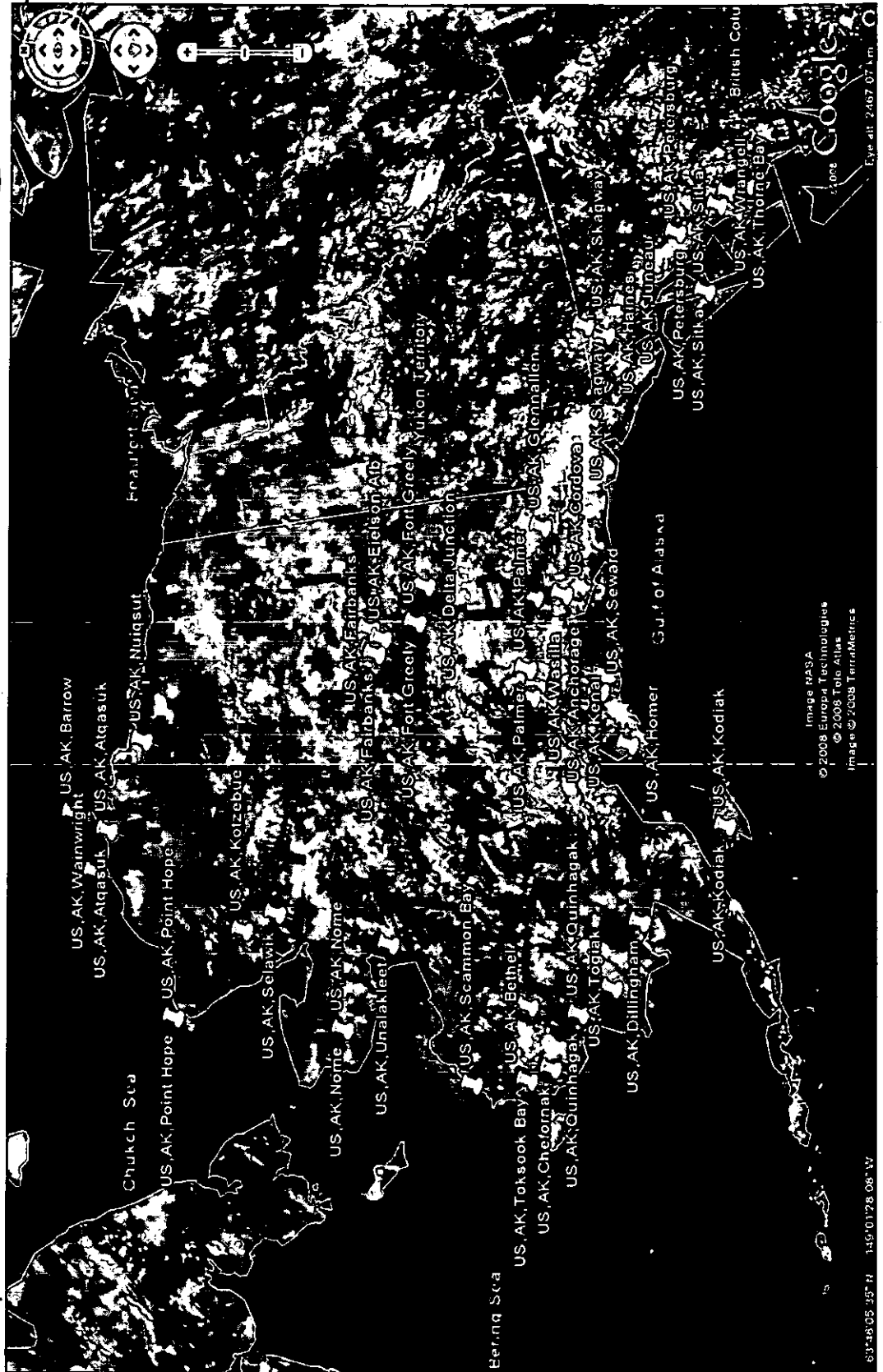
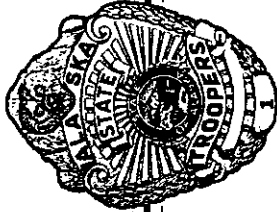
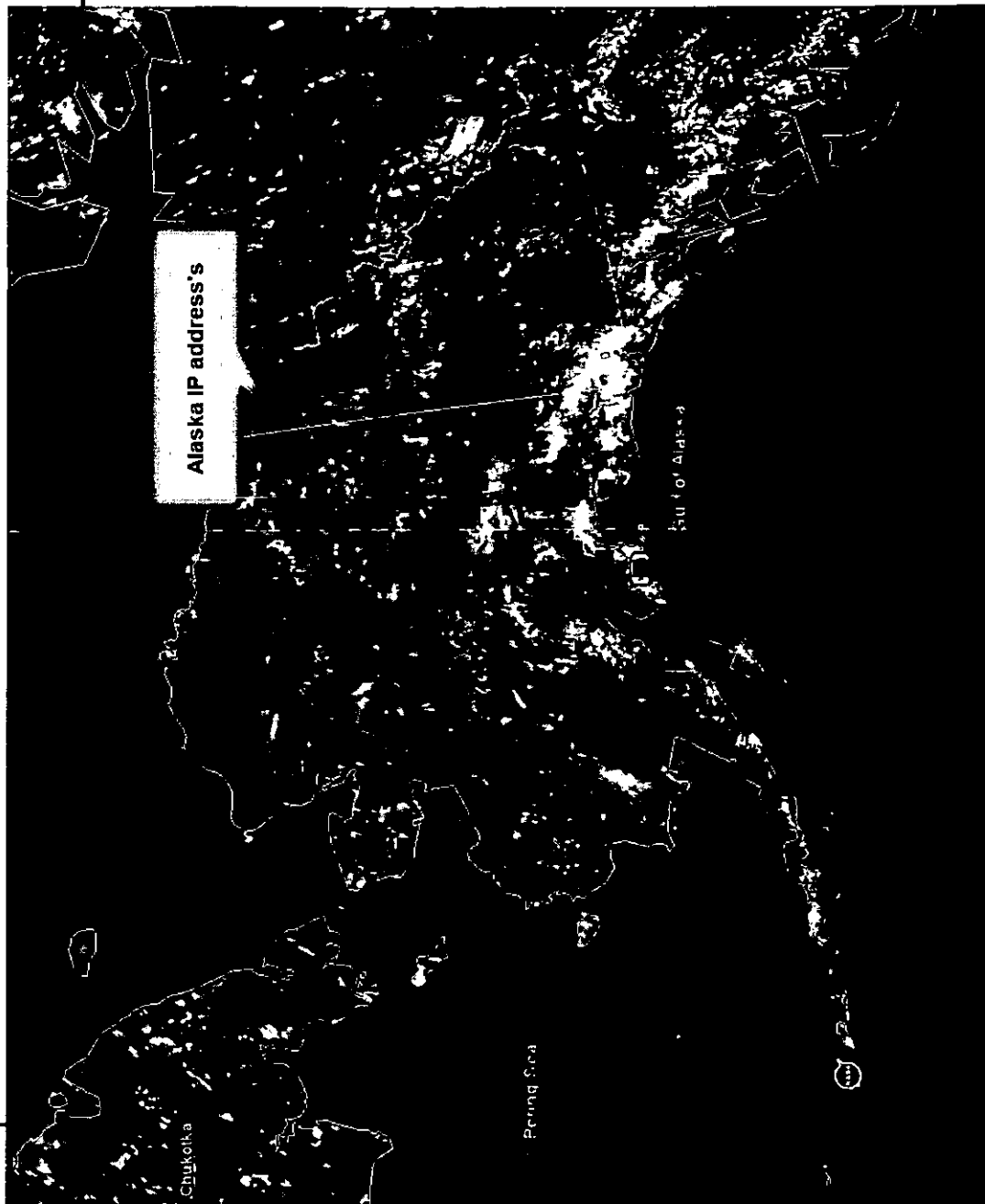
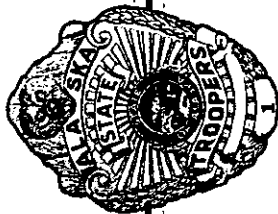


