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### Ten-Month Investigation Nets New Charges for Illegal Guide

(ANCHORAGE, Alaska) – Alaska Wildlife Troopers, Wildlife Investigations Unit recently completed a nearly 10 month investigation into the activities of longtime outlaw hunting guide Michael Anthony “Tony” Roberts, 50 yoa of Anchorage/Big Lake. Roberts is charged with three felonies, including defrauding creditors for his efforts to avoid paying an approximate \$160,000 child support debt, falsifying business records, and criminal mischief related to tampering with a court ordered ankle monitoring device. Roberts has also been charged with approximately 35 various misdemeanors to include:

- Driving with a Revoked License
- Flying without a Pilot’s License
- Guiding without a License
- Transporting Hunters without a Transporters License
- Unlawful Possession of Game
- Illegal Bear Baiting
- Violating Conditions of Release

A 10-month investigation revealed evidence of Roberts conducting several illegally guided hunts with unwitting sportsmen from numerous lower 48 states over the past four years. Some of the hunts even occurred while Roberts was awaiting trial for other wildlife offenses or was awaiting sentencing. Roberts, who has previously been convicted of guiding without a license as well as other serious wildlife crimes such as wanton waste, taking game same day airborne and illegal bear baiting, also collaborated with two other men who acted as assistants for the unlicensed guiding business. Charges against Roberts’ collaborators are pending but have not yet been filed in court. Roberts was the subject of a brief manhunt in early October of this year after he absconded from his court ordered third party custodian. He was re-captured after being found hiding under a bed inside a Big Lake area home. He was also the subject of another manhunt in 1999 after undercover investigators documented Roberts guiding without a guide’s license, taking big game same day airborne, and illegally baiting and trapping bears. Roberts has been in custody at Palmer Correctional Center since his capture last October.

Roberts’ history of convictions for wildlife crimes dates back nearly 25 years. His lengthy criminal history includes convictions for several DUI’s, several assaults, numerous driving without a license, failure to appear and a felony conviction related to previous attempts to avoid paying his child support debts.