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STATE OF ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Press Release

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Colonel Mallard to Lead Division of Alaska State Troopers

(ANCHORAGE, Alaska) – The Department of Public Safety is proud to announce the promotion of Keith Mallard from Captain of the Alaska Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Enforcement to Colonel of the Division of Alaska State Troopers, effective immediately. Colonel Mallard will assume joint command of AST until the retirement of Colonel Audie Holloway on December 17th. Following Col. Holloway's retirement, Col. Mallard will assume full command.

"The Alaska State Troopers is one of the finest organizations in the world and is steeped with honor and tradition, and at its core are the Troopers, Officers, and support personnel that have the determination, dedication, and integrity that make it so," said Commissioner Joseph Masters. "Colonel Mallard shares those values and has the fortitude, energy, drive, skill, and most importantly the character to assume the command and has my utmost confidence that he will continue to take AST in a forward looking direction that benefits the agency and the citizens of Alaska."

"I don't have all the words to fully express how very honored and humbled I am to be given the opportunity to serve you as the Director of the Alaska State Troopers," said Col. Keith Mallard. "I am proud to wear the badge of the Alaska State Troopers and am equally as proud to have this opportunity to represent the Alaska State Troopers as colonel."

Colonel Keith Mallard is a fourteen year veteran of the Division of the Alaska State Troopers and a graduate of both the FBI National Academy and the DEA Drug Unit Commanders' Academy. Prior to becoming an Alaska State Trooper, Colonel Mallard worked as both a municipal police officer and as a deputy sheriff. In his years with the Division of Alaska State Troopers he has served the citizens of Alaska in many assignments. Starting his career in Fairbanks he served as a SERT member, field training officer, and dual purpose canine handler. He transferred to Aniak in 2000, were along with two other troopers responded to calls for service in 21 villages. He was an oversight trooper for the regions village public safety officers and assistant coach for the Aniak High School and Junior High Wrestling Teams. In 2002, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and assigned as the post supervisor in Girdwood. In addition to his duties as post supervisor he once again served as a dual purpose canine handler and became a canine instructor. In 2004, he was promoted to lieutenant and served on the Directors Staff before being transferred into the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement (ABADE) as the Deputy Commander in 2005. In 2006, he was promoted to the rank of captain and assigned as the Commander of the ABADE, where he has served since. In addition to his regularly assigned duties, Colonel Mallard served as the canine unit coordinator, canine unit lead instructor and administrative investigations coordinator during both his times as lieutenant and during his time as captain.

DPS wishes Col. Audie Holloway well in his retirement.

*Col. Mallard will be available for media interviews Tuesday December 14, 2010. Media can schedule individual interviews through PIO Megan Peters at 269-5413.