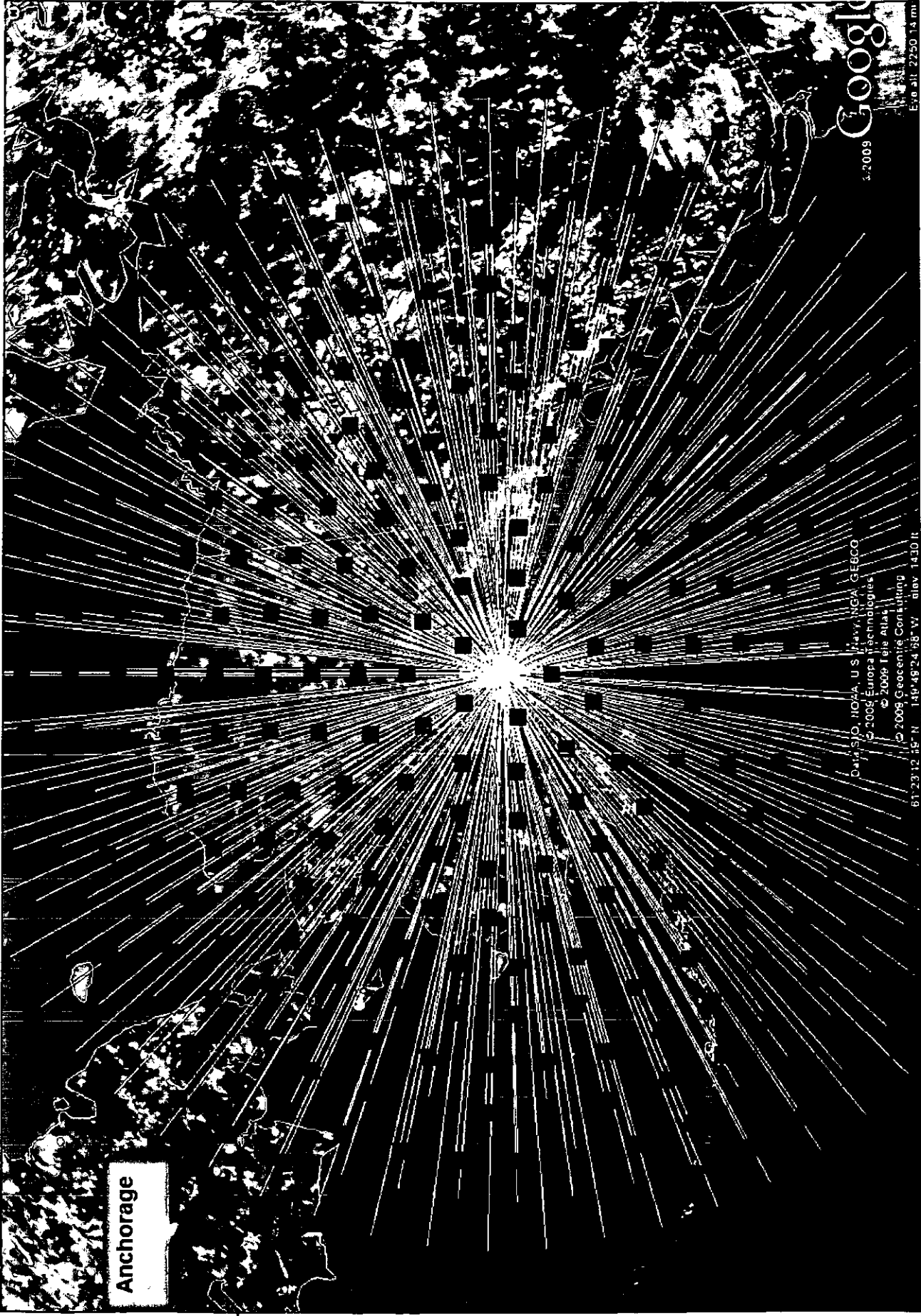
Image NASA  
© 2008 Europa Technologies  
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Image © 2008 TerraMetrics

