

## Sex Offender Management Programming in the Alaska Department of Corrections

- Offenders convicted of sexual crimes make up 15.3% of Alaska's total prisoner population.
- 99.3% of sex offenders in Alaska are male.
- Alaska Native men make up approximately 45% of the sex offender population.
- Approximately 60-70% of Alaskan sex offenses involve crimes against children.
- The Alaska DOC uses the Containment Supervision Model for management of sex offenders.
  - The best evidence-based practice for the supervision of sex offenders and the most successful at reducing sex crime recidivism.
  - Uses specially trained probation/parole officers, polygraph testing and cognitive-behavioral treatment.
- Intensity of treatment and length of supervision are the key factors associated with successful management of sex offenders. (Center for Sex Offender Management, US Department of Justice, 2007)
- Nationally, the sexual offense recidivism rate for sex offenders is approximately 5% after 3 years and 24% after 15 years (SMART Office Report, US Department of Justice, 2014).
- Sexual recidivism for program complete offenders after three years in Alaska is 3%.
- Recidivism rate for any new offense after completing ADOC SO programming is 31%
- Sex offenders who remain free of violent offenses for eight years see a 50% drop in recidivism (Harris & Hanson, 2012).
  - Moderate risk sex offenders who have no violent offenses after 14 years are no more likely to commit a sexual offense than anyone else in the community
  - High risk offenders are no more likely than anyone else to commit a sexual crime after 17 years without a violent offense
  - For low risk offenders, their risk at release is the same as the general population
- Prison-based sex offender programs
  - Lemon Creek Correctional Center (Juneau), 24-36 months, program capacity 24, waitlist 30
  - Palmer Correctional Center, 18-24 months, program capacity 24, currently suspended due to lack of treatment provider
  - Hiland Mountain Correctional Center (Eagle River), 18-24 months, program capacity 12, no waitlist
- Bethel Tundra Center CRC-based sex offender program
  - 24-months, program capacity 20; waitlist 2
- Community Sex Offender Management Program
  - Anchorage, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai and Bethel
  - 18-24 months
  - Waitlist 90 to 120 days; higher risk offenders given priority access
  - 361 offenders were served in FY15
- By statute sex offenders on probation/parole for a sexual crime must submit to regular polygraph testing.
  - 812 polygraphs administered in FY2015
  - Administered when entering sex offender treatment and at least twice per year
  - Admissions made during testing are confirmed through collateral information or retesting
  - Polygraphs gauge risk to the community and evaluate risk of victim contact
  - Polygraphs act as a deterrent
  - Polygraphs identify victimology and potential victim pools that should be avoided
  - Polygraphs bring attention to aberrant thoughts and behaviors early in the assault cycle so that corrective action can be taken before the behavior escalates
  - Polygraphs aid in evaluating treatment effectiveness and compliance with probation/parole conditions