

# Special Report:

## UAA Justice Center Domestic and Sexual Violence Research Review and Recommendations

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Compiled By:

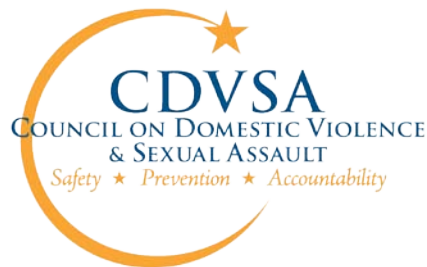
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## Attachments

- *Report and Recommendations: Reducing Sexual Assault in Alaska.* (2009). Alaska Senate. Judiciary Committee.
- *Effective Criminal Justice Responses for Violence Against Women in Alaska.* UAA Justice Center.
- Annotated Bibliography of relevant Justice Center publications.

## Introduction:

Alaska's state agencies, public officials, and communities at large throughout the state of Alaska have been faced with imperative demands towards addressing rates and instances of domestic violence, sexual assault, as well as child abuse and child sexual abuse. Data from the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) are the most long standing indication of crime in the state of Alaska.<sup>1</sup> Rates for forcible rapes have *always* been higher in Alaska than the national average (UCR 1960-2007), a statistic that is only one indication of the scope of the problem.

This indicator of forcible rape is limited because it does not include forcible rapes that were not reported to law enforcement, statutory rapes, incapacitated rapes, rapes with male victims, other sex offenses, or rapes with more serious offenses (e.g., homicide). Justice Center studies show that the federal definition of forcible rape (the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly against her will) fails to capture the severity of sexual violence in the state. For example, Justice Center data from the Anchorage Police Department show that 24% of sexual assaults reported in 2000 to 2003 are not included in the federal definition of forcible rape (Rosay 2006). Additionally, Justice Center data from sexual assault nurse examinations in Bethel in 2005 and 2006 show that 46% of patients were passed out or had blacked out at the time of the assault – these assaults are not included in the federal definition of forcible rape.

Alaska faces a host of other challenges in grappling with domestic violence and sexual assault issues. Not least among these challenges are the many rural communities throughout the state. Limited resources coupled with geographic isolation, cultural considerations, and seasonal climate fluctuations restrict access by members of Alaska's numerous bush communities to victim services, the Alaska Court System, and law enforcement personnel. Alaska's few urban areas also face daunting challenges. The rates of forcible rape reported to law enforcement were 2 to 5 times higher in Anchorage and Fairbanks than the national average.

On a statewide planning level, Alaska public agencies ranging from the Departments of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Health and Social Services are tasked with developing coordinated, targeted, and effective preventive and service-orientated measures to serve Alaska's people. This represents a formidable task for any governing body dealing with issues that demand robust funding appropriations and the incorporation of a wide scope of best practices among many professionals.

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<sup>1</sup> Data retrieved from: Office of Justice Programs. Bureau of Justice Statistics. *Crime Trends*. (2010). URL: <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/dataonline/Search/Crime/Crime.cfm>

## Purpose:

This brief report was requested by members of the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA)<sup>2</sup> in December of 2009, and is to be submitted to their own body, as well as to the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety (DPS).

The intent behind this synopsis is to take an informative snapshot of the studies and research that the UAA Justice Center has undertaken in the past decade related to domestic violence and sexual assault, as well as to address key recommendations provided by the UAA justice Center, particularly those recommendations that the Council may specifically choose to undertake in the future.

## Background:

The UAA Justice Center was created in 1975 by the Alaska Legislature.<sup>3</sup> The Justice Center has become an academic, research, and public education leader in the State of Alaska, providing relevant and up to date information on crime and crime prevention, rural justice, and juvenile justice. Behind the Justice Center's research and studies are a host of faculty and professionals with a wide scope of credentials ranging from law, police enforcement, corrections work, and public office.

The Council has an ample opportunity to utilize relevant Justice Center studies in its policy and project coordination addressing the safety and social issues of domestic violence and sexual assault. Alaska Statute mandates that the Council:

(3) in consultation with authorities in the field, develop, implement, maintain, and monitor domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention programs, including educational programs, films, and school curricula on the cause, prevention, and treatment of domestic violence and sexual assault;

(4) coordinate services provided by the Department of Law, the Department of Education and Early Development, the Department of Public Safety, the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Corrections, and other state agencies and community groups dealing with domestic violence, sexual assault, and crisis intervention and prevention, and provide technical assistance as

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<sup>2</sup> Herein referred to as "the Council"

<sup>3</sup> For a more complete look at the UAA Justice Center's history, purpose, and organization please see "About the Justice Center." *UAA Justice Center*. 30 July 2009. Web. 19 March 2010. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/jcinfo.html>

requested by those state agencies and community groups. (AS Sec. 18.66.050)

Towards these ends, the Council should seek to solidly ground its policy and project initiatives in quantifiable and peer reviewed studies and research. The UAA Justice Center, at the forefront of relevant Alaska information pertaining to the Council's field, provides just such a venue towards accomplishing its duties.

### **Summary of Justice Center Research and Studies:**<sup>4</sup>

In the following review of research and studies produced through the UAA Justice Center we'll attempt to broadly cover the findings pertaining to the fields of:

- Domestic Violence
- Sexual Assault
- Stalking
- Child Abuse & Neglect
- Police Enforcement

Whenever prudent, a simple cursory list will be made indicating the findings of cited studies and research.

### **Domestic Violence**

Rivera et al. (2008) reviewed closed cases of assaults involving domestic violence reported to Alaska State Troopers (AST) in 2004 throughout Alaska with a total of 1,281 reports reviewed. This only includes cases of assaults involving domestic violence reported to AST and does not include cases reported to local or municipal law enforcement agencies. The report examines both felony and misdemeanor assaults involving domestic violence.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, this report and all those that follow, rely on reports to law enforcement. As a result, these studies only describe what law enforcement documented in their reports. Therefore, if certain information was not documented, it was not included in the Justice Center's studies.

A summary of key findings follows:

1. Fairbanks, Palmer, and Soldotna AST Detachments handled 50% of the reports.

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<sup>4</sup> It is important to note that the summary statistics presented here do not include every statistical figure found throughout the Justice Center's studies and research. An effort has been made to restrict the focus here to statistical findings particularly informative for the Council's purposes.