63°45'05.35" N 149°01'28.08" W

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# Statewide Problem





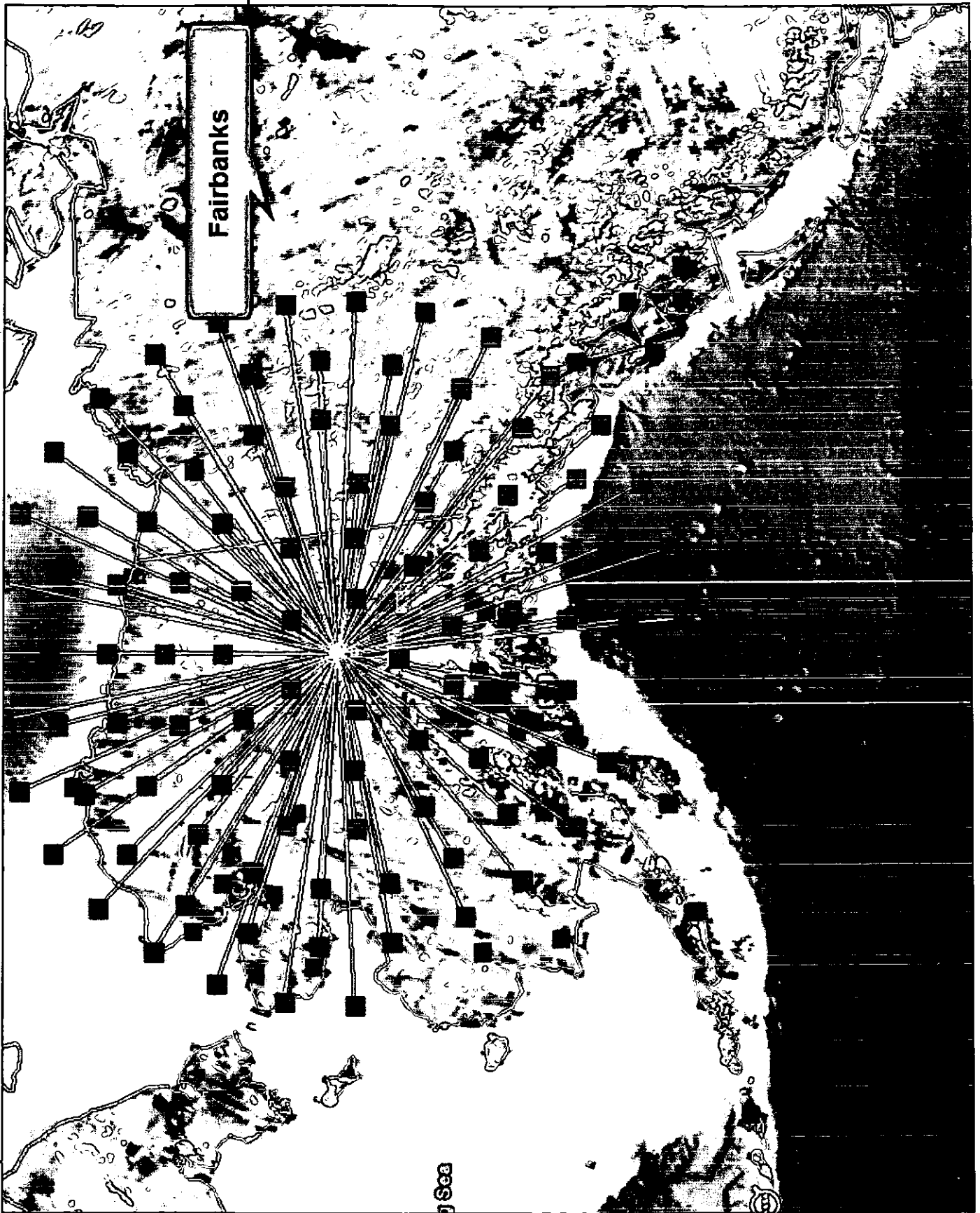
Anchorage

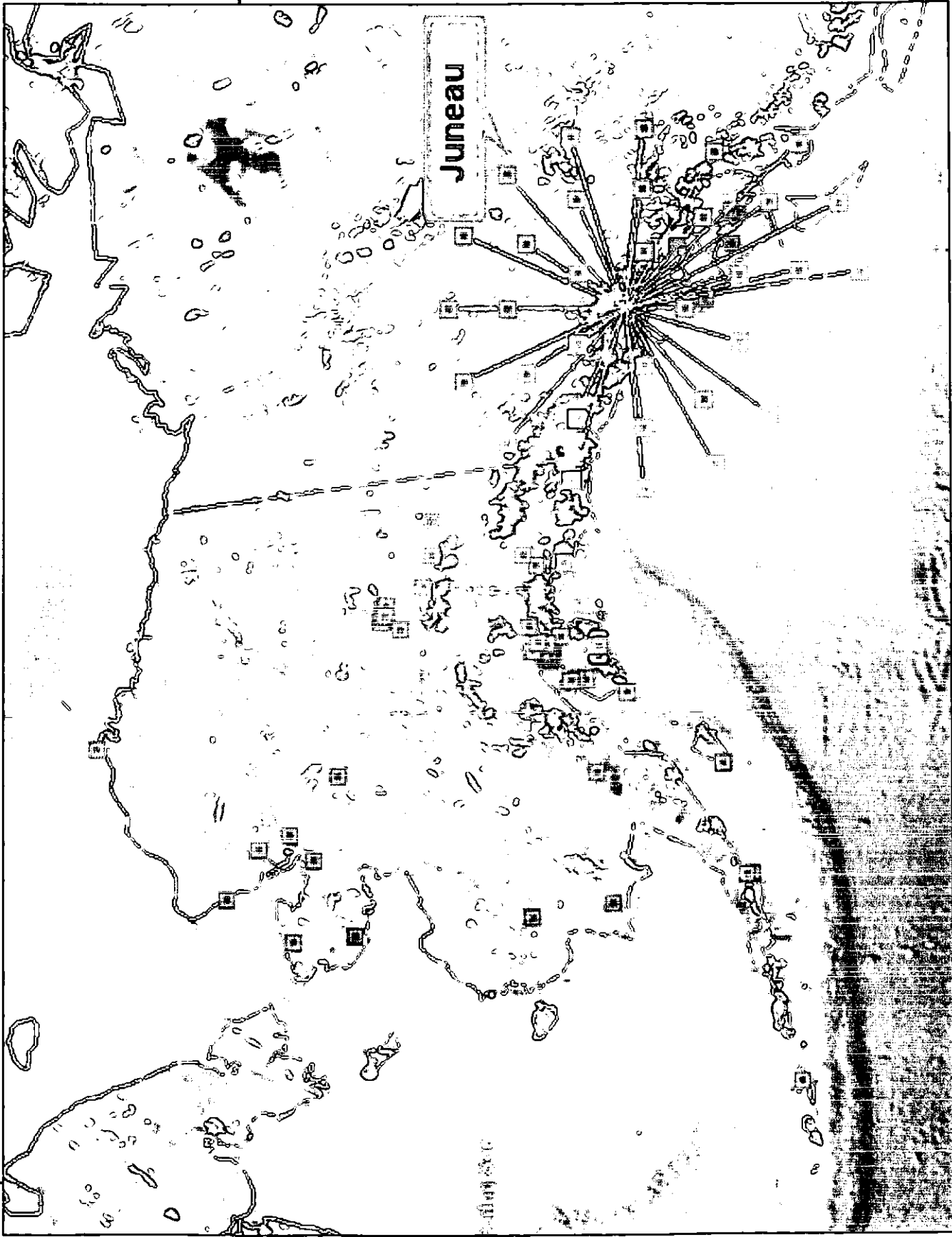
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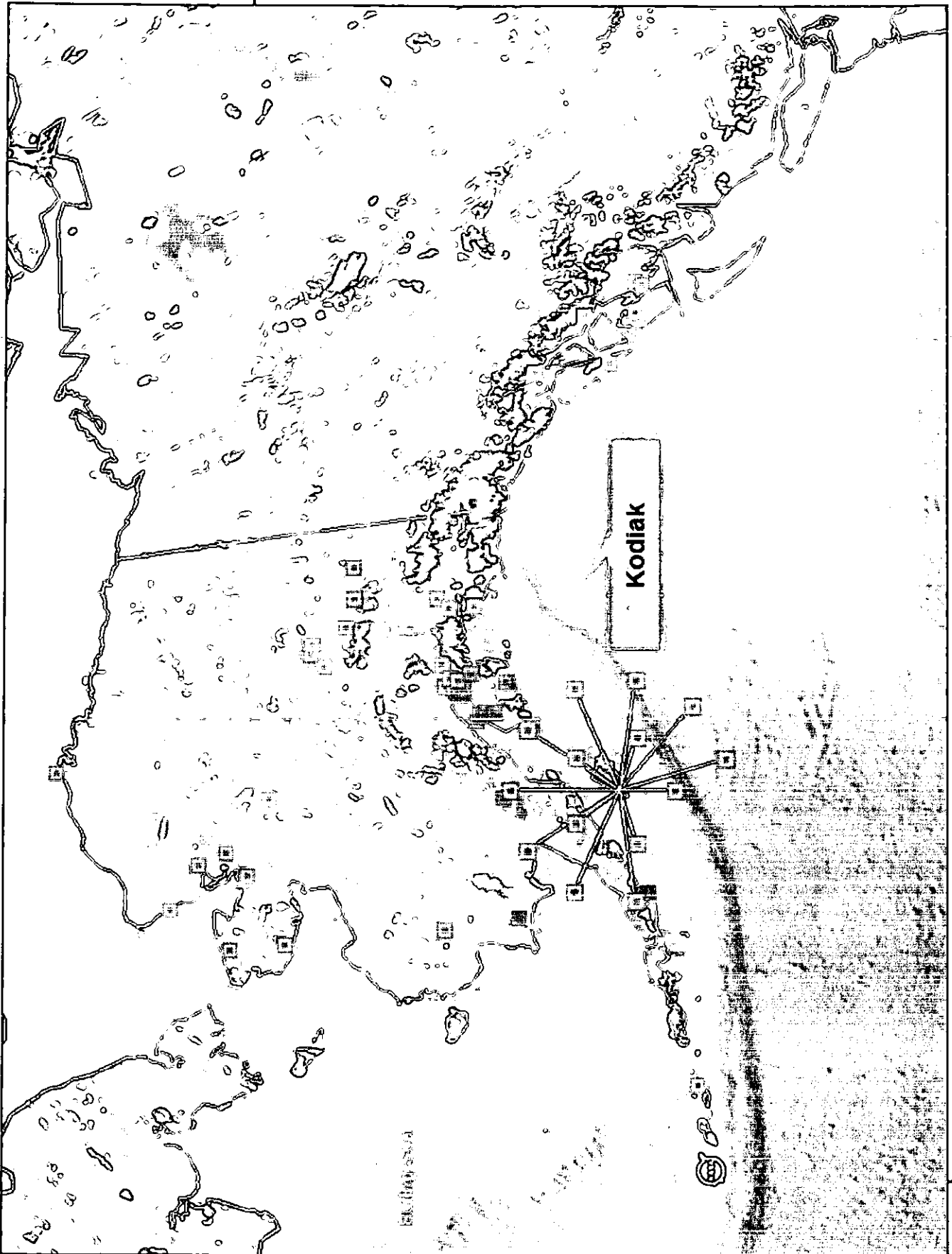
© 2008

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Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
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61° 23' 12" N, 149° 48' 24" W, elev. 1430 ft











- Thousands of leads available to LE
- NCMEC Leads
- Small Police Departments

# Computer and Financial Crime Unit Issues



Two different Missions

- 1. Computer Crime
- 2. Financial Crime

One Sergeant (Trooper)

Two Investigators (Trooper)

Two Long Term Non-Perm positions  
(recently funded by Legislature)



- CFCU expected to cover the entire State of Alaska and investigate all Financial Crime and Technology related offenses
- Expected to provide assistance to smaller Police Agencies
- Expected to Provide training and support
- Few "white collar" or "corruption" cases are actually being worked due to case load

# AST Response to ICAC Task Force



- Joined Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force last year
- Co-Located with Federal Agents, to include ICE, soon with FBI & USPIC
- Investigators trained in Peer to Peer Investigations, Forensics
- Recently hired one new investigator and one criminal justice tech II because of Legislature funding



- Invested heavily in Computer Forensic training to increase competency
- Invested heavily in equipment, to include software, forensic computers, cell phone analysis tools, server storage of evidence
- Conducted multi-agency search warrants
- Public Education, presentations
- Partnered with small police departments to provide assistance and training

