

# **State of Alaska FY2007 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Public Safety Village Public Safety Officer Program Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary**

## Village Public Safety Officer Program Results Delivery Unit

### Contribution to Department's Mission

The mission of the Village Public Safety Officer program is to preserve public peace, protect life, and property in rural villages.

### Core Services

Throughout rural Alaska, the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) is often the first responder to incidents, and/or the only person immediately available to provide a broad range of public safety services in their village. These include basic law enforcement, probation and parole, emergency medical services, search and rescue missions, and fire prevention activities.

Currently fifty-nine VPSOs represent an ongoing positive public safety presence in their villages and surrounding communities. VPSOs are employees of regional non-profit corporations but may receive direction from village leadership while receiving training and support from state troopers.

State troopers travel to VPSO villages in support of the VPSO's. During these visits, troopers provide training on specific subjects such as writing reports and search and rescue coordination. The close working relationship between VPSOs and troopers helps foster a unified law enforcement team for rural Alaska. The oversight helps to develop trust and confidence in the VPSOs so they can be more successful in their mission. It further helps establish the necessary support and backup by the troopers for the VPSOs during crisis situations within rural communities.

The services provided by the VPSO Contracts component include the funding of the grants to the non-profits who manage and implement the VPSO program. The services provided by the VPSO Support component include those specifically associated with the management of the VPSO grants.

The Alaska State Troopers' goals for the VPSO program include taking action to:

- Continue to provide first responders who can manage criminal investigations involving misdemeanors and some felony property crimes;
- Continue to increase interdiction of illegal alcohol in areas where the residents have chosen to ban possession, sale, barter, or importation of alcohol; and
- Continue to provide for public safety in the areas of boating and fire safety and other non-criminal areas for rural remote communities.

End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p><b>A: Protect lives.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 10% reduction of deaths due to accidents and criminal acts in VPSO serviced villages. <u>Measure #1:</u> Homicide rate in VPSO serviced villages.</p> <p><u>Target #2:</u> 10% reduction in recreational boating accidents with deaths in VPSO serviced villages. <u>Measure #2:</u> % change in fatality accidents.</p>	<p><b>A1: Improve response to alcohol-related crimes, and domestic violence (DV) incidents.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 10% reduction of accidental deaths in VPSO serviced villages compared to the previous 3-year average. <u>Measure #1:</u> % change in accidental deaths.</p> <p><b>A2: Enhance recreational boating safety patrols and education.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 10% increase in the number of inspections in VPSO serviced villages over the previous 2-year average. <u>Measure #1:</u> % change in number of inspections.</p>

	<p><u>Target #2:</u> 10% increase in number of boating safety education presentations in VPSO serviced villages over the previous 2-year average.</p> <p><u>Measure #2:</u> % change in number of boating safety education presentations.</p>
End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p><b>B: Protect property.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Reduce property crimes by 10% in VPSO serviced villages.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> % change in property crimes.</p>	<p><b>B1: Improve property crime investigations.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> Increase solve rate of property crimes by 10% over the previous 3-year average in VPSO serviced villages.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> % change in property crimes solved by arrest.</p>
End Results	Strategies to Achieve Results
<p><b>C: Preserve public peace.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 2% reduction in reported offenses compared to the previous 3-year average in VPSO serviced villages.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> % change in number of reported offenses.</p>	<p><b>C1: Community oriented policing and patrols for criminal activity.</b></p> <p><u>Target #1:</u> 10% increase in the number of public appearances in VPSO serviced villages logged in APSIN compared to the previous 3-year average.</p> <p><u>Measure #1:</u> % change in public appearances.</p>

Major Activities to Advance Strategies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VPSO training academy</li> <li>• VPSO regional update training</li> <li>• Driving Under the Influence (DUI) patrols</li> <li>• Domestic violence and DUI training</li> <li>• Report writing and investigation in-service training</li> <li>• Coordination with outside domestic violence-related agencies and support groups</li> <li>• Domestic violence supervisory case review with district attorney coordination</li> <li>• Provide search and rescue management training</li> <li>• Water safety education</li> <li>• Increased inspections</li> <li>• Crime Stoppers</li> <li>• Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of ABC investigations</li> <li>• Provide boater safety public education</li> <li>• Provide boater safety training to VPSOs and AST</li> <li>• D.A.R.E. programs</li> <li>• Alcohol Rewards Program</li> <li>• Patrol high crime areas</li> <li>• Investigator training</li> <li>• Enhanced communications between jurisdictions</li> <li>• Crime Stoppers</li> <li>• Community Oriented Policing (COP) training</li> <li>• Participation in village council meetings</li> </ul>

