

**Village Public Safety Officers for Rural Bootlegging Prevention and Enforcement**

**FY2008 Request: \$2,000,000**  
**Reference No: 39352**

**AP/AL:** Appropriation  
**Category:** Public Protection  
**Location:** Statewide

**Project Type:** Health and Safety

**Contact:** Dan Spencer, Director, Administrative Services

**House District:** Statewide

**Contact Phone:** (907)465-5488

**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2007 - 09/30/2009

**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This project will maintain and augment the number of village public safety officers (VPSOs) to engage primarily in bootlegging prevention and enforcement activities in rural Alaskan villages. Additional VPSOs will help the department achieve its mission to preserve public peace and protect life and property in rural villages.

<b>Funding:</b>	FY2008	FY2009	FY2010	FY2011	FY2012	FY2013	Total
Fed Rcpts	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000		\$10,000,000
<b>Total:</b>	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$10,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input checked="" 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	
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**

Chapter 82, SLA 2006, Page 81, Line 33 and Page 82, Line 3-5 \$2,000,000  
 Chapter 3, SLA 2005, Page 63, Line 19-23 \$2,000,000  
 Chapter 159, SLA 2004, Page 31, Line 33, \$2,000,000

**Project Description/Justification:**

This project will use \$2,000,000 in FFY2007 federal funding from the Indian Health Service to provide subgrants to the nonprofit regional Native corporations to hire and equip additional village public safety officers (VPSOs) in rural Alaskan villages to engage primarily in bootlegging prevention and enforcement activities. \$2,000,000 was also appropriated in FFY2004, FFY2005, and FFY2006 to the Alaska Department of Public Safety for this purpose.

Rural Alaska continues to endure high rates of violent crimes such as homicides, sexual assaults, and serious domestic assaults. The majority of these crimes are directly connected to alcohol abuse. This grant will be used to distribute funds to the nonprofit regional Native corporations participating in the VPSO program to hire, train, and equip additional VPSOs to focus primarily on illegal alcohol interdiction and to enforce other state laws. This will help to significantly reduce violent crime, accidental deaths, and suicide resulting from the easy availability of illegal alcohol through VPSO presence, education, and aggressive bootlegging investigations. The additional VPSOs will be located in rural areas of western Alaska such as the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, Bristol Bay, the Aleutian Islands, and Kotzebue region.