POLICY:

It is the policy of the Department of Corrections (DOC) to make a reasonable effort to locate all absconders.

APPLICATION:

This policy and procedure will apply to all Division of Probation & Parole employees.

DEFINITIONS:

As used in this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

**Absconder On Probation Supervision:**
"Absconding" means failing to report within five (5) working days after release from custody or failing to report for a scheduled meeting with a Probation Officer, as ordered by the Court or as directed by the Probation Officer, and failing to report within thirty (30) days following the missed meeting.

**Absconder On Parole Supervision:**
"Absconding" means failing to report within five (5) working days after release from custody or failing to report for a scheduled meeting with a Parole Officer, as ordered by the Parole Board or as directed by the Parole Officer, and failing to report within thirty (30) days following the missed meeting.

PROCEDURES:

I. Supervision Of The Case:

   A. When an offender violates conditions of supervision related to absconding, the Probation / Parole Officer (PO) shall follow DOC P&P 902.16, Incentives And Graduated Responses To Supervision Violations.
B. When the offender is identified to be an absconder, the PO shall undertake the following appropriate action:

1. The PO does not need to wait until the offender’s behavior meets the definition of an “absconder” to make efforts to locate the offender as detailed in (B) (2) of this policy or address the violation behavior through DOC P&P 902.16, Incentives And Graduated Responses To Supervision Violations or a program established under AS 33.05.020 (f), including filing a Petition to Revoke Probation or a Parole Violation Report.

2. The PO shall, at a minimum facilitate two (2) of the five (5) attempts to locate the offender by utilizing one (1) of the preferred methods listed below. Attempting in person contact at the last reported residence is mandated as one (1) of the two (2) attempts to locate. For rural cases the PO shall attempt to coordinate with local law enforcement which may include VPSO’s and Alaska State Troopers to assist in locating an offender. The PO shall record all efforts made to locate the absconder in the Department’s offender management system which may include, but are not limited to:
   a. Attempt in-person contact at the last reported residence. Leave directions for the offender to report, including the location, date and time. If reasonable, attempt to interview neighbors;
   b. Attempt contact by telephone;
   c. Attempt contact at place of employment;
   d. Mail or email the offender their reporting obligations and provide specific directions to report, including the location, date and time; and
   e. Check for any active warrants and / or police contacts through available State of Alaska and national criminal databases.

3. For Interstate Compact Cases, refer to Interstate Compact For Adult Offender Supervision (ICAOS) Rule 4.209-2 for further guidance.

II. Placement On An Inactive Supervision Status:

A. Within thirty (30) days of the Court or the Parole Board issuing a warrant, the case shall be transferred to an absconder bank. With supervisor approval, an offender may remain on an active caseload.

B. When moving an offender to an absconder bank, the PO shall use the Absconder File Checklist (Attachment A).

C. Cases in the absconder bank shall be audited at least annually to include a check for active warrants. Results of the audit shall be documented in the Department’s offender management system.