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Public Safety Training Academy to Graduate 38 Law Enforcement Officers

(SITKA, Alaska) –Thirty eight Law enforcement officers from different state and municipal agencies including eleven state and wildlife troopers and seven Village Public Safety Officers will graduate from the Public Safety Training Academy in Sitka today. The 1 p.m. graduation ceremony at the Sheet’ka Kwaan Naa Kahidi Tribal Community House concludes Alaska Law Enforcement Training (ALET) Session No. 15-01. To get to this point, the 38 new officers and troopers went through 900 hours of training in the 15-week basic ALET. The training incorporates intensive instruction in law enforcement-related topics, physical fitness and many scenario-based exercises – all designed to prepare entry level police officers, Village Public Safety Officers ,and troopers for a successful career in Alaska law enforcement. The graduates are:

Alisha Beach, Alaska Wildlife Troopers
David Bozman, Alaska Wildlife Troopers
Daniel Brozek, Soldotna Police Department
David Burtch, Wasilla Police Department
Isaiah Clark, Sitka Police Department
William Corwin, Alaska State Parks
Michael Cryderman, Juneau Police Department
Joshua Hall, Seward Police Department
Adam Hawkins, Alaska State Troopers
Silas Hessler, Alaska State Troopers
Trevor Howard, Alaska State Troopers
Daniel Joekay, Associate of Village Council Presidents (VPSO)
Casey Johnson, Nome Police Department
Don Jones, Alaska Council of Village Presidents (VPSO)
Christine Joslin, Alaska State Troopers
Tyler Langford, Alaska State Troopers
Monty Lenard, Copper River Native Association (VPSO)
Wesley Louis, Copper River Native Association (VPSO)
Christopher Love, Alaska State Parks
Hannah Malone, Juneau Police Department
Jeffrey McAfee, Alaska State Troopers
Mitchell Meens, Sitka Police Department

Dean Michael, Associate of Village Council Presidents (VPSO)
Nicholas Murphy, Alaska State Troopers
Gary Olsen-Saville, Fairbanks Airport Police
Eric Pavil, Bethel Police Department
Paul Racine, Sitka Police Department
Samantha Sawyer, Alaska Wildlife Troopers
Jeffrey Sheveland, Wasilla Police Department
Rick Slater, Juneau Police Department
Alexander Smith, Juneau Police Department
Kenneth Smith, Juneau Police Department
Tyler Southworth, Kodiak Police Department
Kirt Stage-Harvey, Juneau Police Department
Justin Ulak, Bethel Police Department
Jeffrey Viernes, Alaska State Troopers
Thomas White, Tanana Chiefs Conference (VPSO)
William Yates, Bristol Bay Native Association (VPSO)

After graduation, the Alaska State Trooper and Alaska Wildlife Trooper recruits continue their training at the academy for an additional three weeks. This training session is often referred to as Trooper Basic. The trooper recruits receive 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 training and search and rescue. They are also exposed to additional scenario-based training events.

Upon completion of Trooper Basic, trooper recruits will move to their first duty assignment in either Fairbanks, Soldotna or the Mat-Su Valley and begin a 12-week Field Training and Evaluation Program. All 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. At that point, wildlife troopers will move to the Division of Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

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