

**State of Alaska
FY2004 Governor's Operating Budget**

**Department of Public Safety
Alaska State Trooper Detachments
Component Budget Summary**

Component: Alaska State Trooper Detachments

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Component Mission

The mission of the Division of Alaska State Troopers is to preserve the public peace and to protect life and property.

Component Services Provided

The Division of Alaska State Troopers (AST) provides primary public safety services to most of the geographic area of the state and limited service in all areas of the state including those areas also served by a local law enforcement entity.

AST has five distinct geographical regions, known as detachments. "A" Detachment covers Southeast Alaska with the headquarters located in Sitka with posts in Ketchikan, Haines, Juneau, Klawock and Petersburg. "B" Detachment encompasses South-central Alaska with headquarters located in Palmer with posts in Big Lake, Glennallen and Talkeetna. "C" Detachment covers Western Alaska and the Aleutian Chain with headquarters located in Anchorage with posts in Aniak, Bethel, Dillingham, King Salmon, Kotzebue, Nome and St. Mary's. "D" Detachment covers Northern Alaska with headquarters in Fairbanks with posts in Cantwell, Delta Junction, Galena, Healy, Nenana, Northway and Tok. "E" Detachment covers the Kenai Peninsula with headquarters in Soldotna with posts in Cooper Landing, Girdwood, Homer, Kodiak, Ninilchik and Seward.

In this budget request, the Division of Alaska State Troopers is restructuring the VPSO budget components to allow for more effective financial management. The VPSO budget request unit (BRU) has been reduced from three components to two components that provide direct grant funding and grant management support to the VPSO program. With this restructuring the division is transferring 18 commissioned officers and civilians from VPSO Support and VPSO Administration to the AST Detachments component. This transfer appropriately aligns these troopers with AST Detachments troopers who have also traditionally provided VPSO oversight as well as other law enforcement activities.

Detachment troopers travel regularly to all villages under their oversight. During these visits troopers provide training through special VPSO training manuals on specific subjects such as report writing and search and rescue coordination. The close working relationship developed between VPSOs and troopers helps VPSOs in carrying out their duties, as well as assuring the VPSOs that the state troopers will be there during crisis situations. This budget restructuring will not change the level of service provided to the public or the VPSO program.

While many municipalities across the state have elected to provide local police service, AST is the only agency in the state statutorily mandated to provide police services. Those services include:

- Criminal law enforcement and investigation - AST responds to all levels of criminal law violations either reported to them or otherwise discovered by them. The occurrences are investigated, documented, and presented to the Department of Law for prosecution when sufficient information is established to identify persons responsible. AST investigates criminal violations at all levels of complexity, from the simplest vandalism to the most complex homicides and fraud cases including complex drug and alcohol investigations. To provide those services, state troopers must maintain expertise in all aspects of criminal investigation. AST investigators often provide service to the municipalities with a local police department but no expertise in some areas of criminal investigation.
- Traffic law enforcement and investigation - AST provides active traffic law enforcement and traffic crash investigation throughout many parts of the state including all major state highways, as well as in rural areas. In addition to providing these services in the primary areas of responsibility, state troopers provide technical crash investigation expertise and support to many of the local law enforcement agencies across the state. Traffic law enforcement includes enforcement of traditional motor vehicle laws as well as aircraft, watercraft, snow-machine, and off-road recreational vehicle laws.