# Results



## CFCU Computer Examinations

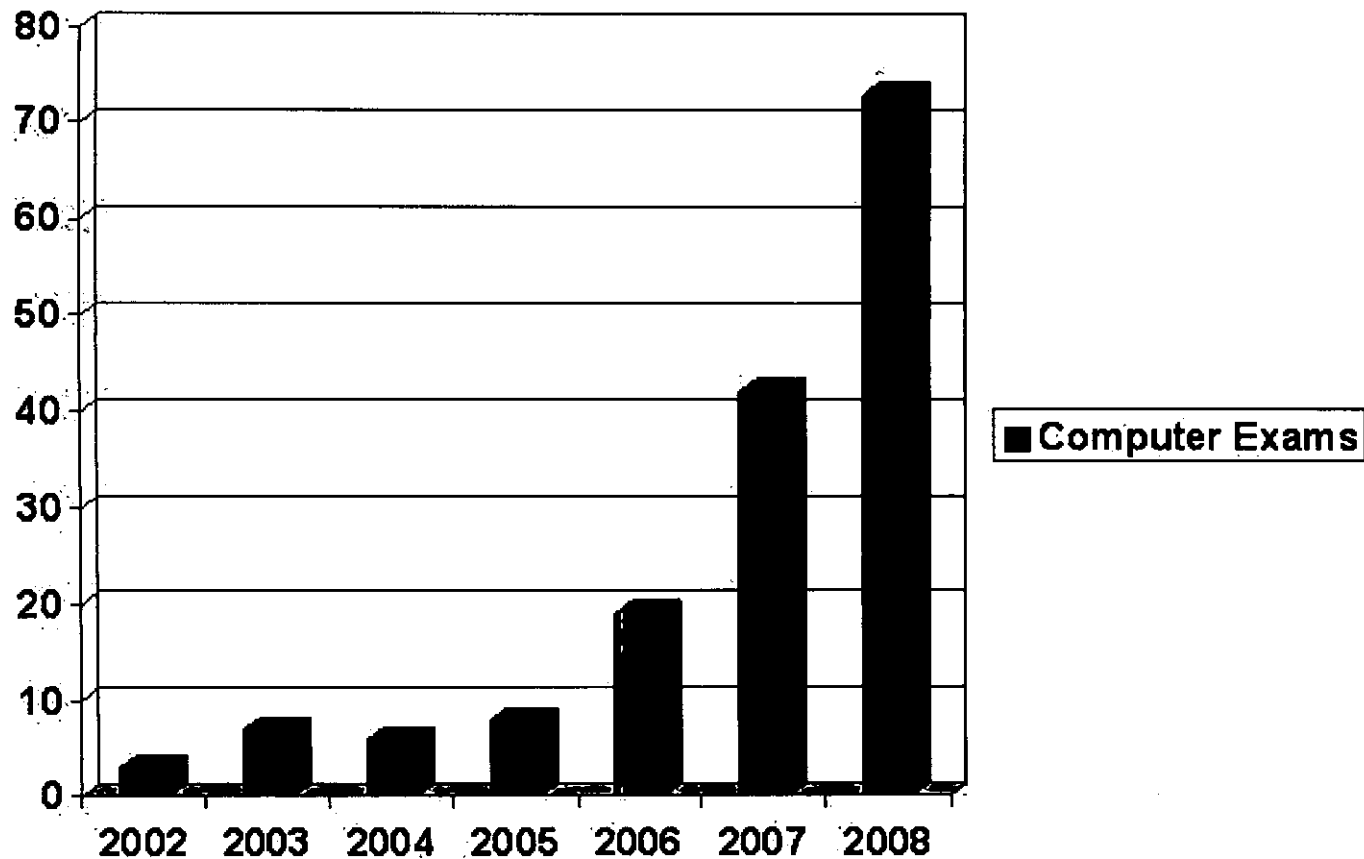
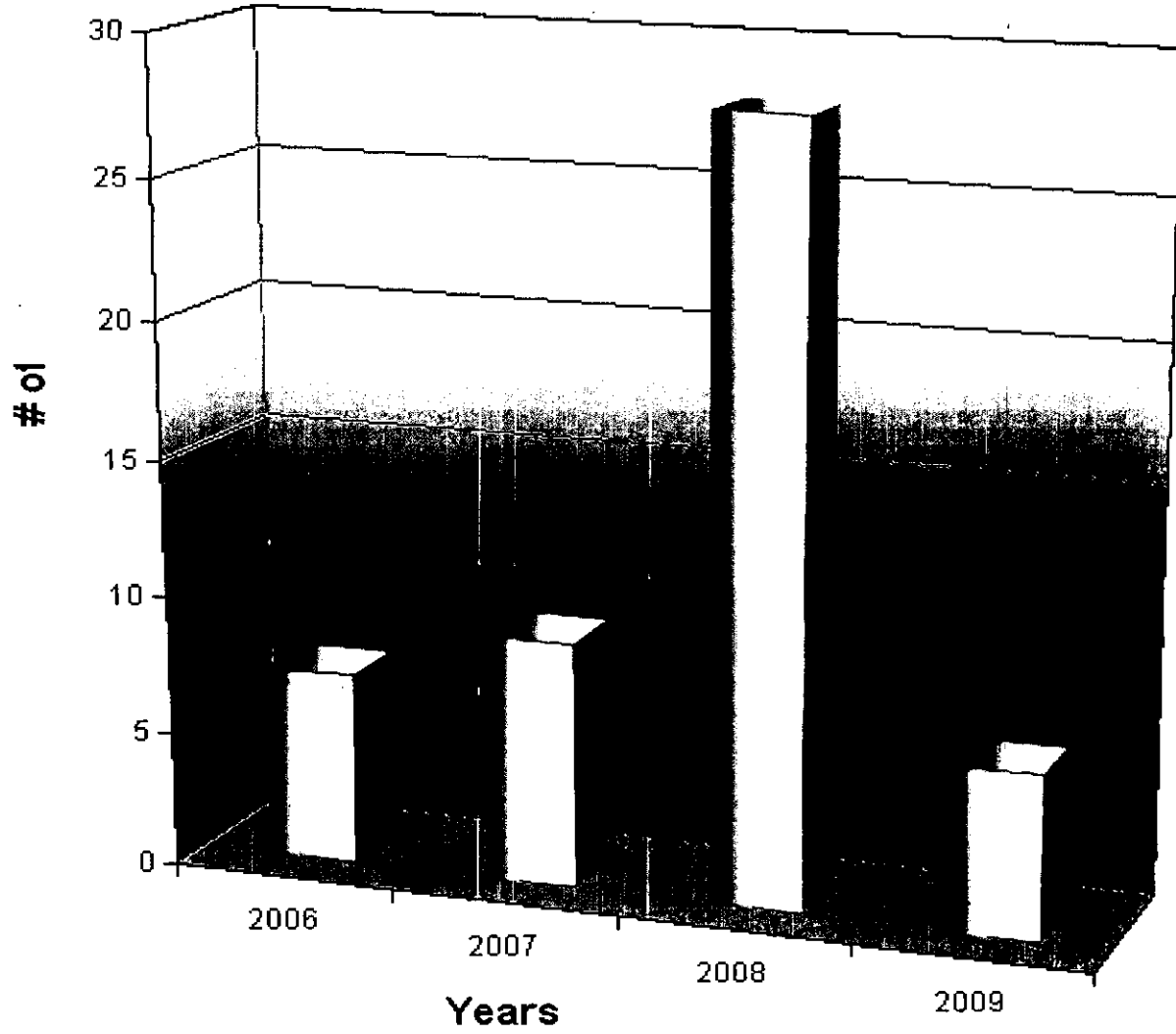


Chart Area

### Child Pornography/ICAC cases within ABI CFCU

January 1, 2006 - March 19, 2009

Source: APSII, 2009





- 400% increase in Child Exploitation Cases being investigated between 2006-2008
- We found the tip of the iceberg
- Problem is growing exponentially

# Successes



- NCMEC tip received by ABI for Palmer resident
- Defendant was arrested for distributing and possessing child pornography images
- Investigators found defendant was taking pictures with telephoto lens of neighbor children
- Recently sentenced to 12/4 years (8 years)



- Talkeetna man, a registered sex offender was found to be chatting on-line through game with 13 Y.O. in CA
- He was grooming victim
- He was previously arrested by APD for Child Pornography possession
- ABI found more Child Pornography, continued behavior



- Soldotna man, was arrested for possessing CP images, was found to be actively abusing autistic boy
- What cases are falling through the cracks?

# What is needed?



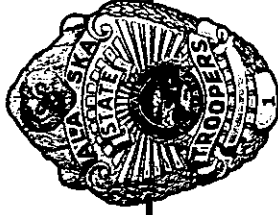
- Additional support for more ABI Investigators, including Forensic Computer Examiners
- Separate Financial Crime and Computer Crimes Units
- More directed response to rural residents of Alaska, they are not being adequately represented by LE

# Conclusion



- ICAC is very necessary
- Co-location of agencies is key
- We are headed in the right direction
- We must continue to protect Alaska's children with pro-active investigation
- More Investigators are required
- Disparity of LE response to Rural residents
- We are not there yet...

# Questions?



- [Derek.DeGraaf@alaska.gov](mailto:Derek.DeGraaf@alaska.gov)
- 907-271-3220



# Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force 2008



Det. Sgt. Ron Tidler  
APD Cyber Crimes Unit





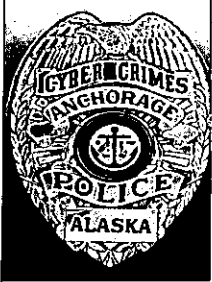
# Det. Sgt. Tidler Bio

- 1991- Reserve Police Officer Anchorage Police Dept.
- 1993- Patrol Officer- APD
- Mt. View CAP Team; FTO; Gang Task Force; Level One Commercial Motor Vehicle Inspector; FBI Certified Bomb Technician
- 2003- Promoted Patrol Sgt.
- 2004- Transferred to Detectives. Supervised Crime Investigation Unit- which later became VICE Unit; Supervised Burglary Unit.
- 2006- assisted with formation of Cyber Crimes Unit
- 2007- Cyber Crimes Unit officially created- assigned as Supervisor.



# APD Cyber Crimes Unit

- 2002-2005- several Detectives working with the Financial Crimes Unit and Crimes Against Children Unit receive training in Computer Forensics and On-line Peer to Peer training.
- 2006-2007- 5 Detectives are relocated to one small office- 3 forensic examiners; two online investigators.
- 2007- Cyber Crimes Unit officially created with a Supervisor assigned. Larger office space.
- Current staffing: 6 team members:
  - 1 Supervisor
  - 1 dedicated forensic examiner;
  - 1 on-line / cell phone examiner;
  - 1 on-line investigator;
  - 1 on-line / forensic examiner;
  - 1 forensic examiner- On military deployment since 12/07

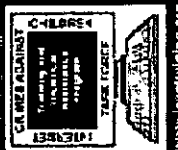
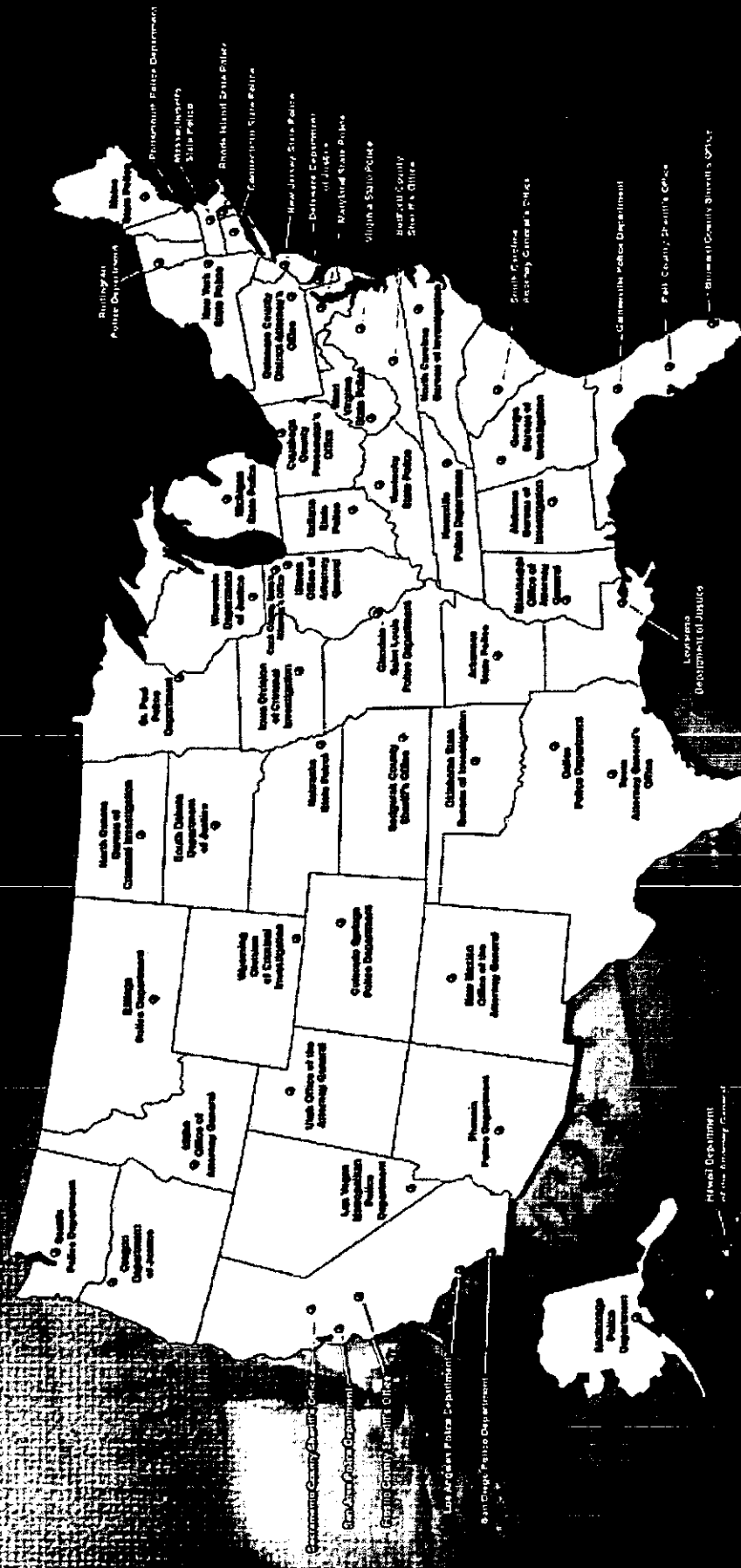