<sup>5</sup> Rivera, Marny; Rosay, André B.; Wood, Darryl S.; Postle, Greg; and TePas, Katherine. (2008). Descriptive Analysis of Assaults in Domestic Violence Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2004. AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.04.dv-assaults.html>

2. Suspects were predominately male (76%) and White (51%) or Native (45%).
3. Victims were predominantly female (70%) and White (51%) or Native (47%).
4. A vast majority (86%) of cases were intra-racial (i.e., within the same racial group).
5. Over half (58%) of cases involved current or former intimate partners.
6. Nearly three quarters (72%) of victims were living with the suspect during the time of the reported assault.
7. A total of 59% of cases involved the consumption of alcohol by either the suspect or victim or both.
8. 24% of victims consulted a professional before reporting the incident to law enforcement, meaning that 76% did not.
9. Stalking and the use of weapons in domestic violence assault cases were uncommon.

Following Rivera et al. (2008) the UAA Justice Center, in its Fall 2009 issue of the *Alaska Justice Forum* publication, used the same 2004 domestic violence reports and subsequent findings to analyze court proceedings that ensued, as well as case attrition. These articles included "Predicting Legal Resolutions in Domestic Violence Cases," (Rivera et al.) and "Attrition in Cases of Violence Against Women Reported to the Alaska State Troopers," (Wood et. al).<sup>6</sup> The latter of these two articles covers specifically intimate partner violence (IPV) perpetrated against women.

Following are key findings from the two related articles:

#### *Rivera et al. 2009*

1. Characteristics significantly predicting referral of cases for prosecution:
  - a. Cases were 5.8 times more likely to be referred for prosecution when the victim was interviewed by AST.
  - b. Cases were 2.9 times more likely to be referred for prosecution when the victim was an intimate partner rather than a domestic partner (e.g., parent/child, sibling, roommate).
  - c. Cases involving suspect use of alcohol or other drugs were 2.5 times more likely to be referred for prosecution.
  - d. Cases closed within 19 days were 2.3 times more likely to be referred for prosecution.

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<sup>6</sup> Rivera, Marny; Rosay, André B.; Wood, Darryl S.; and TePas, Katherine. (Fall 2009). "Predicting Legal Resolutions in Domestic Violence Cases." *Alaska Justice Forum* 26(3): 1, 8–12. URL: [http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/a\\_dvrez.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/a_dvrez.html)

Wood, Darryl S.; Rosay, André B.; Rivera, Marny; and TePas, Katherine. (Fall 2009). "Attrition in Cases of Violence Against Women Reported to the Alaska State Troopers." *Alaska Justice Forum* 26(3): 2–4. URL: [http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/b\\_attritionvaw.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/b_attritionvaw.html)

- e. Cases involving cohabitants were 2.1 times more likely to be referred for prosecution.
  - f. Cases involving suspects older than the 32 years of age were 2 times more likely to be referred for prosecution.
2. Characteristics significantly predicting acceptance of cases for prosecution:
    - a. Cases where suspects admitted guilt or gave a full confession were 3.1 times more likely to be accepted for prosecution.
    - b. Cases involving more than one charge were 2.7 times more likely to be accepted for prosecution.
    - c. Cases where someone other than the victim reported AST were 2.3 times more likely to be accepted for prosecution.
    - d. When AST documented victim injuries, cases were 2.3 times more likely to be accepted for prosecution.
    - e. Cases with a child present were 2.3 times more likely to be accepted for prosecution.
    - f. Cases with a male suspect were 2.2 times more likely to be accepted for prosecution.
  3. Characteristics significantly predicting conviction:
    - a. Cases initially reported to a VPSO or a VPO were 2.4 times more likely to result in a conviction than those initially reported to the AST.
    - b. Cases in which suspects used alcohol or drugs during the incident were 2.3 times more likely to result in a conviction.
    - c. Cases involving more than one charge were 1.8 times more likely to result in a conviction.
    - d. Cases where suspects admitted guilt or gave a full confession were 1.8 times more likely to result in a conviction.

It is important to note that Rivera et al. (2009) exemplifies that what Troopers do can make a difference in rates of referral, acceptance, and conviction. Overall, it appears that when Troopers have the time and resources to fully investigate offense (i.e., time and resources to interview victims, close cases quickly, secure admissions of guilt or confessions, gather enough evidence to produce multiple charges, and document injuries sustained by victims) legal resolutions are more successful. The Alaska Department of Public Safety has already used these results to improve legal resolutions.

### *Wood et al. 2009*

#### *Alaska Native/Non-Native IPV Victims*

1. IPV assaults known to the police and handled by AST and DOL were *substantially more* likely to result in a conviction (61%) than the national average (14%).
2. Cases with Alaska Native victims were never less likely to be founded than cases with non-Native victims.
3. Cases with Alaska Native victims were never less likely to be referred for prosecution than cases with non-Native victims.
4. Cases with Alaska Native victims were never less likely to be accepted for prosecution than cases with non-Native victims.
5. Cases with Alaska Native victims were *more* likely to result in a conviction than cases with non-Native victims.

#### *Isolated/Non-Isolated IPV Victim Communities*

6. Cases from isolated communities (ones without a Trooper post) were never less likely to be founded than cases from non-isolated communities.
7. Cases from isolated communities were more likely to be accepted for prosecution than cases from non-isolated communities.
8. Cases from isolated communities were more likely to result in a conviction than cases from non-isolated communities.

Wood et al. (2009) and Rivera et al. (2009) point towards several observations that should be noted. First, allegations that the State of Alaska's response to violence in Alaska Native villages were discriminatory, based on community isolation or racial biases, are not substantiated by the Justice Center's studies. In fact, Wood et al. (2009) show that Trooper responses in rural Alaska are as effective or more effective. Secondly, however, Rivera et al. (2009) indicate how the effectiveness of Trooper responses could be strengthened even more.

In the fall 2005 issue of the *Alaska Justice Forum*, the article "Court Innovations in Domestic Violence Cases," also analyzed court proceedings.<sup>7</sup> Within this article the effectiveness of two new advocacy positions tasked with dealing with *ex parte* (short term) and long term domestic violence protective orders (DVPOs) within the Anchorage area were examined. More specifically, the analysis sought to examine whether or not the new positions would contribute to:

- A higher percentage of petitioners attending long-term DVPO hearings.

