

Rural Law Enforcement Training and Equipment**FY2004 Request: \$1,500,000****Reference No: 38479****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:** 07/01/2003 - 09/30/2005**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services will be awarding the Alaska Department of Public Safety \$1,500,000 to train law enforcement personnel in rural locations to increase their ability to deal with crisis situations and to purchase equipment for better responses to emergencies.

Funding:	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>Total</u>
Fed Rcpts	\$1,500,000						\$1,500,000
Total:	\$1,500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,000

<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:	400,000	3
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	400,000	3

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

Chapter 2, FSSLA 1999, page 52, line 5 - \$650,000

Chapter 61, SLA 2001, page 23, line 30 - \$1,800,000

Chapter 1, SSSLA 2002, page 45, line 22 - \$600,000

Project Description/Justification:

The Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services will be awarding the Alaska Department of Public Safety \$1,500,000 to train law enforcement personnel in rural areas of the state to increase their ability to deal with crisis situations and to purchase equipment for better responses to emergencies. The project will benefit rural residents of Alaska and those visiting various remote areas of the state.

Law enforcement throughout much of the rural areas in Alaska is the responsibility of the Alaska State Troopers. From hub communities, state troopers respond to life threatening emergencies immediately, to felonies as quickly as possible, and to misdemeanors as soon as practical. The process is hampered by delayed notification, long distances, uncertainties of weather and transportation, and limited manpower. Due to the limited number of available state troopers, regional public safety officers, or other law enforcement personnel, many villages in rural Alaska hire Village Police Officers (VPOs) or Tribal Police Officers (TPOs) to provide needed emergency response services. These VPOs and TPOs often receive only minimal salaries, training and equipment due to the lack of a local tax base to support them.

This project is based upon the successful \$650,000 training and equipment program that was implemented during FY2000 (1999CKWX0011). An additional training and equipment grant in the amount of \$1,800,000 (2001CKWX0009) and \$600,000 (2002CKWX0009), previously awarded is currently being implemented and has a concrete training schedule and a statewide equipment and supply distribution list. These grants provided an initial basic and advance training and equipment to many rural law enforcement officers in Western Alaska.

State of Alaska Capital Project Summary

Governor's FY04 Capital Budget

1/5/11 1:35:09 PM

Page 1

Department of Public Safety

Reference No: 38479

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The \$1,500,000 grant will be spread over two years and will provide all of the associated costs of continuing in-service training of various rural law enforcement officers. This grant would also train rural officers in fire fighting techniques, statement analysis, Reid interviewing techniques, methods of instruction (MOI), non-lethal weapon training, first aid and re-certifications to enhance rural law enforcement services. An emphasis will be placed on pulling from the pool of previously trained officers to further educate them to be field instructors. It is anticipated that these funds would be provided through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

The training will be spread over two years due to limited availability of instructors and teaching facilities, the logistics of obtaining equipment and supplies, and, in order to reduce the negative impact on small rural communities when their local law enforcement officers are away attending training.

The one-time project will involve various modules of training to include basic and advanced, fire fighting, and non lethal weapons. The training will include basic law enforcement response, search and rescues and domestic violence. This project would require two years to implement and would involve two training cycles. The basic module covers the fundamentals of law enforcement and would have a follow up advanced law enforcement module to build upon the foundation of training from the first session. The training would be held in rural hubs, transporting personnel from the outlying villages into a central point for classroom training.

This grant's training schedule will also focus on training officers to become certified instructors in basic police topics, defense tactics, first aid, and less lethal options. Developing a cadre of rural instructors will benefit rural areas, in that the training can be provided to new officers, in a timely manner.

Further, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) will also be offered to rural officers to become D.A.R.E. training officers. This will increase the number of D.A.R.E. officers in the field with the ability to teach drug and violence prevention. The goal of this program is to interrupt the cycle of drug abuse and violence so prevalent in small rural communities.

In addition to the training, new and replacement equipment is needed in rural areas to enhance response to emergency situations. This includes four-wheelers, boats and motors, snow-machines, emergency locator beacons, radios, computers and law enforcement equipment.

Included in this grant is two-years funding for the troopers' rural law enforcement training coordinator position (Sergeant). Long-term non-permanent positions will be requested to manage the implementation of this grant in the areas of procurement and distribution of equipment and financial reporting.

Timing Issues/Budgetary Issues

Congress has approved this appropriation request. The Department of Public Safety will begin the federal grant application process.

Impact of Not Receiving This Request

If this project is not approved, the state will lose \$1,500,000 in federal funding. Currently there are over two hundred remote communities in Alaska. The training and equipment provided by this grant will improve law enforcement in rural Alaska.