# Rise of the ICAC

- 1998 Office of Juvenile Justice Department (OJJDP) initiates Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce (ICAC)- 16 Task Forces created.
- Assists law enforcement in developing effective response to online sexual victimization of children.
- 2004- Alaska is an affiliate of the Seattle ICAC.
- 2005- Alaska Investigators trained on P2P.
- 2006- \$50,000 is designated for Alaska Affiliates.
- 2007- APD awarded \$300K 18 month Grant-
- 2008- Alaska ICAC TF created.



# OJJDP's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Forces





# North America at Night



# Alaska ICAC Federal Partners

- USAAK- Administrates PSC Program in Alaska; hosts TF Meetings; training; advice; Victim coordinator program.
- I.C.E. – resident agents; provides area for ICE and ABI to work together; pooling resources; joint investigations; foreign country investigation facilitation.
- FBI- Investigates; facilitates training / equipment; victim coordinator.
- US Postal Inspectors
- Military Investigators – AF OSI; Army CID; USN; & Coastguard

# Alaska State Affiliates

- Alaska Bureau Investigations- Anchorage and Fairbanks based Investigators
- Dept. Of Corrections- Adult Probations Office- Sex Offender Unit- Several P.O.'s trained
- District Attorney's Offices- several prosecutors from various offices.
- University Of Alaska- Anchorage PD- facilitates training and meetings.
- University Of Alaska- Fairbanks PD- trained investigator

# Local Affiliates

- Fairbanks Police Department- 1 investigator
- Kodiak Police Department- 1 investigator
- Sitka Police Department- 1 investigator
- Kenai Police Department- 1 investigator
- Soldotna Police Department- 1 investigator
- Unalaska Police Department- 1 investigator
- Juneau Police Department- 1 investigator

# 2008 Reported Statistics

Enter Name/Task Force:

ALASKA

Please submit stats form via e-mail by the 6th of each month.

Year: 2008

Page 1

Monthly Measures		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	SA1	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	SA2	YTD	
<b>Documented Complaints</b>	Traveler	Proactive	1					1								1	
		Reactive			1		1	3	5	1				1	2	7	
	Enticement	Proactive	4		1		1		6	3						3	9
		Reactive		1	1		1		3	1	3		1	1	3	9	12
	Obscenity Directed to Minors	Proactive	3		2				5	2	2					4	9
		Reactive					1	1	2	1	2				1	4	6
	Child Prostitution	Proactive						1	1	1				2		3	4
		Reactive											1	1	1	3	3
	<b>Child Pornography</b>	Manufacture	Proactive														
			Reactive										1			1	1
		Distribution	Proactive	5	5		2		1	13					1	1	14
			Reactive	5	3	4	1		2	15	2	4	1	1	1	1	10
Possession		Proactive	4	1	1	4	3	4	17	1		1	1	2		5	22
		Reactive	7	9	8	4	4	2	34	6	4	6	3	2	8	29	63

Enter Name/Task Force:		Please submit stats form via e-mail by the 6th of each month.											Year: 2008	Page 2			
ALASKA																	
Monthly Measures		Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	SA1	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	SA2	YTD	
Case Information	Arrests	7	2	2	2	4	1	18	1	2	3		1	3	10	28	
	Case Dispositions	Unfounded	1	2		1	3	1	8	1	2		2	3	2	10	18
		Suspended	2	2		4	3		11	2	6	2	1	2		13	24
		Plea	1		2			2	5		1		1		1	3	8
		Trial					1		1		1				1	2	3
	Case Referrals	Federal				2	1		3		2					2	5
		State	8	4	4	2	2	3	23	1			1	1	2	5	28
		Local								3	2				2	7	7
	Submitted for Federal Prosecution				3			1	4			1				1	5
	Accepted for Federal Prosecution				3				3								3
Submitted for State Prosecution		5	4	2	2	3	1	17	3	2	2	1		3	11	28	
Accepted for State Prosecution		5	4	2	2	3	1	17	3			1		3	7	24	
Goals	Cybertips Received*	8	5	2	1	4	1	21	17	4	2	2	4	6	35	56	
	CVIP Submissions (Cases)*	2	1	5			3	11	2	1		2			5	16	
	Affiliated Agencies Added*	2		6	3	1	3	15					1		1	16	
	Child Victims Identified	CVIP												1	1	2	2
		Cases*												1	1	2	2
Court Actions	Subpoenas or Court Orders	Federal			1	4		4	9	3	2	1	2	5	13	22	
		State/Local										1			1	1	
	Search Warrants	Federal		2		1		1	4		2	1			3	7	
		State/Local	17	7	16	7	13	9	69	8	6	5	3	2	11	35	104



# Adult Probations

- Sex Offender Home Visits
- Probations Officers trained in capturing data from computers, via a thumb drive installed software.
- For 2008- 223 Home visits conducted
- For 2008- 26 computers searched

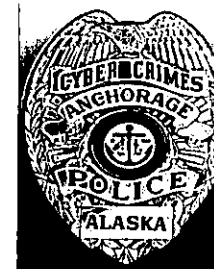
# Internet Undercover Investigations Training

- Jan 2005 Seattle WA
- Classroom Experiences
- Webcams
- Internet has made our world much smaller.....
- No laws in AK...until 11-28-2005

# Legislative Response

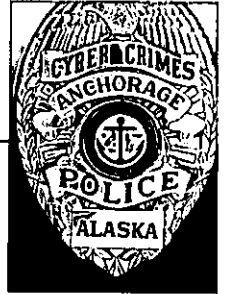
- SB 140 signed into law 8/30/2005 effective date 11-28-2005
- AS 11.41.452 Online Enticement of Minor
- AS 11.61.128 Electronic Distribution of Indecent Material to Minors

# AK ICAC TF Training



- American Prosecutors Research Institute conducts SAFETY NET training at Microsoft Headquarters in Redmond, WA.
- Team based training class combining Investigator; Examiner; and Prosecutor.
- AK ICAC Team comprised of APD Cyber Crime Examiner; A.B.I. Investigator; and Asst. D.A. for Prosecutor.
- Part of the training included mock courtroom settings with participants having to present evidence and instruct juries on such topics as Internet Chatting and File Sharing.

# Training Results



- **First conviction by a jury under Alaska's On-line Enticement Statute.**
- **Suspect had solicited minors- under the age of 16- for sex, and had electronically transmitted Indecent Images to the minors. The minors were actually undercover APD Investigators.**
- **12/8/08- James Clifton Moore-age 42- was convicted by an Anchorage Jury - Moore was found guilty on two counts of Online Enticement of a Minor and one count of the Electronic Distribution of Indecent Material to a Minor.**
- **ADA Prosecutor Aaron Sperbeck and the lead investigator had attended recent training in Redmond, WA, for courtroom presentations.**
- **Significant fact discussed during the proceedings: Investigators were following National ICAC Guidelines designed to catch online predators.**

# Where Did This Sexual Solicitation Occur?

## ○ Computer Location

- 70% at home
- 22% at someone else's home
- 4% at school
- 3% at library

## ○ Internet

- 65% in chatrooms
- 24% in Instant Messages

# Messengers

- AOL® Instant Messenger™ Service, ICQ Instant Messenger, Yahoo!® Messenger, MSN Messenger
- Online Internet "buddy" locators
- Allow file transfer, chat, and messaging
- Voice and video chat

G?????07-Instant Messenger

File Edit Insert People 07's Warning Level: 0%

yesterday and won 2-0  
020: cool. how many games do you have left

A A A A A B I U

Send

surfer-Instant Messenger

Insert People

?????surfer-Instant Messenger

Edit Insert People

????surfer: just adding and subtracting  
 ???surfer: subtracting\*  
 ???020: bad  
 ???surfer: nah

A A A B I U

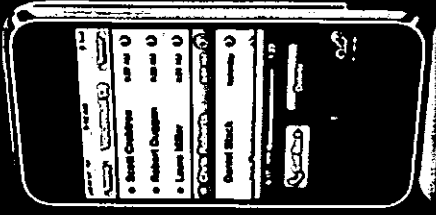
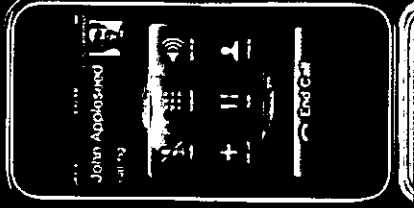
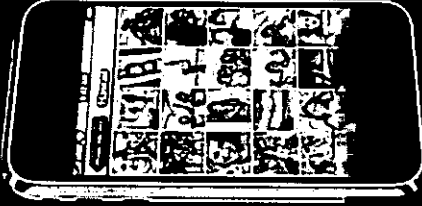
????020: i know! he's awesome!!