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<sup>7</sup> Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. (Fall 2005). "Court Innovations in Domestic Violence Cases." *Alaska Justice Forum* 22(3): 1-7.

- The granting of more long-term protective orders.
- The granting of more child custody awards at long-term DVPO hearings or within six months following.
- The granting of more child support awards at long-term DVPO hearings or within the following six months.
- The court holding fewer hearings in each case.
- Parties filing fewer motions to modify long-term protective orders.
- Petitioners asking for fewer long-term protective orders to be dissolved after they were granted.

The analysis itself revealed a few unexpected results. For the Council's purposes, the unexpected and significant *increase* in parties seeking motions to modify long-term orders *after* the new positions were created provides an interesting observation for the Council to consider.

Interviewees questioned in relation to the *ex parte* and long-term protective order analysis believed that the presence of both an advocate, operating out of Abused Women's Aid In Crisis (AWIC - one of the Council's affiliated victim service programs) and the facilitator (operating out of the court's Family Law Self Help Center) contributed to the increased likelihood of petitioners and respondents working through the court system to resolve issues – rather than simply not following conditions of the court orders or dissolving them altogether.

Finally, regarding domestic violence and moving beyond the realm of Alaska's courts, in August 2006 the Justice Center produced a report entitled "Intimate Partner Violence Against AHTNA (Alaska Native) Women in the Copper River Basin" (Magen and Wood).<sup>8</sup> Using face-to-face interviews with 91 Athabaskan women (out of a population of 291), researches sought to examine the frequency, severity, and consequences of intimate partner violence.

A summary of key findings follows:

1. Compared to the National Violence Against Women Survey (Tjaden and Thoennes 2000) the rate of intimate partner violence against Ahtna women was 3 to 10 times higher.
2. Ahtna women also reported annual physical assault victimizations at rates eight to twelve times than that of women throughout the United States.
3. Alcohol use during victimizations was prevalent: 78% of perpetrators, 60% of victims, and 57% for both using concurrently.

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<sup>8</sup> Wood, Darryl S. and Magen, Randy H. (April 2009). "Intimate Partner Violence Against Athabaskan Women Residing in Interior Alaska: Results of a Victimization Survey." *Violence Against Women* 15(4): 497–507. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0026.aknativewomen/0026.02.ahtna.pdf>

4. A majority of perpetrators of violence against Ahtna women were Alaska Native (58%), 22% were Alaska Native and other (i.e. mixed race), 14% were White, and 7% reported as “Other.”<sup>9</sup>
5. More than half (51%) of Ahtna women surveyed reported the incident to police, a significantly higher number than the national reporting rate (26.7%).
6. The percentages of perpetrators arrested (76%), charged (32.8%), convicted (94.7%), and imprisoned (83.3%) are significantly higher than the nationally reported figures of 36%, 7.3%, 47.9%, and 35.6% respectively.
7. Eighty percent of victims were either satisfied or very satisfied with the police response, 80% thought the officer treated the incident as if it were important, and 77% felt as if the police treated them with respect.
8. According to Ahtna victims, only 13.8% contacted a women’s shelter; similarly only 6.9% called a crisis line, and additionally 25% of respondents found women’s shelters to be “not helpful at all.”

## Sexual Assault

Similarly to reported domestic violence incidents, the Justice Center also examined reports of sexual assault within the state of Alaska. Postle et al. (2007) analyzed 989 reports of sexual assault and child sexual abuse reported to the Alaska State Troopers between 2003 and 2004.<sup>10</sup> The report examines suspects and perpetrators in each reported incident, as well as the legal resolutions to each ensuing case. These data are from sexual assaults reported to Alaska State Troopers only. They do not include data from sexual assaults reported to municipal or local police departments.

A summary of key findings follows:

### *Suspects*

1. 25% of all reports were handled by Bethel Enforcement (17%) or Palmer Investigation (8%).
2. Most suspects were male (97%) and Native (59%) or White (37%).
3. On average, suspects were 29 years of age; 22% were 16-20 years old, 25% were 21-30 years old, 20% were 31-40 years old, and 13% were 41-50 years old.

<sup>9</sup> Sum of percentages exceeds one hundred due to rounding; the racial/ethnic categories were exclusionary

<sup>10</sup> Postle, Greg; Rosay, André B.; Wood, Darryl S.; and TePas, Katherine. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2003-2004*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2005-WG-BX-0011 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Grant Numbers 2003-WF-BX-0201 and 2004-WF-AX-0033 awarded by the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL:

<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.02.sexualassault.pdf>

4. 43% of suspects were reported to have used alcohol, while only 7% of suspects reportedly used other drugs.
5. 41% of minor victims were assaulted by a relative, while only 17% of adult victims were assaulted by a relative.

### *Victims*

1. Most victims were female (89%) and Native (61%) or White (38%).
2. On average, victims were 16.2 years old, with 80% being under the age of 21; 11% were 5 years old or younger, 25% were 6-12 years old, 29% were 13-15 years old, and 16% were 16-20 years old.
3. 27% of victims reported using alcohol, compared to only 5% who reportedly used drugs.
4. 26% of victims received a SART exam and evidence of penetration was found in 17% of victims.
5. Characteristics of Victim/Suspect relationships were found to be as follows:
  - a. 46% involved friends and acquaintances.
  - b. 35% involved family members.
  - c. 12% involved current or former intimate partners.
  - d. 4% involved a suspect identified as an authority figure.
  - e. 2% involved complete strangers.

### *Incidents*

1. 87% of incidents were intra-racial (i.e., within the same racial group). 91% of Native victims and 94% of Native suspects reported intra-racial incidents, while 84% of White victims and 87% of White suspects reported intra-racial incidents.
2. 71% of victims were not living with the alleged suspect.
3. 34% of incidents had documented alcohol use by either victim or suspect or both.
4. 32% of incidents involved no substance abuse.
5. 4% of incidents involved drug use by either victim or suspect.
6. 2% of incidents involved both alcohol and other drug use by either the victim or suspect.
7. 29% of incidents had undocumented or unknown statuses regarding alcohol or other drug use.

