

Nancy Dahlstrom  
Commissioner



Department of  
Corrections

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Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

### **K9 Officer Koda Passes**

**10/26/2021 (Anchorage)** – Department of Corrections is saddened to announce Koda, a five-year-old German Shepherd K9 Officer, passed away after a short battle with a very progressive form of leukemia. His current handler, SGT Patrick Blackburn, and his previous handler, SGT Joshua Wood, were with him.

During his service with Alaska DOC, Koda, a seasoned detection K9, assisted Wood and Blackburn in the search of illegal narcotics, as a part of Commissioner Dahlstrom's commitment to combat the introduction of contraband in our institutions and Alaskan communities.

Koda has been instrumental in finding contraband inside of our institutions, assisting probation and parole officers with field contacts, and partnering with outside agencies to keep our communities safe.

Statistics of Koda's service to DOC and law enforcement partners from April 2017 until End-of-Watch, October 23, 2021 follow: indicated on 25,263.59g Heroin, 22,484.41g Methamphetamine, 16,434.48g Cocaine, \$345,089.00 US Currency, resulting in 18 Federal and one State arrest.

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