Send

A A A A A B I U

Send

# Cellular Telephones



• Easy Access to the Internet

• Share and post digital photographs

• Send and receive text messages

# Dynamics of a Peer 2 Peer Investigation

- Investigator goes online with proper training and equipment.
- Identifies Alaska based suspect who is actively sharing suspected Child Sexual Exploitation images.
- Records and downloads the images.
- Obtains Search warrant for identifying suspect from ISP.
- Conducts surveillance / field work on suspect.
- Obtain search warrant for suspect residence / work / interview.
- Plan / prepare / execute search warrant- seize evidence.
- Conduct forensic examination of digital media- sometimes this is done in field, at suspect's location.
- Analyze data- submit to NCMEC CVIP program.
- Consult with DA / AUSA for appropriate charges.
- Arrest and prosecute Suspect.

# Peacock Case Study

## APD #08-26835

- **6/13/08-** Anchorage Investigator generated a new Peer To Peer case involving an Alaskan suspect actively sharing child pornography on the internet.
- **6/20/08-** Anchorage Investigator continues to work up the Peer-to-Peer file sharing case, with the suspect, **JESS PEACOCK, Age 24**, identified in Barrow. **PEACOCK** works on the Slope at Kuparak Oil Field. Working directly with Conoco Phillips, transportation is secured from Anchorage to Kuparak for a search warrant. North Slope Police Department is contacted for assistance conducting the Barrow residential Search warrant.
- **6/27/08-** Two Anchorage Investigators travel to Kuparak Oil Field Camp on the North Slope, courtesy of Conoco Philips transportation. Suspect is contacted, and after some initial denials, when confronted with his documented online activity, he provides a detailed confession. **PEACOCK'S** laptop computer was discovered in his sleeping quarters, turned on and actively downloading and sharing Child Pornography titled internet files, while he worked his shift. North Slope Borough PD served a search warrant at **PEACOCK'S** home in Barrow, resulting in over 75 items of evidence being seized, and shipped to Anchorage. Conoco Phillip's has expressed that they were impressed with the professionalism displayed by the Investigators.

# Peacock Case Study

## Continued...

- **08/08/08**- Investigators conduct computer forensics on the seized evidence.
- **08/22/08**- Forensic component is completed. Investigators now coordinate with ADA Rural Prosecutor.
- **09/05/08**- **Charging documents filed on Peacock.**
- **12/5/08**- JESS PEACOCK- accepts Plea Deal 6 years 4 suspended- one count Possession of CP.
- **3/4/09**- Peacock sentenced.

# Traveler Case

## Danny M. Harvey- 47yo

### **California man faces 55 years in prison**

- The Associated Press
- November 23rd, 2008 12:13 AM  
A federal jury has convicted a California man who faced several child exploitation charges.
- Federal prosecutors say Danny Michael Harvey, of Lancaster, Calif., was convicted of: attempted aggravated sexual abuse, which carries a mandatory minimum 30 years in prison; attempted manufacture of child pornography, carrying a maximum term of 15 years in prison; and possession of child pornography, carrying an additional maximum term of 10 years in prison.
- Prosecutors say Harvey came to Alaska intending to sexually abuse a 5-year-old girl.
- The girl was the fictitious granddaughter of a federal agent posing as a grandfather with sole custody.

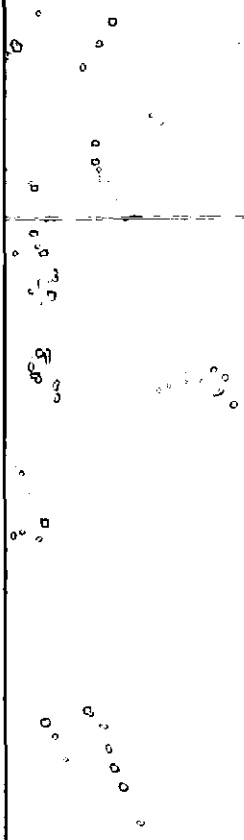
# 2009 Considerations

- Mobile Internet Devices
- Sexting
- Public Safety Administration in several Local agencies currently are limiting availability of personnel to attend training, and also conduct proactive investigations, based on personnel shortages.

# Alaska ICAC Task Force monthly meetings

- Hosted by the Assistant US Attorney's Office in Anchorage.
- Monthly meetings where ICAC members can also attend telephonically.
- Case review; educational opportunities; industry trends; and requests for assistance are conducted.
- Pooling limited resources to target challenges faced by investigators and prosecutors.

Do we have child porn  
collectors/traders in Alaska?



# Challenges

- A study conducted by APD Cyber Crimes Detectives showed that in January of 2008, there were over 5,000 Internet Protocol (IP) addresses in Alaska, that had suspected known images of Child Pornography.
- In January of 2009, the number has increased to over 11,000 IP addresses unique to Alaska.
- A recent study documented by the Federal Government (Hernandez Study) of convicted sex offenders showed that over 80% of persons arrested for possession of Child Pornography had already committed an undisclosed contact Child Sexual Abuse. The nature of the investigations alone demand attention by Law Enforcement.

# Alaska has highest per-capita usage of Internet

<u>State</u>	<u>Internet</u>	<u>PC</u>
Alaska	68.5%	73.4%
Utah	62.6%	74.1%
N.H.	65.5%	71.7%
WA	62.3%	71.4%
CO	63.4%	70.3%

Source: US Census Bureau

## Utah tops nation in Web porn-site subscribers

At more than five broadband users per thousand population, Utah leads the nation in subscriptions to internet adult entertainment sites. Montana is lowest at 1.92 per thousand.

### Top 10 states

State	Rate per 1,000
Utah	5.47
Alaska	5.03
Mississippi	4.30
Hawaii	3.61
Oklahoma	3.21
Arkansas	3.12
N. Dakota	3.05
Louisiana	3.01
Florida	3.01
W. Virginia	2.94

### Bottom 10 states

State	Rate per 1,000
Montana	1.92
Idaho	1.98
Tennessee	2.13
Ohio	2.20
Oregon	2.21
New Jersey	2.27
Delaware	2.28
Connecticut	2.28
Wyoming	2.29
Michigan	2.32

Source: Harvard Business School

The Salt Lake Tribune

# Children that establish close Online Relationships

- 69% live in small town/rural or suburbs vs 29% in big cities/towns
- Children age 10-17 considered in study mean age 14.78
- Source: Crimes Against Children Research Center UNH 2003

# Teens increasingly active online...

- 71% of teens have online profiles on social networking websites
- 69% of teens receive online messages from strangers
- 64% post photos or videos of themselves
- 58% post info about where they live

Source: Cox/NECMEC survey

## Cont....

- Females far more likely to post personal photos or videos of themselves
- Nearly one in ten have posted their cell phone number online
- 20% of teens report being bullied online, this figure is on the rise.

Source: Cox/NECMEC survey 03/2007

# What we know about children's use of the Internet

- On average children/teens use the Internet about 5 hrs per week

- Homework 80%
- E-Mail 70%
- Games 69%
- Music 50%
- Chatting IM 42%

Nielsen/NetRatings

# Online Victimization

- 1 in 3 are exposed to unwanted sexual material
- 1 in 7 received a sexual solicitation
- 45 million children ages 10 to 17 use the Internet
- 60% have received an E-mail or IM from someone they didn't know
  
- Source: Crimes Against Children Research Center UNH

## Parental Involvement (What kids say)

**20% Parents do not supervise**

**52% Parents moderately supervise**

**71% Parents stop after age 14**

**72% Internet related missing children are above age 15**

**62% Teens say parents know little or nothing about Internet/Computers**

Source U.S. Attorney Generals Cyber Crimes Unit



- [WWW.MYSPACE.COM](http://WWW.MYSPACE.COM) est. Jan 2004
- Over 200 Million Registered Users Worldwide
- 350,000 new registrants daily
- 61% of kids 13-17 have MySpace page
- It splits 50.2% male, 49.8% female



**MySpace** is a social networking website offering an interactive network of photos, blogs, user profiles, groups, and an internal e-mail system. As of February 2006 it is the world's fifth most popular English language website (according to Alexa Internet[1]). MySpace has outstripped competitors such as Friendster and LiveJournal to become the most popular English language social networking website with higher traffic and over 59 million users. It is representative of both internet culture and teenage culture.

# Alaskan MySpace Pages

- Random Sample from Anchorage, Mat Su Valley & Bethel
- Several presentations audience members knew children in photos...
- Items posted online are potentially there forever....With no expectation of privacy...