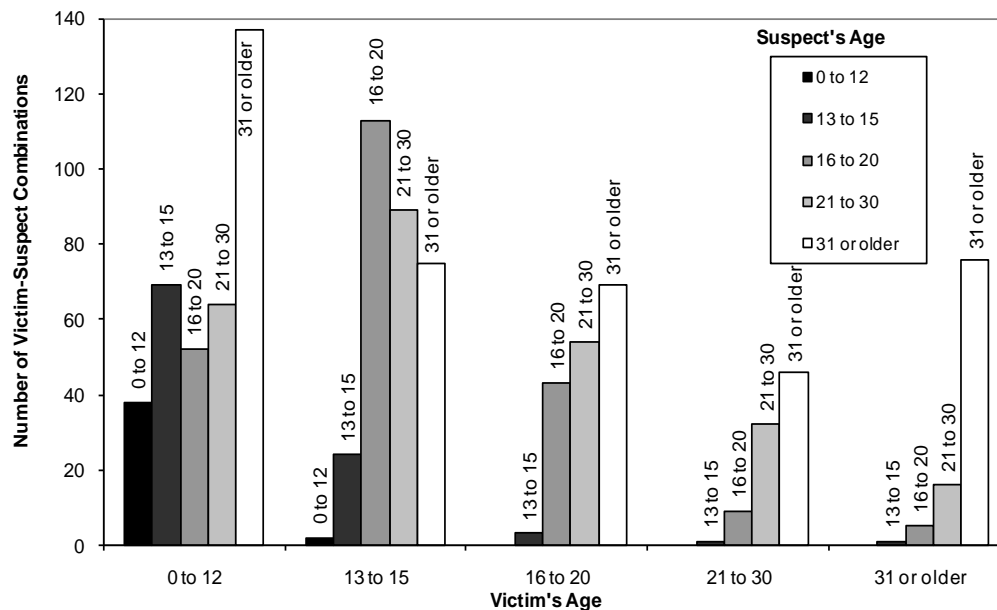
### *Legal Resolutions*

1. Of the 989 incidents, 46% were referred to the Alaska Department of Law (DOL), 28% were accepted for prosecution, and 22% resulted in a conviction.
2. Of the 452 cases referred to DOL, 60% were accepted for prosecution. Of the 273 cases accepted for prosecution, 80% resulted in a conviction.

### Other report characteristics

1. Notifications on the Violent Crimes Compensation Board were documented in only 3% of the reports.
2. Notifications pertaining to the Office of Victims Rights were documented in only 1% of the reports.
3. Among sexual assault charges, the most common charges (accounting for 81% of charges) were 2<sup>nd</sup> degree sexual abuse of a minor (29%), 1<sup>st</sup> degree sexual assault (22%), 2<sup>nd</sup> degree sexual assault (18%), and 1<sup>st</sup> degree sexual abuse of a minor (12%).<sup>11</sup>
4. Among sexual assault charges the least common charges (accounting for 19% of charges) were 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree sexual assault and 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> degree sexual abuse of a minor.<sup>12</sup>
5. 79% of incidents involved victims and suspects from widely differing age brackets. See Figure 1.

Figure 1 (Postle et al 2007, pg. 48)



<sup>11</sup> Statutory References: 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Abuse of a Minor (AS 11.41.436); 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sexual assault (AS 11.41.410); 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Sexual Assault (AS 11.41.420); 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Sexual Abuse of a Minor (AS 11.41.434)

<sup>12</sup> Statutory References: 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Sexual Assault (AS 11.41.425); 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sexual Assault (AS 11.41.427); 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Sexual Abuse of a Minor (AS 11.41.438); 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sexual Abuse of a Minor (AS 11.41.440)

6. 71% of victims were not living with suspects at the time of the incident.
7. 66% of the charges referred for prosecution were accepted for prosecution and 33% were not accepted from prosecution. The most common reason for not accepting charges (for 32% of declined charges) was “inadequate corroboration.”

In the *Alaska Justice Forum*, Wood and Rosay (2008) published an article titled “Case Attrition of Sexual Violence Offenses: Empirical Findings.”<sup>13</sup> The article examines court proceedings that followed the sexual assault and sexual abuse of minor reports to the AST between 2003 and 2004. The report addresses overall case attrition, as well as specifically discussing claims that arose indicating that AST and DOL held discriminatory practices against Alaska Natives and those living in isolated Alaskan communities without main highway access.

A summary of key findings follows:

1. Out of 1,379 cases reported to the AST, 884 (74.7%) cases were ultimately founded with a suspect and were within AST’s jurisdiction.
2. Out of those founded cases 449 (50.8%) were referred for prosecution and of those referred 271 (60.4%) cases were accepted for prosecution
3. Of those accepted from prosecution, 217 (80%) resulted in a conviction and 54 (20%) resulted in an acquittal.

After comparative analysis of Native and non-Native victim reports, as well as isolated and non-isolated victim reports, within the case attrition described above, Wood and Rosay (2008) determined that:

With the exception of SAM [Sexual Abuse of a Minor] cases against Alaska Native victims being less likely to be founded, *cases of sexual violence against Alaska Native victims were just as likely or actually more likely to receive full enforcement and prosecution when compared with cases against non-Native victims*. On the basis of geography, cases occurring in locations with predominately Alaska Native populations believed to be underserved by AST were actually more likely to be dealt with by AST or DOL when compared with cases from outside those geographic areas. (pg. 20)

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<sup>13</sup> Wood, Darryl S. and André B. Rosay. 2008. "Case Attrition of Sexual Violence Offenses: Empirical Findings." *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 1, 18–20. URL: [http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/b\\_attrition.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/b_attrition.html)

Rosay et al. (2010) examined 638 sexual assault cases reported to Alaska State Troopers that involved just one victim and one adult suspect. Of these 638 cases, 61% were referred for prosecution, 36% were accepted for prosecution, and 29% resulted in a conviction.<sup>14</sup>

Many factors were found to significantly predict referral, and the following are particularly important. The likelihood of referring a case for prosecution increased by a factor of:

1. 3.4 when physical or DNA evidence was collected from the suspect.
2. 3.2 when multiple sex acts were documented.
3. 3.0 when the suspect had more than one charge.
4. 2.6 when the suspect was tape recorded.
5. 2.1 when the suspect had prior arrests against the victim.
6. 1.6 when the case was closed within two weeks.

