



June 4, 2010  
PR #10-041

**DPS Academy Graduates 21 from 11 Different Agencies**

(SITKA, Alaska) – On Thursday, June 3, 2010, the Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET) Session No. 1001 graduated from the Department of Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka. The basic 15-week ALET includes more than 900 hours of training and incorporates intensive training in law enforcement-related topics, physical fitness and many scenario-based training exercises all designed to prepare entry level police officers and Alaska State Troopers for a successful career in Alaska law enforcement. ALET No. 1001 consisted of 21 graduates from eleven different municipal, state and federal agencies as well as one person who paid to put herself through the academy. The graduates are:

- |                    |                                 |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Brent Bartlett     | Juneau Police                   |
| William Blair      | Saint Paul Police               |
| Michael Bonadurer  | Wasilla Police                  |
| Blake Calhoun      | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Shawn Carlson      | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Chad Clements      | Valdez Police                   |
| Melvin Colley      | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Samantha Cox       | Self pay                        |
| Matthew Determan   | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Ira Edwards        | Mat-Su Park Ranger              |
| Simon Ford         | Haines Police                   |
| Peter Frederick    | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Patrick Freeman    | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Christopher Grooms | Fire Marshal                    |
| Steve Leon         | Fairbanks Airport Police & Fire |
| Travis Lons        | Alaska Wildlife Troopers        |
| Carl Lundquist     | Juneau Police                   |
| Justin McGinnis    | Alaska Wildlife Troopers        |
| Heidi Milazzo      | Sitka Police                    |
| Anthony Stariha    | Alaska State Troopers           |
| Josh Tatum         | Alaska State Troopers           |

After graduation from the ALET course, the Alaska State Troopers and Alaska Wildlife Troopers recruits continue their training at the academy for an additional three weeks. This training session is often referred to as Trooper Basic. The trooper recruit receives more tailored and advanced training during this session in Fish and Wildlife investigations, boating safety, survival, commercial fisheries enforcement, media relations, critical stress management, patrol rifle, pepper ball and Stinger spike system. They are also exposed to additional scenario-based training events.

Also receiving their badges at the ceremony yesterday were five Alaska State Trooper lateral hires. They have prior law enforcement experience equivalent to what is required by the Alaska Police Standards Council. Lateral hires aren't required to go through the 15-week ALET. Instead, they completed a three-week lateral academy and will attend the four-week Trooper Basic with the others. They are:

- David Eastwood-Koleszar
- Jason Hennessey
- Joseph Miller
- Joel Miner
- Paul Secor

Upon graduation from Trooper Basic, recruits move to their first duty assignment and begin a 15-week Field Training and Evaluation Program. Trooper recruits are expected to develop to the point of being able to perform all law enforcement functions independently and if successful, will be promoted to Trooper upon the successful completion of their probationary period, generally 12 months from the start of the Academy.