- Search and rescue - AST is the only agency in the state statutorily mandated to provide search and rescue operations for lost and missing, as well as deceased persons. Unlike criminal and traffic law enforcement and investigations where AST provides some technical expertise and support to areas with local police departments, search and rescue services are the responsibility of DPS regardless of location. In this particular area, as in the court services' area, the roles are somewhat reversed: AST receives some assistance from local agencies, but is responsible for the function even in municipalities. Search and rescue services include response to rescue situations, conducting search operations, coordinating various agencies and private persons involved in search efforts, funding aircraft for search missions, providing logistical support and technical expertise in the various aspects of search and rescue such as search management and planning, resource utilization, and the training of volunteer resources.
- Court services - As with the search and rescue function, AST is statutorily mandated to provide service to the Alaska Court System throughout the state. Court services include providing courtroom and court facility security, transporting and guarding prisoners, serving the numerous and varying types of court process, and carrying out the general needs of the courts. The major courts in the state are served by a combination of state troopers and court services officers while state troopers serve the other areas. Some local police agencies provide limited court services that generally does not include process service.
- Sex offender registration - AST maintains Alaska's central Sex Offender Registry (SOR) program. In January, 2002, a United States District Judge issued an order prohibiting the state from requiring sex offenders who committed their offense prior to August 10, 1994, from registering as a sex offender. Prior to this order, the department tracked over 4,200 sex offenders. Pursuant to the court order, public access was reduced to approximately 1,300 registrants. By August, 2002, there were over 1,500 sex offenders in the SOR Program with the number increasing daily. The state Department of Law is pursuing the court case that led to January, 2002 court decision. In addition, the SOR program provides current information on sex offenders, free of charge, to any member of the public who wants it. The information is available at any AST office and most police departments, as well as on the Internet. The SOR office provides state and local law enforcement agencies with investigative information concerning sex offenders who have either refused to comply with the registration laws or are out of compliance with the laws. The information is supplied as part of a coordinated effort to apprehend and criminally charge sex offenders who are in violation of the registration requirements.
- Civilian Process Server and Security Guard licensing - AST administers the licensing programs for Civilian Process Servers (CPS), Security Guards, and Security Guard agencies. Currently licensed are 27 Security Guard agencies with approximately 1,290 active Security Guards - both armed and unarmed, and approximately 73 Civilian Process Servers. An average of 107 security guard and 12 civilian process servers' new and renewal license applications are processed per month. Each application requires a background investigation and review of delinquent student loans before issuance of the license. Additionally, AST reviews state and federal criminal justice responses to every new application, and processes an average of 67 civilian process server and 425 security guard actions per month, including complaints, transfers, status change requests, and insurance reviews, as well as weapons' qualifications for security guards only.
- Alaska Concealed Handgun Permit (ACHP) Program - AST administers Alaska's concealed handgun permit program. From July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002, AST issued 3,350 permits and processed 130 replacement permits, 539 address changes, and 9 Instructor applications. AST processed a monthly average of 189 new applications and 72 renewal applications, each requiring a background investigation before issuance of the permit. Additionally, AST reviews state and federal criminal justice responses to every new application. AST monitors a monthly average of 198 domestic violence protective order notices and 59 criminal history updates that could result in permit suspension or revocation.

Component Goals and Strategies

AST's goal is to provide quality public safety service to the people of Alaska, so they are confident in AST's willingness and ability to respond to their needs. AST maintains 38 posts across the state and provides all public safety services to the vast majority of the state's geographic area. AST provides these services in all areas not served by a local police department. The area served by AST includes over 200 rural communities, as well as many urban communities. Additionally, AST provides court services and other specialized enforcement and emergency services in all areas of the state including those communities otherwise served by a local police department. While AST provides some services to every person in the state, they provide direct public safety services to over 204,400 Alaska citizens. The main goal of the division is to protect and serve the public. This will be accomplished by taking action to:

- Handle more than 88,676 criminal offenses in AST jurisdiction;
- Respond to more than 4,196 motor vehicle accidents;
- Perform over 49,683 transports of prisoners with no escapes;
- Save or assist over 283 people through Search and Rescue efforts;
- Investigate over 3,500 drug and alcohol importation related crimes;
- Solve 100% of the homicides that occur within AST jurisdiction;
- Serve or close over 9,133 warrants;
- Serve or close over 36,091 writs;
- Continue systematic sex offender registration compliance checks;
- Continue DNA sampling compliance efforts;
- Develop youth alcohol education and enforcement program;
- Continue seatbelt education programs; and
- Increase the ratio of burglary cases closed by arrest or referred to the District Attorney's Office for review.

Key Component Issues for FY2003 – 2004

INADEQUATE STAFF IN RELATION TO THE POPULATION SERVED - The public and other agency expectations for the services provided by AST continues to steadily increase while the resources available to provide those services have been maintained at status quo. In FY2003, AST has a commissioned staff of 252 personnel located in 38 posts, which provide all public safety services to the vast majority of the state's geographical area. AST staffing strength is less than half the national average of 2.5 full-time officers per 1,000-population for all law enforcement agencies nationwide. While AST provides some services to every person in the state, they are the only providers of direct public safety services to over 204,400 Alaska citizens. In an attempt to address this issue, the Division of Alaska State Troopers reclassified vacant court service officers to state troopers. These positions allow the detachments an opportunity to rotate troopers through Judicial Services, so the troopers learn the more technical aspects of the writs and extradition process. More importantly it gives the detachments flexibility to use the position to assist with holiday overtime, warrant service, or when short handed on a patrol shift.