Several important factors were also found to predict whether cases would be accepted for prosecution. The likelihood of accepting cases for prosecution increased by a factor of:

1. 3.7 when multiple sex acts were documented.
2. 3.7 when the case was closed within two weeks.
3. 2.6 when the first responder was a local paraprofessional (e.g., VPSO).
4. 2.4 when Troopers took photographs of the assault scene.
5. 2.3 when the suspect provided inconsistent statements to Troopers.
6. 1.9 when the suspect had more than one charge.
7. 1.7 when the suspect was interviewed within three days of the report.

These factors, similar to those associated with legal resolutions of domestic violence cases reviewed above, show that the work of the Alaska State Troopers can improve legal resolution. When Alaska State Troopers have the time and resources to fully and quickly investigate sexual assaults, legal resolutions improve.

In addition to the analyses that reviewed sexual assault cases submitted to the Alaska State Troopers, the Justice Center also examined sexual assault reports that were submitted to the Anchorage Police Department (APD) between 2000 and 2001, as well as 2002 and 2003 (Rosay et al. 2003; Rosay et al. 2006).<sup>15</sup> The report published in 2003 *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual*

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<sup>14</sup> Rosay, A. B., Wood, D., Rivera, M., Postle, G., & TePas, K. (2010). *Investigation and Prosecution of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Stalking*. Pending publication. Shared with Council staff May 2010 by Rosay, A. B.

<sup>15</sup> Rosay, André and Langworthy, Robert H. (2003). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage, Alaska*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2000-RH-CX-K039 from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL:

<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0107sxassault/0107sexualassaults.pdf>

*Assaults in Anchorage, Alaska* examined 541 reports of sexual assault, while the report published in 2006, *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage, Alaska: 2002/2003 Updated*, reviewed 691 reports of sexual assaults.

A summary of key findings from the two related articles follows:

#### *Rosay et al. 2003*

1. When comparing the Uniform Crime Report's (UCR) figures of forcible rapes to that of Alaska's statutory definitions of sexual assault, the Justice Center found 113 additional sexual assault incidents. This was 26% of all sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department. This indicates that 26% of the sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department were not counted in the Uniform Crime Report figures.
2. Between 1982 and 2001, the proportion of violent crime (i.e., murder, robbery, aggravated assault, and forcible rape) that was attributed to rape was more than two times higher in Anchorage than the national average throughout the United States.

#### *Victims*

1. Native victims were "vastly" overrepresented when compared to the racial and ethnic make-up of the Anchorage population, accounting for 45.1% of victims (but only 10.6% of the Anchorage population). Comparatively, 44.7% of victims were White, 5.0% were Black, 1.5% were Hispanic, and 1.5% were Asian.
2. 95.5% of victims were female and 66.8% of victims were between the ages of 15 and 34; additionally 15 to 19 year olds were 4.7 times more likely than other age groups to be victims of sexual assault.
3. More than 60% of victims, intentionally or not, consumed alcohol prior to the assault.
4. Of the known 325 relationships, 181 (55.7%) of incidents involved people who knew each other compared to 144(44.3%) of incidents that involved strangers. Among the 181 people who knew each other, 58% were friends and acquaintances.

#### *Suspects*

1. A majority of suspects were male (99.4%) and White (40.7%), while Natives made up 22.2% of suspects and Blacks 24.2% of suspects.

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Rosay, André, with Sanders, Jeannie; Collins, Mary Lee; Smith, Sandra; Caladine, Bonnie; and Monahan, Donna. (2006). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage, Alaska: 2002/2003 Update*. Final report. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL:

<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0107sxassaultupdate/0107-03.sexualassault.pdf>

2. Blacks and Natives were overrepresented as suspects when considering Anchorage's general population.
3. The average age of suspects was 29.6 years old, while the highest rates of sexual assaults were shown to be attributed to suspects between 20 to 24 years old.
4. Most suspects (76.2%) used alcohol prior to the incident.

### *Incidents*

1. Over half (52.3%) of sexual assault incidents were intra-racial. Native victims, however, were more likely than others to be assaulted in an inter-racial incident (victim and suspect of a different race).
2. In 59.7% of incidents, both the victim and the suspect had consumed alcohol prior to the incident.
3. On average, suspects were 5 years older than victims.

### *Rosay et al. 2006*

1. Little changed in reports of sexual assault to the APD when including 2002 and 2003 data compared to 2000 and 2001 data:
  - a. Rates of forcible rapes reported to law enforcement continued to be higher for Anchorage than national rates.
  - b. Most victims continued to be female and were predominantly White or Native, and sexual assault rates upon 15 to 24 year olds were still the highest among age groups.
  - c. Most suspects continued to be male and most tended to be White. Additionally, alcohol use by suspects remained frequent.
  - d. The most common (50%) location of sexual assaults continued to be a private residence of either the suspect's, victim's, or another person's.
2. The changes that did take place with the inclusion of 2002 and 2003 reports to the APD included:
  - a. The number of sexual assaults increased by 45% between 2002 and 2003.
  - b. Victimization of Natives and Blacks increased. In addition, victimizations of individuals less than 15 years of age and of individuals 45 to 54 years of age also increased.
  - c. The number of stranger assaults declined by 21%, while the number of non-stranger assaults increased by 30%.

Both the Anchorage Police Department and the Alaska State Trooper studies reviewed above show that non-stranger assaults are more common than stranger assaults. Additionally, non-stranger assaults were becoming more common in the Anchorage Police Department Studies.

Historically many prevention efforts were geared towards preventing stranger assaults. These studies, however, suggest that sexual assault prevention strategies should focus on non-stranger assaults (by friends and acquaintances) than on stranger assaults.

Before moving onto the host of Sexual Assault Nurse Examination (SANE) studies that the Justice Center has conducted – summarized herein within the broader scope of sexual assault in general - we turn towards *Reporting Sexual Assault Victimizations to Law Enforcement* (Rosay et al. 2007).<sup>16</sup> The report reviews 101 SANE patients from Bethel, Fairbanks, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna who provided information regarding their decisions to report their victimization to law enforcement.

