DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

STATE OF ALASKA

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PRESS RELEASE

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CORRECTIONS RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY

JUNEAU – In order to fill vacant Correctional Officer and Probation Officer positions, the Department of Corrections has begun a major recruitment advertising campaign. Using a \$150,000 budget allocation, advertising will appear on television, radio, in print, and on movie screens across the state. In addition, a distinct series of ads will be developed to promote Correctional Officer positions at Spring Creek Correctional Center in Seward.

The advertising campaign will run through the spring.

"The goal is to keep up with vacancies created by retirements and to fill the positions this administration created to deal with the state's growing offender population. Although we hired 156 new correctional officers in just one year, the new hires are barely keeping up with retirements," said Commissioner Antrim, who worked as a Correctional Officer for close to 20 years.

"In our 12 institutions we have approximately 60 open Correctional Officer positions. We created 46 this year in order to reduce overtime and fill new security posts at Fairbanks Correctional Center, identified in wake of a recent security incident," Commissioner Antrim explained.

The department has 21 Probation Officer positions open in field offices statewide – many of these new positions resulting from new laws which strengthened the supervision of sex offenders.

"The Department of Corrections is a public safety agency, and each day our officers work to protect the public from some very dangerous people," said Commissioner Antrim. "It's a challenging and rewarding career with a great work schedule and an excellent benefit package. Anyone interested in joining our team and making a real difference can learn more at www.alaskacorrections.com."