

Driving Simulator -Training Academy**FY2006 Request: \$265,000****Reference No: 39956****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Equipment**Category:** Law and Justice**Location:** Sitka**Contact:** Dan Spencer, Director, Administrative Services**House District:** Sitka/Wrangell/Petersburg (HD 2)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-5488**Estimated Project Dates:** 10/01/2005 - 09/30/2006**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project is to purchase a FAAC Inc. DTS brand PP-2000 state of the art motion driving simulator to enhance the Emergency Vehicle Operation Course for Law Enforcement Officers taught at the Department of Public Safety Training Academy.

Funding:	FY2006	FY2007	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$265,000						\$265,000
Total:	\$265,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$265,000

<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:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

None.

Project Description/Justification:

This project will provide the Department of Public Safety Law Enforcement Training Academy a tool with which to enhance the current driver-training program, provided on a physical driving range at the Academy in Sitka. While actual, behind-the-wheel, driver's training is essential, the Sitka range cannot train recruits to drive in the varying climate conditions around Alaska, nor realistically simulate the widely varying techniques required in different urban and highway settings. For example, Fairbanks in the winter offers very different driving conditions than Sitka.

Emergency vehicle operations instruction encompasses two aspects – skills and decision making. Right now, DPS has limited space, which is being addressed by the new physical driving range funded in state FY2005 for the skill portion of the program. The new simulator will help us teach important decision making skills by putting the students in a simulation with other vehicles and people. The Academy will be able to train in high and low stress environments. Instructors will teach students how to react at intersections and at other places where collisions happen regularly. It would also allow the Academy to address the sometimes critical issue of multi-tasking while operating a patrol car. While some crashes happen in pursuits and at other high stress times, most patrol car crashes happen during normal, everyday driving conditions. The simulator can address both needs. Field Training Officers report that the most requested area of needed training improvement is driving. A simulator of this type will allow the students to experience and gain much needed skills, which otherwise would not be possible. Many more hours can be added to the driver's training program, resulting in a much better trained student. Additionally, with the purchase of this equipment, a program of retraining and refresher could be initiated. Emergency vehicle operation is one of the most risk filled aspects of law enforcement; the purchase of this equipment would go a long way in helping to reduce this risk by having better trained officers in the field.