A summary of key findings follows:

1. Nearly a half (49%) reported to the AST, while 48% reported to local police enforcement agencies, and only 4% reported to the federal police.
2. 98% of patients were female and were predominately Native (53%) or White (43%).
3. Upwards of 50% of victims were under the age of 25.
4. 65% of victims reported being under the influence of alcohol during the assault; additionally, 28% of victims reported being passed out or had blacked out due to intoxication.
5. All suspects were male (100%), and most (81%) had used alcohol prior to the assault.
6. A majority of suspects (52%) were Native, 33% were White, and 14% were Black.
7. 97% of victims were assaulted by non-strangers, while just 3% were assaulted by complete strangers.
8. 92% of victims consulted someone prior to reporting, but only 5.9% consulted a health professional and only 5.9% consulted a Rape Crisis Center.

### *Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Study*<sup>17</sup>

In 2007 the Justice Center produced a report entitled *Alaska Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Study: Final Report* (Rosay et al. 2007).<sup>18</sup> The study examined the characteristics of 1,699

<sup>16</sup> Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Reporting Sexual Assault Victimizations to Law Enforcement*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WG-BX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.06.reportsexoffense.pdf>

<sup>17</sup> Within this sub-section it should be noted that a particularly small fraction of the findings of the Justice Center's SANE study are presented here. Topics that were covered extensively within the Justice Center's SANE study (genital injury, patient's demeanor during exams, types of sexual violations, etc.) did not seem to be readily applicable to the purposes of this report or the Council's interests

<sup>18</sup> Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Alaska Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Study: Final Report*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WG-BX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.07.final.pdf>

records created by Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) within the communities of Anchorage (1996-2004), Bethel (2005-2006), Fairbanks (2005-2006), Homer (2005), Kodiak (2005), Kotzebue (2005), Nome (2005), and Soldotna (2005).

A summary of key findings follows:

#### *Victim/Suspect/Incident Characteristics*

1. The majority of patients (98%) were female and Native (56%) or White (36%).
2. At the time of the SANE examinations, 50% of patients were 24 years of age or younger.
3. Intoxication was common (67%) among patients during the time of assaults; 10% reported intoxication due to drugs.
4. Most suspects (99.7%) were male and Native (34%), White (34%), or Black (22%).
5. 39% of suspects were 20 to 29 years old, 25% were 30 to 39 years old, 22% were 40 years old or older, and 15% were 10 to 19 years old.
6. Suspects overwhelmingly (85%) used alcohol prior to the assault, while 18% used other drugs.
7. 84% of patients were assaulted by a non-stranger, while 16% were assaulted by complete strangers.

#### *Legal Resolutions*

1. Five factors influenced the likelihood of cases reported to law enforcement being referred for prosecution:
  - a. Cases reported to the AST were 86% more likely to be referred for prosecution than cases reported to local police departments.
  - b. Cases involving non-disabled patients were 2.4 times more likely to be referred for prosecution than those involving disabled patients.
  - c. Cases where SANE exams included an alternative light source were 50% more likely to be referred for prosecution than cases with an exam that did not.<sup>19</sup>
  - d. Cases were more likely to be referred for prosecution as the number of non-genital injuries increased.
  - e. Cases that involved a known suspect were 2.4 times more likely to be referred for prosecution.
2. Three factors influenced the likelihood that cases would actually be accepted for prosecution:
  - a. Cases involving sober victims were 32% more likely to be referred for prosecution than those with intoxicated victims.

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<sup>19</sup> Rosay et al. 2007 indicates that this factor is likely spurious

- b. Cases involving masturbation by the suspect were 28% less likely to be accepted for prosecution than those cases not involving masturbation.
  - c. Cases involving a genital follow-up exam were 34% more likely to be accepted for prosecution than those cases that did not.
3. Two factors influenced the likelihood that cases would eventually end in a conviction:
  - a. Cases involving victims who did not test positive for sexually transmitted diseases were 37% more likely to result in a conviction.
  - b. Cases involving intra-racial (persons of the same race) assaults were 23% more likely to result in a conviction than those assaults that took place inter-racially (persons of different races).

In addition to the *Alaska Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Study: Final Report* (Rosay et al. 2007), four separate reports were published that analyzed data on a more regional scale.<sup>20</sup> More specifically, one report analyzed SANE examinations within Anchorage (1996-2004), another within Bethel (2005-2006); one analyzed exams within Bethel in 2005 and 2006 and in Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna in 2005, and finally one report analyzed exams within Fairbanks (2005-2006).

The individual report statistics are reviewed here for a comparative look at the broad areas of victim and suspect characteristics. The main purpose of the tables compiled below is to indicate the regional differences that SANE exams reveal. One should use prudence when considering the information below, particularly in regards to suspect information, as these figures are based on victim responses and not all identities of suspects were known.

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<sup>20</sup> Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Anchorage: 1996-2004*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WG-BX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.01.anchorage.html>

Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Bethel: 2005-2006*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WG-BX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.03.bethel.html>

Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Bethel, Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WG-BX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.04.rural.html>

Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Fairbanks: 2005-2006*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WG-BX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.02.fairbanks.pdf>

**SANE Examinations Anchorage: 1996 - 2004**

Victims	Gender		Race			Age Range					Substance Use		
	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	Over 44	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	Passed Out
	98%	2%	52%	38%	10%	20%	29%	23%	18%	10%	65%	10%	23%
Suspects (67% of Identities Were Known)	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	10 to 19	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	Over 50	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	
	0.30%	99.70%	25.70%	37%	37.30%	14%	37%	26%	16%	7%	85%	18%	
Relationship	Stranger	Non-Stranger											
	19%	81%											

**SANE Examinations Bethel: 2005 - 2006**

Victims	Gender		Race			Age Range					Substance Use		
	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	Over 44	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	Passed Out
	98%	2%	100%	0%	0%	27%	26%	24%	12%	12%	71%	3%	46%
Suspects (95% of Identities Were Known)	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	10 to 19	20 to 29	30 to 39	Over 40	Over 50	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	
	2%	98%	97%	3%	0%	33%	42%	12%	14%	N/A	87%	8%	
Relationship	Stranger	Non-Stranger											
	3%	97%											

**SANE Examinations Bethel in 2005 and 2006 and in Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna in 2005**

Victims	Gender		Race			Age Range					Substance Use		
	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	Over 44	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	Passed Out
	99%	1%	88%	11%	1%	26%	31%	23%	10%	9%	70%	3%	41%
Suspects (93% of Identities Were Known)	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	10 to 19	20 to 29	30 to 39	Over 40	Over 50	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	
	1%	99%	90%	10%	0%	30%	40%	12%	18%	N/A	89%	7%	
Relationship	Stranger	Non-Stranger											
	3%	97%											