TERRORISM AND WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION – AST continues to staff and supervise the Statewide Criminal Intelligence Unit located at the Anchorage FBI office. Additionally, AST remains actively involved in contingency planning and preparedness issues in concert with other government agencies, as well as with private industry. AST staffing concerns are magnified with the additional obligations inherent in attempting to address these enormously important issues.

COURT SECURITY - The number of court services officers (CSOs) located around the state is inadequate to properly provide court security, move prisoners, and serve court writs. Since the development of the CSO program (as a cost-effective method of the statutorily mandated support of the Alaska Court System), the number of CSO positions has not kept pace with the increase in criminal and civil cases, and the increase in the number of judges or courts to be served.

SPECIAL EVENTS - The detachments are responding to a variety of special events without additional resources. These events range from "raves"/teen parties, various music events, state fairs, backcountry sporting events, Northern Edge Joint Military Operation, to the Arctic Man snow machine event. These events have placed a significant burden on detachment and statewide law enforcement, crowd control, and crowd-related problems.

RECRUITMENT - Like most other jurisdictions, qualified trooper candidates are becoming more difficult to find. Additional funding is required for recruitment efforts through prime time advertisement if AST is to maintain its commissioned strength.

RAPE and DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - Alaska's rates of rape and domestic violence are among the highest in the nation.

BUDGET STRUCTURE CHANGES - Moving 14 commissioned officers from the VPSO Support and VPSO Administration components to AST Detachments more clearly reflects the duties that these officers are assigned and will allow the division to more effectively manage its budget. Primarily these officers are C Detachment troopers with many duties in addition to support of the VPSO program. Commissioned officers in the other AST Detachments also provide support to VPSOs whenever needed as displayed in the following tables for FY2001 and FY2002. The department plans to continue this level of support to the program, and will continue to track support that is provided to VPSOs in the Officer Activity Reporting System.

In FY2001, 209 troopers across the following AST Detachments provided support to VPSOs as follows:

FY2001				
Detachment	Region	Sergeant/ Troopers	Hours	VPSOs Supported
A	Southeast	15	607.0	5
B	Southcentral	40	596.5	3
C	Northwest & Western	42	12,915.0	42
D	Northern	50	864.5	12
E	Peninsula	29	31.0	4
H	HQ/Academy	6	127.0	2
I	Statewide -CIB/SDEU	27	225.5	4
		209	15,366.5	72

In FY2002, 220 troopers across the following AST Detachments provided support to VPSOs as follows:

FY2002				
Detachment	Region	Troopers	Hours	VPSO Supported
A	Southeast	15	365.0	7
B	Southcentral	41	22.5	1
C	Northwest & Western	47	12,379.0	47
D	Northern	52	578.5	11
E	Peninsula	29	109.5	2
H	HQ/Academy	7	302.5	1
I	Statewide -CIB/SDEU	29	221.5	2
		220	13,978.5	71

Major Component Accomplishments in 2002

MAJOR INVESTIGATIVE CASES – AST investigated 14 murders which occurred within AST jurisdiction during FY2002. Nine of these murders occurred within the rural communities of Homer, Kaltag, Iliamna, Stebbins, Nikiski, Pilot Point, Cheforak (2), and Houston. Four murders occurred in more urban areas such as Palmer. Thirteen murders have been resolved and one is unresolved, for a 93% clearance rate.

ILLEGAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL ENFORCEMENT – Troopers continue to take the lead role in the coordinated effort to investigate and enforce laws concerning drug and alcohol crimes. Interdiction efforts to stem the flow of alcohol to western Alaska have met with continued success. Additionally, the Anchorage Airport Interdiction Team was responsible for the seizure of more than 29.02 pounds of cocaine imported into the state during FY2002.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE – Troopers have expanded the scope of their domestic violence investigations training for law enforcement to include dispatchers and call takers. The troopers support and promote the multidisciplinary response to sexual assault by sponsoring the five-day Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) training.