FY2007 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results							
<p><b>FY2007 Results Delivery Unit Budget: \$6,027,500</b></p>	<p><b>Personnel:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Full time</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Part time</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;"><b>2</b></td> </tr> </table>	Full time	2	Part time	0	<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>
Full time	2						
Part time	0						
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>						

## Performance Measure Detail

### A: Result - Protect lives.

**Target #1:** 10% reduction of deaths due to accidents and criminal acts in VPSO serviced villages.

**Measure #1:** Homicide rate in VPSO serviced villages.

#### Number of homicides in VPSO serviced villages (calendar year)

Year	YTD Total
2001	6
2002	5 -16.67%
2003	3 -40.00%
2004	2 -33.33%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** Homicide rates are dependent on many factors, most of which are not controllable by the department. To the extent that it can, the department will influence the homicide rate by deterrence (solving homicides committed in the department's jurisdiction) and by focusing on contributing factors, such as reducing the availability of illegal drugs and alcohol.

Source: Alaska UCR Data.

**Target #2:** 10% reduction in recreational boating accidents with deaths in VPSO serviced villages.

**Measure #2:** % change in fatality accidents.

#### Number of fatal boating accidents in VPSO serviced villages (calendar year)

Year	YTD Total
2001	0
2002	2 0%
2003	0 -100.00%
2004	1 0%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** These figures are based on boating fatality accidents reported to the Alaska State Troopers.

Source: Alaska Public Safety Information Network – Case Activity data

### A1: Strategy - Improve response to alcohol-related crimes, and domestic violence (DV) incidents.

**Target #1:** 10% reduction of accidental deaths in VPSO serviced villages compared to the previous 3-year average.

**Measure #1:** % change in accidental deaths.

#### Number of accidental deaths in VPSO villages (calendar year)

Year	Accidental Deaths	3-Year Average	Percent Inc/Dec
2001	4		
2002	25		
2003	5	11.33	
2004	8		-29%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The 8 accidental deaths reported in CY2004 represent a 29% decrease in the number of accidental deaths in VPSO serviced villages from the previous 3-year average of 11.33 accidental deaths per year.

These figures are based on accidental deaths reported to the Alaska State Troopers. Accidental deaths include those resulting from motor vehicle accidents, aircraft accidents, boating accidents, fire (non-arson), falls, industrial accidents, firearm accidents, and other accidents.

Source: Alaska Public Safety Information Network – Case Activity data

## A2: Strategy - Enhance recreational boating safety patrols and education.

**Target #1:** 10% increase in the number of inspections in VPSO serviced villages over the previous 2-year average.

**Measure #1:** % change in number of inspections.

### Number of recreational boating inspections in VPSO serviced villages (calendar year)

Year	Boating Inspections	2-Year Average	Percent Inc/Dec
2001	0		
2002	23		
2003	23	23	
2004	17		-26%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The 17 boating safety inspections in CY2004 represent a 26% decrease from the previous 2-year average of 23 boating safety inspections per year in VPSO serviced villages.

Source: Alaska Public Safety Information Network – Case Activity data

**Target #2:** 10% increase in number of boating safety education presentations in VPSO serviced villages over the previous 2-year average.

**Measure #2:** % change in number of boating safety education presentations.

### Number of boating safety education presentations in VPSO serviced villages (calendar year)

Year	Boating Presentations	2-Year Average	Percent Inc/Dec
2001	0		
2002	0	0	
2003	0	0	0%
2004	7		100%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The 7 hours of boating safety education presented in CY2004 in VPSO serviced villages represent a 100% increase from the previous 2-year average.

Source: Alaska Public Safety Information Network – Officer Activity Reporting data

## B: Result - Protect property.

**Target #1:** Reduce property crimes by 10% in VPSO serviced villages.

**Measure #1:** % change in property crimes.

**Number of property crimes in VPSO services villages (including arson) (calendar year)**

Year	YTD Total
2001	415
2002	454 +9.40%
2003	598 +31.72%
2004	478 -20.07%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** These figures are based on property crimes reported to the Alaska State Troopers. Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Source: Alaska UCR Data.

**B1: Strategy - Improve property crime investigations.**

**Target #1:** Increase solve rate of property crimes by 10% over the previous 3-year average in VPSO serviced villages.

**Measure #1:** % change in property crimes solved by arrest.

**Number of property crimes solved by arrest in VPSO serviced villages (calendar year)**

Year	Number of Crimes	Crimes Solved	Percent Solved	3-Year Average	Percent Inc/Dec
2001	415	148	36%		
2002	454	147	32%		
2003	598	211	35%	34%	
2004	478	223	47%		38%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The 47% property crime solve rate in CY2004 represent a 38% increase over the previous 3-year average of 34% for property crimes solved by arrest in VPSO serviced villages.