**SANE Examinations Fairbanks: 2005-2006**

Victims	Gender		Race			Age Range					Substance Use		
	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	Under 18	18-24	25-34	35-44	Over 44	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	Passed Out
	97%	3%	54%	40%	6%	13%	38%	25%	17%	8%	71%	5%	31%
Suspects (86% of Identities Were Known)	Female	Male	Native	White	Other	10 to 19	20 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	Over 50	Alcohol Use	Drug Use	
	0.80%	99.20%	55%	41%	4%	15%	54%	21%	8%	3%	86%	36%	
Relationship	Stranger	Non-Stranger											
	13%	87%											

Sources: Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Anchorage: 1996-2004*; Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Bethel: 2005-2006*; Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Bethel, Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna*; Rosay, André B. and Henry, Tara. (2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Fairbanks: 2005-2006*

## Stalking

Having now covered the broad areas of domestic violence and sexual assault we move towards the Justice Center study which examined the issue of stalking. In 2007, the Justice Center produced a report entitled *Descriptive Analysis of Stalking Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 1994-2005*, which included information on all stalking incidents reported to the AST between 1994 and 2005, amounting to 210 reports of stalking.<sup>21</sup>

A summary of key findings follows:

1. The average number of stalking reports to the AST dropped from 22 per year to 15 within four years of Alaska's anti-stalking legislation.
2. 67% of stalking cases reported to AST detachments resulted in arrest.
3. Of the 222 charges that arose from the 210 reports of stalking, 55% were between current or former intimate partners while 45% were between strangers, friends and acquaintances.
4. 21% of stalking reports involved alcohol use, and only 2% involved drug use.

### Suspects

1. Stalking suspects were usually known by the victim (only 7% were complete strangers) and were most commonly male (98%) and White (78%) and their average age was 36 years old.
2. 30% of stalking suspects violated a protective order condition, or conditions of release, and/or conditions of probation.
3. 22% of suspects had previous arrests for stalking, assaulting, or harassing the victims.

### Victims

1. Stalking victims were typically female (89%) and White (86%) with an average age of 33 years.
2. Few stalking victims (2%) reported using alcohol or any other drug.
3. 70% of victims did not consult anyone prior to reporting the stalking incident(s).

### Legal resolutions and other characteristics

1. Of the 92 stalking reports between 1999 and 2004 examined, 75% were referred for prosecution, 55% were accepted for prosecution by DOL, and 40% ultimately resulted in a conviction.
2. 55% of stalking charges were accompanied by other non-stalking charges, the most common non-stalking charge being assault (25.5%).

In conjunction with the report *Descriptive Analysis of Stalking Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 1994-2005* (Rosay et al. 2007), an article in the *Alaska Justice Forum* entitled "Stalking in

<sup>21</sup> Rosay, André B.; Wood, Darryl S.; Postle, Greg; and TePas, Katherine. (Feb 2007). *Descriptive Analysis of Stalking Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 1994-2005*. Report prepared under Grant No. 2005-WG-BX-0011 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.01.stalking.pdf>

Alaska” briefly reviewed their findings in their report (Rosay et al. Spring 2007).<sup>22</sup> In their concluding remarks they note that:

While we do not have any data on why stalking is so underreported, law enforcement hypothesizes that stalking may be under-recognized by victims....Law enforcement might be trained to capitalize on opportunities for early recognition of stalking patterns. Efforts might also be undertaken to raise public awareness of stalking as a crime and report it as such and to further train law enforcement to recognize the signs of stalking. (pg. 12)

In addition to the stalking studies above, Rosay et al. (2010) also analyzed legal resolutions in stalking cases, as they pertain to referrals and acceptance.

Cases reported to Alaska State Troopers were more likely to be referred for prosecution when:

1. Investigations were closed within 45 days.
2. Suspects were charged with stalking in the first degree.
3. The charge involved domestic violence.
4. The charge involved alcohol or drugs.
5. The suspect harassed the victim's family and friends.
6. The suspect engaged in two or more different stalking behaviors.
7. The suspect had three or more charges.

Once referred for prosecution, cases were more likely to be accepted for prosecution when:

1. The suspect made unsolicited phone calls.
2. The suspect threatened to physically assault the victim.
3. The suspect had three or more charges.
4. The suspect used alcohol or drugs.

These results reiterate that legal resolutions are improved when Alaska State Troopers have the time and resources to fully investigate offences (e.g., to collect enough information to secure multiple charges).

### **Sexual, Physical and Neglectful Abuse of a Minor<sup>23</sup>**

Several of the Justice Center’s studies have corollary significance towards understanding aspects of sexual and physical abuse of a minor. These corollary figures can be derived from the research studies we’ve already examined here. For instance, Postle’s et al. (2007) analysis of reports of sexual assaults to the AST revealed that a wide age difference between average ages of victims and suspects is apparent – while a victim’s average age was around sixteen, a suspect’s age averaged around twenty-nine. From

<sup>22</sup> Rosay, André B.; Postle, Greg; TePas, Katherine; and Wood, Darryl. (Spring 2007). "Stalking in Alaska" *Alaska Justice Forum* 24(1): 1, 7–12.

<sup>23</sup> *Pro forma*, the terms “minor” and “child” simply refer to all those under 18. Though for statutory, as well as researcher purposes, this is typically not the case.

this statistic alone, one could infer that issues of child and minor physical and sexual abuse are a pressing issue for Alaskans to grapple with.

Within the past twelve years, the only study that the Justice Center has undertaken which *specifically* addressed child physical and sexual abuse as its primary focus is its 1998 study entitled *Results from the Long-term Inmate Survey: Focus on Child Abuse Histories* (Langworthy et al.).<sup>24</sup> The study conducted congregative surveys (240 total) of long-term inmates in several prisons within Alaska, as well as more detailed and descriptive face-to-face interviews (100 total) with inmates to gather information pertaining to child physical abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse.