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION - Mail out verifications continue in this program. Municipal police departments, the Department of Corrections and trooper detachments are supplied with a monthly list, either electronically, via a paper mailing or a CD-ROM, that lists the total database of sex offenders that are registered and in compliance, those requiring registration and those out of compliance. Updates of the forms are also in this monthly mailing. There are now over 4,460 convicted sex offenders in the central registry database. As a result of on-going litigation, the number of sex

offenders whose information is currently available on the public access (web-based) sex offender data base is limited to approximately 1,500 who were convicted after 1994. Ultimately, public access to the data and the extent of on-going registration that is required of convicted offenders will be determined by the U.S. Supreme Court.

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION (D.A.R.E.) - The management and funding for the D.A.R.E. program was assumed by D.A.R.E. Alaska, Inc., a non-profit corporation, following retirement of the trooper sergeant who was the state D.A.R.E. coordinator. The Alaska State Troopers continued to provide logistical and in-kind support by providing an office and clerical assistance. D.A.R.E. America funded a state coordinator for six months. Sixty-one police officers attended D.A.R.E. training sessions during FY2002. Nine new D.A.R.E. programs were started, primarily in village schools.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING – The ongoing training of approximately one half of the division was accomplished during FY2002. Necessary certifications such as use of force and other professional training were presented in various locations around the state. Continuing this in-service schedule each year allows for 40 hours of continuing education for all troopers every other year.

RURAL ENFORCEMENT EFFORT - Troopers from VPSO Support and AST Detachments provided the following contacts and support for rural enforcement officers in FY2002: 772 Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) visits; 365 Village Police Officer (VPO) visits or phone contacts (VPOs are employed by some rural villages); 1,798 investigative visits to villages; 648 overnight visits; and 959 hours of training.

SPECIAL EVENTS - During the past year, all detachments have conducted several special patrol activities in the detachment area. Those activities include: construction zone patrols for the Department of Transportation; Big Lake boat patrol with the U.S. Coast Guard; an extensive seatbelt enforcement program; increased patrol for the Talkeetna Bluegrass Festival, Palmer State Fair, "raves"/teen parties at Jim Creek in the Palmer area, high school graduation parties in the major cities, and traffic enforcement while fire fighters worked on the forest fires along the Alaska Highway. The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Highway Safety Office provided funding for seatbelt enforcement, special traffic enforcement, purchase of law enforcement equipment, and enforcement efforts relative to Alaska's new .08 DUI standard.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

- Concealed Handgun Permits (AS 18.65.700)
- Controlled Substances (AS 11.71.010 - AS 11.71.900)
- DPS - Powers and duties of department (AS 44.41.020)
- Judicial Services (AS 22.20.100 - AS 22.20.140)
- Prisoner Transportation (AS 33.30.071 and AS 33.30.081)
- Search & Rescue (AS 18.60.120 - AS 18.60.175)
- Security Guard Licensing (AS 18.65.400 - AS 18.65.410)
- Sex Offender Registration (AS 12.63.010 - AS 12.63.100)
- Central Registry of Sex Offenders (AS 18.65.087)
- State Troopers (AS 18.65.010 - AS 18.65.110)
- Village Public Safety Officer Definition (AS 01.10.060(c)(7)(C))
- VPSO Program (AS 18.65.670)

Alaska State Trooper Detachments

Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2002 Actuals	FY2003 Authorized	FY2004 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	26,069.8	27,241.9	29,650.9
72000 Travel	1,176.7	1,132.5	1,278.8
73000 Contractual	6,899.9	6,657.6	6,933.7
74000 Supplies	669.1	695.5	696.1
75000 Equipment	267.9	35.5	35.5
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	672.8	0.0
Expenditure Totals	35,083.4	36,435.8	38,595.0
Funding Sources:			
1002 Federal Receipts	6.9	30.0	30.3
1004 General Fund Receipts	34,261.4	35,099.4	37,734.6
1005 General Fund/Program Receipts	169.4	0.0	0.0
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	394.6	397.6	403.3
1055 Inter-agency/Oil & Hazardous Waste	49.0	50.3	51.8
1061 Capital Improvement Project Receipts	202.1	187.9	190.9
1108 Statutory Designated Program Receipts	0.0	500.0	12.2
1156 Receipt Supported Services	0.0	170.6	171.9
Funding Totals	35,083.4	36,435.8	38,595.0

Alaska State Trooper Detachments

Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004

The major budget changes with the proposed FY2004 budget request includes realignment of budget units (with no change in level of service) and additional funding for increased costs.

