



## Village Crime Reduction and Community-Oriented Policing Program

(BETHEL, Alaska) – Yesterday kicked off a week-long, multi-agency operation in Rural Alaska. The Village Crime Reduction and Community-Oriented Policing Program (VCRP), headquartered in Bethel, Alaska is saturating rural communities with law enforcement. Community-oriented policing efforts such as giving school presentations, participating in community and tribal council meetings and performing public appearances will be a focus of the VCRP.

Troopers and U.S. Marshals are pairing up in two-man teams to travel to eight villages in an effort to contact all individuals that are, or are supposed to be, compliant with the Sex Offender and Child Kidnapper Registry. While in the rural communities, the teams will also attempt to contact individuals with outstanding warrants as well as perform drug and alcohol interdiction.

Due to weather conditions, only three of the eight two-man teams were able to deploy on snowmachines. While weathered-in at the headquarters location, teams walked a beat in Bethel where two individuals were arrested yesterday for outstanding warrants. Once weather breaks, the remainder of the teams will deploy out to villages.

The agencies involved in VCRP include Alaska State Troopers (multiple units), U.S. Marshals, U.S. Postal Service, Department of Corrections, U.S. Attorney's Office and Alaska Department of Law. In all, 34 law enforcement personnel are participating in the efforts.

VCRP was highlighted as a part of the Governor's Safe Homes, Strong Families Initiative. To read Commissioner Master's remarks from the press conference click [HERE](#) or go to the Trooper Times website at [www.dps.state.ak.us/PIO](http://www.dps.state.ak.us/PIO).