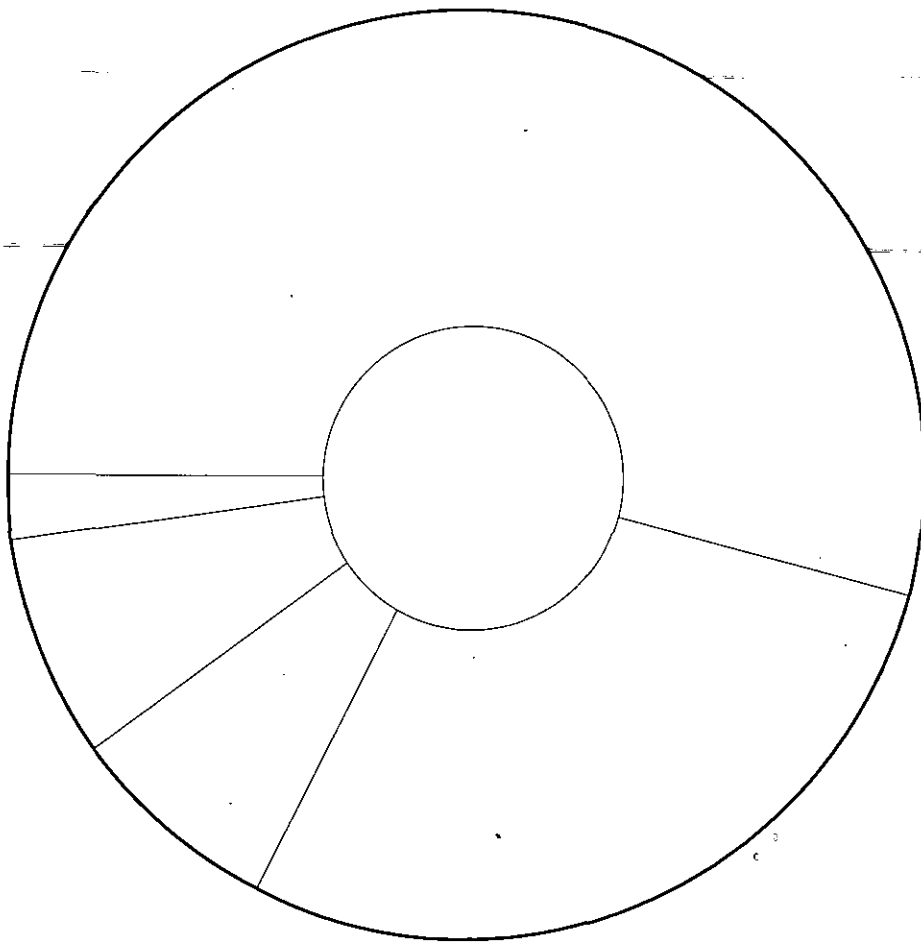
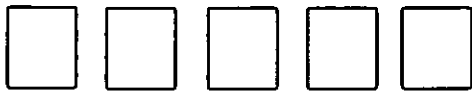
## Other Websites Popular with Alaskan Kids

- [www.wouldyouhitthis.com](http://www.wouldyouhitthis.com)
- Over 2000 teenage girls registered in the Anch/Valley area
- Profiles/private pics/IM/Search capability
- [www.ratemypic.com](http://www.ratemypic.com)
- [www.hotornot.com](http://www.hotornot.com)
- [www.bebo.com](http://www.bebo.com)

April 16, 2007

Child pornography on the Internet is becoming more brutal and graphic, and the number of images depicting violent abuse has risen fourfold since 2003

British-based Internet Watch Foundation

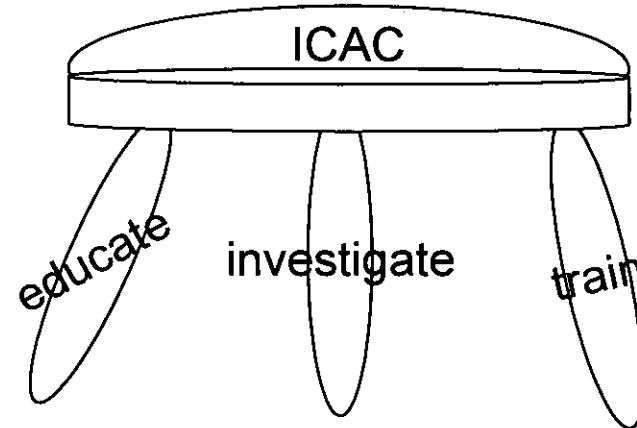


# Internet Safety Resources

- [www.netsmartz411.org](http://www.netsmartz411.org)
- [www.webwisekids.com](http://www.webwisekids.com)
- [www.ikeepsafe.org](http://www.ikeepsafe.org)
- [www.wiredsafety.org](http://www.wiredsafety.org)
- [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) (search Internet Safety)
- [www.childsafenet.org](http://www.childsafenet.org)
- [www.muni.org/apd](http://www.muni.org/apd) (Internet Safety)

# How Do We Fight This?

- NATIONAL ICAC MODEL
- “Three leg stool”
- Education
- Investigation
- Training



# What Do We Need?

- Support- These investigations should be at a top priority for agencies involved.
- We need to continue to focus our efforts; pool resources; dedicate personnel; equipment; and funds to this effort.
- Current funding and staffing dedicated to this effort in Alaska is inadequate- realistically, we are targeting less than 1% of the estimated offenders. We will not arrest ourselves out of this problem- education- parental involvement- awareness is the long term solution.



## PARENT RESOURCE CENTER

FOR KIDS

FOR EDUCATORS

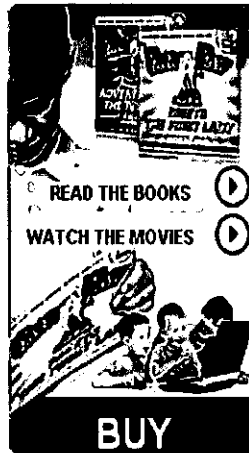
YOUR STATE

From the First Lady  
Choose Your StateNEW! VIDEO ADS ON  
INTERNET SAFETY NEW!

OUR PARTNERS

ABOUT IKEEPSAFE

IKEEPSAFE ESTORE NEW!



## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR STATE



## To the parents in Alaska:

The Internet is a powerful tool. As with any tool, we must instruct our children on how to use it safely. A recent study by the University of New Hampshire showed that one in five young people using the Internet received an online sexual solicitation in a one-year period. In an alarming 15% of those cases, the solicitor attempted to meet the child in person.

With the growing risk that the Internet poses to our children, I hope that this site will aid you as you teach your children to protect themselves from Internet predators.

To report a problem anytime, call 1-800-843-5678. This will connect you to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Or you can visit the Center's website at [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com).

Thank you for your commitment to our shared priority of protecting children.

Sincerely,  
Governor  
Sarah Palin



State of Alaska  
Governor Sarah Palin

## YOUR STATE MESSAGE



## STATE LINKS

- [Governor Sarah Palin](#)

## Alaska ICAC Task Force 2009

In a three day training period from 3/3-5/09, APD Cyber Crimes Investigators conducted Peer 2 Peer training for 3 Alaska State Trooper / ABI investigators.

During this training, Proactive investigations were initiated with potential suspects located in Fairbanks; Kotzebue; Bethel; and Anchorage.

# Summary

- It is evident, based on our experience, that Alaska's interest in safeguarding the physical and psychological well-being of a minor is compelling.
- The victimization of a child continues when that act is memorialized in an image. The materials produced are a permanent record of the children's participation and the harm to the child is exacerbated by their circulation. Unfortunately, the victimization of the children involved does not end when the pornographer's camera is put away.
- Research has shown that the use of children as subjects of pornographic materials is harmful to the physiological, emotional, and mental health of the child.
- The possession of child pornography drives that industry and...the production of child pornography will decrease if those who possess the product are punished equally with those who produce it.
- The law will decrease the production of child pornography if it penalizes those who possess and view the product, thereby decreasing demand.
- The possession of child pornography inflames the desires of child molesters, pedophiles and child pornographers. Alaska has more than a passing interest in forestalling the damage caused by child pornography: preventing harm to children is one of its most important interests.

Thank you for your attention and  
concern for Alaska's Children

Det. Sgt. Ron Tidler  
Anchorage Police Dept.  
Cyber Crimes Unit  
Alaska ICAC Task Force  
786-2679

## AK ICAC Task Force 2008

### Background

Over the past decade, the tremendous proliferation of computers connected to the Internet led to a skyrocketing number of Internet crimes against children. In the year 2008, the Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force recorded the following:

- 176 investigations involving unlawful images of the sexual exploitation of minors.
- 56 incidents of Internet crimes against children reported from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Cybertip hotline.
- 29 cases of the Internet facilitated luring of minors for sexual exploitation.
- 7 reported incidents of Internet related child prostitution.

### Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children

In the twelve months between January 2008 and December 2008, a joint task force of Alaska and Federal investigators conducted a series of proactive Cyber crime enforcement operations targeting Internet criminals committing sex crimes against children; including the trafficking of unlawful images depicting the sexual exploitation of minors. This was done in conjunction with an education effort geared towards Internet crime prevention and awareness.