These figures are based on property crimes reported to the Alaska State Troopers. Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Source: Alaska UCR data

**C: Result - Preserve public peace.**

**Target #1:** 2% reduction in reported offenses compared to the previous 3-year average in VPSO serviced villages.

**Measure #1:** % change in number of reported offenses.

**Number of reported offenses in VPSO serviced villages (including arson) (calendar year)**

Year	Reported Offenses	3-Year Average	Percent Inc/Dec
2001	1,341		
2002	1,553		
2003	1,627	1507	
2004	1,465		-3%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The 1,465 reported offenses in CY2004 represent a 3% decrease compared to the CY2001-2004 average of 1,507 reported offenses. These figures are based on offenses reported to the Alaska State Troopers. Reported offenses include the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting offenses of criminal homicide, forcible rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

Source: Alaska UCR data.

**C1: Strategy - Community oriented policing and patrols for criminal activity.**

**Target #1:** 10% increase in the number of public appearances in VPSO serviced villages logged in APSIN compared to the previous 3-year average.

**Measure #1:** % change in public appearances.

**Number of public appearances in VPSO serviced villages (includes community policing) (calendar year)**

Year	Public Appearances	3-Year Average	Percent Inc/Dec
2001	214		
2002	385		
2003	751	450	
2004	528		17%

**Analysis of results and challenges:** The 528 public appearances in CY2004 represent a 17% increase from the previous 3-year average of 450 public appearances in VPSO serviced villages.

Beginning in FY2003 public appearances include Community Oriented Policing efforts. The concepts of community policing are that law enforcement is actively involved with the community in a collaborative way as to help reduce or eliminate crime. Public appearances by troopers help the VPSOs in their community by actively providing support and backup to the VPSO in the functions of their job.

Source: Alaska Public Safety Information Network – Case Activity data

**Key RDU Challenges**

VPSO turnover continues to be a challenge. There are many factors that cause high VPSO turnover. In fact, many of the same factors that affect Alaska State Trooper recruitment also impact VPSO recruitment. For VPSO's, one unique factor has been a historically low rate of pay. Toward that end, VPSO duties and pay were increased by adding supervision of parolees and probationers, and a reduction in administrative overhead costs was invested in VPSO salaries. As a result, the lowest paid VPSO's have seen pay increases of approximately 23 percent.

The VPSO program has suffered from high turnover since inception. The expectations of a VPSO have changed over time and become more demanding. As a result, fewer village residents are willing to serve as a VPSO which then requires the seeking of applicants elsewhere. It has proven difficult to recruit qualified applicants from urban areas to serve in villages.

**Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2007**

The Detachments component (Alaska State Troopers RDU) includes additional funding to improve recruitment results for both troopers and VPSOs. Increasing the number of VPSOs will provide improved levels of service to rural Alaskan communities.

**Major RDU Accomplishments in 2005**

VPSO probation and parole services continue throughout the VPSO communities. The probation and patrol training is also being provided to new VPSOs attending VPSO basic training at the DPS Academy in Sitka. The VPSOs have developed a good working relationship with their probation and parole oversights and monitor offenders in their communities on a regular basis.

- 1,399 VPSO Visits
- 1,235 Village Police Officer (VPO) visits/contacts (VPOs are employed by some rural villages)
- 1,242 training hours conducted by oversight troopers

The department negotiated with the VPSO non-profits to reduce administrative costs. DPS applied savings in the VPSO contracts to create VPSO scale consistency around the state. This resulted in pay increases of approximately \$1.14 per hour for most VPSO officers.

In FY2005, AST integrated VPSO recruitment efforts with AST recruitment efforts through the recruitment section.

Contact Information
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**Village Public Safety Officer Program  
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2005 Actuals				FY2006 Management Plan				FY2007 Governor			
	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds	General Funds	Federal Funds	Other Funds	Total Funds
<b><u>Formula Expenditures</u></b>												
None.												
<b><u>Non-Formula Expenditures</u></b>												
VPSO Contracts	4,889.8	0.0	0.0	4,889.8	5,436.4	0.0	0.0	5,436.4	5,636.4	0.0	0.0	5,636.4
Support	220.3	0.0	101.9	322.2	253.5	0.0	123.7	377.2	258.3	0.0	132.8	391.1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5,110.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>5,212.0</b>	<b>5,689.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>123.7</b>	<b>5,813.6</b>	<b>5,894.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>132.8</b>	<b>6,027.5</b>

**Village Public Safety Officer Program  
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component  
From FY2006 Management Plan to FY2007 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2006 Management Plan</b>	<b>5,689.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>123.7</b>	<b>5,813.6</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>				
-Support	4.1	0.0	7.9	12.0
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>				
-VPSO Contracts	200.0	0.0	0.0	200.0
-Support	0.7	0.0	1.2	1.9
<b>FY2007 Governor</b>	<b>5,894.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>132.8</b>	<b>6,027.5</b>