The Division of Alaska State Troopers is transferring 18 commissioned officers and civilians from the VPSO Support and VPSO Administration components to the AST Detachments component. This transfer reflects the varied duties that these officers are assigned, and will allow the division to more effectively manage its budget. There will be no change in the level of service that the VPSOs or the public will receive as a result of this budgetary change.

Costs continue to increase in the areas of vehicles leases, fuel, COLA, video arraignment equipment maintenance, emergency guard hires, sexual assault exams, and trooper housing/facility leases & maintenance. If these fixed costs are not funded, service levels will be adversely impacted. Funding for emergency guard hires and sexual assault exams are included in the budget request.

Summary of Component Budget Changes

From FY2003 Authorized to FY2004 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2003 Authorized	35,099.4	30.0	1,306.4	36,435.8
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Transfer to Multiple Components to Fund Telecommunication & Computer Svcs Billing Methodologies	-431.6	0.0	0.0	-431.6
-Transfer In Commissioned Officers/Civilians from VPSO Support to AST Detachments	1,988.4	0.0	0.0	1,988.4
-Annualize FY2003 COLA for General Government, Confidential and Supervisory Bargaining Units	0.0	0.1	5.8	5.9
-\$75 per Month Health Insurance Increase for Non-covered Staff	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.5
-Transfer In AST "C" Detachment Commander (12-1013)	143.1	0.0	0.0	143.1
Proposed budget decreases:				
-Delete SDPR Authority for Kenai Peninsula Borough Dispatch Services and 7 Unfilled PFTs	0.0	0.0	-500.0	-500.0
Proposed budget increases:				
-Increased Costs of Forensic Exams Related to Sexual Assaults and Sexual Abuse of Minors	60.0	0.0	0.0	60.0
-Increased Emergency Guard Hire Costs	38.0	0.0	0.0	38.0
-Increased Variable Benefit Costs: Working Reserve and PERS Rates	836.8	0.2	17.9	854.9

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2004 Governor	37,734.6	30.3	830.1	38,595.0

Alaska State Trooper Detachments

Personal Services Information

	Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs	
	<u>FY2003</u> <u>Authorized</u>	<u>FY2004</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	335	344	Annual Salaries	19,087,469
Part-time	0	0	Premium Pay	2,500,435
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	8,248,387
			<i>Less 1.98% Vacancy Factor</i>	(591,391)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	406,000
Totals	335	344	Total Personal Services	29,650,900

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Accounting Clerk I	1	0	0	0	1
Administrative Assistant	0	1	0	0	1
Administrative Clerk II	6	6	1	20	33
Administrative Clerk III	3	3	0	5	11
Administrative Manager I	1	0	0	0	1
Administrative Supervisor	1	0	0	1	2
Aircraft Pilot I	0	0	0	1	1
Aircraft Pilot II	2	0	0	0	2
Analyst/Programmer IV	1	0	0	0	1
Captain PS	1	1	1	3	6
Comm Center Supvr, PS	1	1	0	1	3
Corporal PS	0	0	0	3	3
Court Services Officer	0	5	2	6	13
Criminal Justice Technician I	3	0	0	0	3
Data Processing Tech I	1	0	0	0	1
Enviro Services Journey II	0	2	0	0	2
First Sergeant PS	0	0	0	2	2
Information Officer II	1	0	0	0	1
Lieutenant PS	7	2	0	4	13
Maint Gen Journey	0	1	0	0	1
Major PS	1	0	0	0	1
Micro/Network Tech I	2	0	0	0	2
Personnel Asst I	0	0	1	0	1
Procurement Spec II	1	0	0	0	1
Publications Spec II	1	0	0	0	1
Radio Dispatcher I	0	0	0	1	1
Radio Dispatcher II	14	10	1	15	40
Radio Dispatcher III	4	3	1	2	10
Regional Public Safety Officer	0	0	0	4	4
Sergeant PS	1	6	1	22	30
State Trooper	8	30	3	109	150
Stock & Parts Svcs Journey I	1	0	0	0	1
Visual Info Spec	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	63	71	11	199	344