### Law Enforcement Agencies

Investigators and Prosecutors affiliated with 16 law enforcement agencies partnered with the Alaska ICAC Task Force in a cooperative effort during 2008. Agencies participating included (alphabetically):

- Alaska Adult Probations- Sex Offender Unit (Investigations)
- Alaska Bureau Investigations (investigations and training)
- Alaska District Attorney Office (education and training)
- Anchorage PD - (investigation and enforcement)
- Fairbanks PD - (investigation and enforcement)
- F.B.I. - (investigation and enforcement)
- I.C.E. - (investigation and enforcement)
- Juneau PD (investigations)
- Kenai PD - (investigation and enforcement)
- Kodiak PD - (investigation and enforcement)
- Military Investigators (investigations)
- Sitka PD (investigations)
- Soldotna PD - (investigation and enforcement)
- Unalaska PD - (investigation and enforcement)
- U.S. Attorney's Alaska Office - (prosecution)

- U. S. Postal Inspection Service - (investigations)
- UAA PD (facilitation / support)
- UAF PD (investigations)

### The Investigators' Work

Trained investigators endured witnessing disturbing cyber images and videos depicting brutal sexual torture of actual children. They use sophisticated computer investigative techniques combined with undercover tactics to identify offenders. They conducted surveillance operations, requested subpoenas, and wrote and executed dozens of search warrants. They seized thousands of items of computer evidence. Detectives and special agents conducted computer forensics examinations to identify contraband images. They interrogated offenders and interviewed witnesses. They conducted exhaustive searches of dwellings and wrote voluminous reports on their activities.

The proactive investigators agreed to participate in this undercover operation in addition to their regular duties that involve responding to citizens' complaints of Internet crimes. Through their proactive efforts investigators and special agents sought justice for thousands of children who could not call 911. Their fine efforts are greatly appreciated. They will work closely with prosecutors to prepare for trials.

Cases pursued by local agencies under Alaska State Law have been submitted to the local Alaska District Attorney's Office. Cases pursued by federal agencies under the US Code have been submitted to US Attorney's Office for the Alaska District. The justice system considers all suspects innocent until proven guilty in court.

### Penalties

Unlawful images depicting the Sexual Exploitation of minors are described under Alaska State law in AS 11.41.455. Possession of these images is a class C felony under Alaska State law AS 11.61.127.

The luring and enticement of minors for sexual exploitation is described under Alaska State law in AS 11.41.452. It is a class C felony.

### Training and Education

During the 2008 calendar year, members of the Alaska ICAC Task Force have attended training, funded in large part by the Alaska ICAC Grant.

Examples of the training classes attended during 2008:

- ICAC Training & Technical Assistance Program (ICAC T&TA) – Investigative techniques course
- ICAC T&TA- Undercover Chat Investigations Program
- ICAC T&TA- Unit Supervisor Training Program
- ICAC T&TA- Project Safe Childhood(PSC) Team Training

- PSC and ICAC National Conference- several training seminars
- Safety Net Prosecutor Team training
- Access Data Forensic Tool Kit training
- Encase basic and advance software training
- National White Collar Crime Conference-(NWC3)
- BK Forensics- Cell Phone Forensic course.
- Access Data Windows registry training

In January 2009, several AK ICAC Members attended the International Consumer Electronic Show, the premier showcase of all the new digital media products that are being developed and marketed.

On March 3-6, 2009, APD Cyber Crimes Unit conducted Peer 2 Peer training for ABI Investigators. This training allows ABI investigators the ability to go on-line proactively to target individuals who are collecting and trading electronic images depicting Child Sexual Exploitation. Alaska ICAC members also conduct public safety presentations bringing the message of Internet safety to children and adults.

Organizations that can provide more information about Internet crime prevention:

- Anchorage Police Department- Internet Safety: [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org)
- Enough is Enough: [www.enough.org](http://www.enough.org)
- FBI: [www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm](http://www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm)
- Get Net Wise: [www.getnetwise.org](http://www.getnetwise.org)
- ICE: [www.ice.gov/pi/childexploitation/index.htm](http://www.ice.gov/pi/childexploitation/index.htm)
- ISafe: [www.isafe.org](http://www.isafe.org)
- National Association to Protect Children: [www.protect.org](http://www.protect.org)
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Netsmartz Program: [www.netsmartz.org](http://www.netsmartz.org)

#### More Information

#### Alaska ICAC Task Force

The Alaska Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force efforts are partially funded by grants from the US Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. The ICAC program is a nationwide network of 59 state task forces representing 1,800 local and regionally affiliated agencies engaged in investigations, forensics examinations, prosecutions and community education. We are pleased to know that the recently announced Federal stimulus package provides a much needed \$50 million dollar nationwide boost to the program. We hope to see some of those funds in Alaska.

Within Alaska, the ICAC Task Force is affiliated or partnered with 16 law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies statewide. Since 2008, Alaska detectives and special agents have conducted over 176 investigations resulting in the incarceration of 28 offenders.

## Unlawful Images

Images depicting the sexual exploitation of minors are commonly called child pornography. The images and videos are contraband. The images that investigators found were not of babies in bathtubs. Some of the unlawful videos included acts of bestiality between minors and animals including the horrible audio sounds of human suffering. Detailed descriptions of the images will not be fully provided here.

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## 2008 Alaska ICAC Task Force Frequently Asked Questions

- What undercover tactics are used?
  - We cannot release details of our tactics because investigations are still underway using the same undercover techniques. Those details will probably not be available until they come out at trial.
- Are the search warrant affidavits public records?
  - Affidavits are sealed by the courts because the investigations using these same techniques are continuing.
- Are these investigations into chat rooms and social networking sites?
  - Many avenues of cyberspace, including but not limited to chat rooms and social networking sites were investigated during this year.
- Are these investigations into P2P file sharing?
  - Many avenues of cyberspace, including but not limited to P2P sources were investigated during this year.
- Where on the Internet were the suspects found?
  - We cannot release that information because investigations are still pending using the same undercover tactics. Those details will not be available until trial.
- Was this an organized ring of people working together?
  - At this time the evidence does not indicate that the offenders know of each others activities.
- What training did the investigators have in order to work on these cases?
  - The average investigator assigned to conduct these investigations has received over several hundred hours of specialized training specific to Internet crimes and/or computer forensics coursework.
- Are the images and videos available for viewing pursuant to a public records request?
  - No - Images depicting the sexual exploitation of minors are contraband. Even in a courtroom setting, the prosecutors try to protect the gallery, the media and everyone but the judge, jury, defense and prosecution from seeing the images.
- Can citizens go on-line and volunteer to go undercover like they did on Dateline with Perverted Justice?
  - Citizen cyber-vigilantism is not supported by the agencies involved in this enforcement operation.
- Can the media "ride along" and accompany the cyber crime investigators?
  - Because child pornography is contraband, we do not permit anyone except those investigating or prosecuting the offenses to be exposed to the images.

- Media exposure of our undercover investigative tactics will make our jobs more difficult by making offenders aware of the techniques we use.
- What Internet safety tips can you provide to citizens about unlawful images?
    - Homeowners: Pay attention to what is occurring on your home computer. Take responsibility for the control of your computer.
    - Business owners: Watch what your employees are doing on their work computers. Law enforcement intervention can result in an embarrassing disruption of services to your customers.
    - Parents: Monitor your child's use of cell phone cameras. A troubling number of minors are using cell phone cameras to create felony images depicting the sexual exploitation of themselves and others. The images are then being shared throughout cyberspace and the images will never be retrieved.
  - What Internet safety tips can you provide to citizens about luring/enticement?
    - Parents: Closely monitor your child's use of the computer and know who your child is contacting on line. Be aware that some children have multiple on line profiles. They may show one profile to their parents while keeping another secret profile that they use to communicate with friends and strangers.
    - Also, while you are protecting your children at home, be aware that some children go to places where free Internet access is provided to communicate with others. Coffee shops, libraries and colleges offer free Internet service where young people may be communicating with predators.
  - Were any "hands on" contact victims discovered as the result of these investigations?
    - Yes – We also have encouraged the families and friends of other suspects to call us if they wish to report contact offenses. We know that victims are understandable reluctant to come forward for fear of embarrassment and because they do not wish to relive the abuse by subjecting themselves to the criminal justice system. We know from the scientific research conducted on the subject of unlawful images that a significant number of possessors are also contact offenders. We encourage victims to report abuse so that we can bring offenders to justice. Complicating our investigative endeavors is the fact that it is impossible for some of the victims, who are as young as infants, to notify the police. How can you call 911 when you are not yet old enough to count or to use a telephone?
  - Are women ever arrested for Internet crimes against children?
    - Sometimes, but 99% of the offenders in these cases are men. During this time period, no women were arrested.
  - Where can I go on-line for more information?
    - Anchorage Police Department Internet Safety Tips: [www.muni.org](http://www.muni.org)
    - Enough is Enough: [www.enough.org](http://www.enough.org)
    - FBI: [www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm](http://www.fbi.gov/innocent.htm)
    - Get Net Wise: [www.getnetwise.org](http://www.getnetwise.org)

- ICE: [www.ice.gov/pi/childexploitation/index.htm](http://www.ice.gov/pi/childexploitation/index.htm)
- ISafe: [www.isafe.org](http://www.isafe.org)
- National Association to Protect Children: [www.protect.org](http://www.protect.org)
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Netsmartz Program:  
[www.netsmartz.org](http://www.netsmartz.org)

- What is the number to call to report Internet crimes against children?

- Local crimes can be reported through the telephone 911 service.
- The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children operates the Cybertip line **1-800-843-5678**, where crimes can be reported on-line. The web site is:  
[www.cybertipline.com](http://www.cybertipline.com)

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