

**Statewide Illegal Drug and Alcohol Use****FY2004 Request: \$2,000,000****Reference No: 38477****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Health and Safety**Category:** Public Protection**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Karen Morgan, Director, DAS**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-5488**Estimated Project Dates:** 10/01/2003 - 09/30/2005**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Rural Alaska continues to suffer serious, life threatening effects from use of illicit drugs and alcohol. This federal grant will allow the state to enhance the efforts of state troopers, local law enforcement, and community policing teams to reduce illicit drugs and alcohol. The use of these illicit substances increases the prevalence of violent crimes such as homicide, sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries and serious domestic violence assaults in rural Alaska.

<b>Funding:</b>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$2,000,000						\$2,000,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

**Operating & Maintenance Costs:**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	373,600	5
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>373,600</b>	<b>5</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

Chapter 1, SSSLA 2002, page 45, line 15 - \$2,000,000

**Project Description/Justification:**

Recognizing that the Division of Alaska State Troopers currently has programs in place that work to address many of the issues discussed above, this project is designed to supplement the efforts that are currently supported with resources provided by the division's general fund operating budget as well as by federal funds received from the Byrne Formula Grant program and other discretionary funds.

Many aspects of the drug and alcohol problem are unique to Alaska. The troopers assigned to the Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit (SDEU), and all other Alaska state troopers strive to provide for a continuing and coordinated effort that not only meets the needs of Alaska as a whole, but also the needs of the local communities at the lowest grassroots level. The Alaska state troopers have developed a strategy that will have an immediate and long-term affect on the quality of life within the state.

It is anticipated that by utilizing an aggressive multi-faceted approach, significant in-roads can be made towards eradicating some problems, limiting others, or in the case of alcohol, possibly changing social values in order to improve the long-term quality of life in affected communities.

This project is designed to enable the state to aggressively increase its illegal drug and alcohol enforcement efforts through increased manpower, investigative resources, and partnership with the communities. It is planned that five

retired law enforcement investigators will be hired and tasked with drug and alcohol investigations or investigations of serious felony crimes.

**Problem:** Rural Alaska continues to suffer the effects from use of illicit drugs and alcohol. The Alaska state troopers, along with the rural police departments, are faced with the following increasing problems:

- ✍ The illicit production of marijuana:
  1. Continues to grow as a commercial enterprise.
  2. The industry supplies large amounts of very high quality marijuana to all regions of Alaska as well as other states.
  3. This activity corrupts social values, erodes the efforts of drug education programs, and feeds an underground economy based on drug monies.
- ✍ Rural Alaska leads the state in violent crimes, such as homicide, sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries and serious domestic violence assaults. The majority of crimes are connected to alcohol or other substance abuse.
- ✍ Clandestine methamphetamine laboratories: With the increased number and awareness of the problem of clandestine methamphetamine laboratories, there is a need for federal, state, and local investigators to respond and dismantle, seize evidence and eradicate highly dangerous chemicals and hazardous waste. Decontamination of responding personnel is required at the site of each lab investigation.

**Proposal:** Community Policing: With limited law enforcement personnel in rural Alaska, help is critically needed from the local community residents. This can be accomplished by forming community policing teams comprised of community members and local law enforcement. Community policing teams can use community policing components such as community mobilization, problem solving, and action planning. Community policing teams will be established consisting of approximately six to seven members per community, including one or two law enforcement representatives. After receiving three days of training in a hub community on developing community policing teams, the teams would meet to identify community problems and develop community action plans to resolve or improve community problems. Because of the vastness of the state and the many small communities, funds will be required for air transportation and community policing team-training costs.

Enforcement: Funds are needed to enhance the troopers' and local law enforcement agencies' marijuana eradication efforts. Clandestine methamphetamine laboratories have also become a growing problem in Alaska. Since the troopers currently possess no portable decontamination facilities for use during clandestine methamphetamine lab investigations or other hazardous materials responses, funds are needed to purchase portable decontamination facilities to be distributed throughout rural Alaska.

State match and costs: These funds will not require any match by state funds.