A summary of key findings follows:

1. Overall, 50% of long-term inmates reported being physically abused by a family member and a larger percentage (80%) reported physical abuse when including others outside their family.
2. Over 65% of respondents indicated some form of neglect during their childhood.
3. More than 70% of respondents indicated that they had one or more sexual experiences before the age of 12, comparatively only 25% of these respondents indicated that they considered these sexual experiences abuse.
4. Overall, women were more likely to report experiencing abuse as a child than men. Similarly, 70% of women considered their childhood sexual experiences to be abuse compared to 17% of men who considered their childhood sexual experiences to be abuse.
5. Overall, African-Americans reported higher frequencies of physical, sexual, and neglectful abuse than Whites and Alaskan Natives. Whites, however, were more likely to report abuse than Alaska Natives, but Alaska Natives were more likely to report neglect than Whites.
6. Inmates who reportedly grew up in an Alaskan village were less likely to report abuse but more likely to report neglect.
7. Inmates who reportedly grew up in a two-parent household were less likely to report a history of abuse or neglect.
8. Inmates who reportedly had parents that abuse alcohol or drugs were more likely to report histories of abuse.

Langworthy et al. (1998) comment that while there were few surprises in the data collected, it is interesting to note the exceptionally high rates of abuse and neglect within the long-term inmate population. Additionally, Langworthy et al. also sought to examine the “cycle of violence” hypothesis, which posits that abusive childhoods are passed from one generation to the next, through analysis of the 100 interviews conducted with long-term inmates. Langworthy et al. conclude that, “We did not see compelling, statistical evidence for the existence of a “cycle of abuse”... They [long-term inmates, however,] tended to have lived disrupted, unstable and somewhat abusive childhoods” (pg. 11).

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<sup>24</sup> Langworthy, Robert H.; Barnes, Allan R.; and Curtis, Richard W. (Jun 1998). *Results From the Long-Term Inmate Survey: Focus on Child Abuse Histories*. Report prepared for the Alaska Department of Corrections. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.

In addition to Langworthy's et al. (1998) study, there are several statistics within Rosay's et al. (2010) analysis which also bear review here in regards to minor sexual abuse. When examining the difference between adult and minor victims of sexual assaults reported to Alaska State Troopers in 2003 and 2004, there are some important differences:

1. Minor victims were more likely to be assaulted by relatives than adult victims (41% of minor victims were assaulted by relatives while 17% of adult victims were assaulted by relatives).
2. The most common sexual acts reported by minor victims included touching of the external female genitalia (55%), penile penetration of the victim's vagina (36%), and touching of the victim's breasts (32%).
1. Overall, 43% of minor victims reported elements of sexual penetration (the statutory requirement for felony sexual abuse of a minor).
2. Minor victims were more likely to cooperate or to pretend to cooperate than adult victims, and were less likely to run away from the suspect, to attack the suspect, or to call or yell for help.

## Police Enforcement

Finally, we take a brief look at some of the Justice Center studies which have specifically addressed the area of police enforcement. For the purposes of this report, we'll take a look at two publications which address the effects of alcohol on police enforcement, as well as looking at Alaska's Village Public Safety Officer Programs (VPSOs).

The Justice Center in 2004 published a quantitative and qualitative report entitled *The Police Alcohol-Related Service Study (PASS): A Study of the Intersection of Public Alcohol Use and Routine Police Patrol* (Mystrol and Langworthy).<sup>25</sup> The report utilized trained observers' notations that were collected over a period of 28 days for a total of 76 day-beat-shift patrol observations with an officer of the APD.

A summary of alcohol involvement in patrol work statistics follows:

### APD Tasks

1. 26.2% of all police-citizen encounters in Anchorage were alcohol related.
2. Approximately, 11% of all non-encounter patrol officer activities were alcohol related.

### APD Time

1. Roughly 14% of a patrol officers' total time on shift was spent on alcohol-related tasks (activities + encounters). On average, this translates into about 84 minutes per 10 hour shift.

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<sup>25</sup> Myrstol, Brad A. and Langworthy, Robert H. (2004). *The Police Alcohol-Related Services Study (PASS): A Study of the Intersection of Public Alcohol Use and Routine Police Patrol*. Preliminary report prepared for the Anchorage Police Department. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: [http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0417pass/0417\\_01pass.pdf](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0417pass/0417_01pass.pdf)

### *APD Total Time between Activities and Encounters*

1. Patrol officers dedicated an estimated 9.4% of their total activity time on alcohol-related tasks.
2. 33.7% of the total time officers spent interacting with members of the public (i.e., encounter time) were alcohol related.

### Estimated cost of APD time on Alcohol-Related tasks and encounters

1. APD's estimate of \$91 per hour to maintain a line-level patrol officer in the field, 202 line-level patrol officers (during the study) and a 2,000 work year (2,080 minus 2 week vacation), the direct costs associated with alcohol-involved incidents totals about \$5.2 million.<sup>26</sup>

Prior to Myrstol and Lanworthy's (2004) report, the Justice Center published a report with a widely different subject area within police enforcement – namely, turnover among Alaska's VPSOs. In 2000, Wood produced a report entitled *Turnover Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers*.<sup>27</sup> Information was gathered from Alaska Department of Public Safety records and 113 self-administered surveys of current and former VPSOs at the time of the study.

A summary of key findings follows:

1. 63% of VPSOs were Alaska Natives. Of this population:
  - a. 75% served in their home village or where they were related to other village residents (93%).
  - b. 79% reported arresting a relative while 39% reported arresting an immediate family member.
  - c. Slightly over half (52%) of respondents reported that it was difficult to enforce the law against relatives.
  - d. 42% of VPSOs felt that they were treated as outcasts due to their position as a VPSO.
2. Across all cross samplings of VPSOs:
  - a. VPSOs dissatisfied with their training were more likely to leave the program.
  - b. Unmarried VPSOs were more likely to leave the program.
  - c. VPSOs were actually at a greater risk of leaving the program if they did not have a second job.
3. Across some samples of VPSOs:
  - a. Those VPSOs who reported having to use food stamps were more likely to leave the program.
  - b. VPSOs of Alaska Native heritage were less likely to leave the program.

<sup>26</sup> See Myrstol, Brad A. (Spring 2004). "Police Patrol and Public Alcohol Use in Anchorage." *Alaska Justice Forum* 21(1): 1, 9-12. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/21/1spring2004/forum211spring.pdf> which explores caveats associated with this cost estimate.

<sup>27</sup> Wood, Darryl S. (2000). *Turnover Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers: An Examination of the Factors Associated With Attrition*. Report prepared under Grant No. 98-IJ-CX-0035 from the National Institute of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. URL: <http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9901vpso/9901vpso.html>

- c. Those VPSOs working with other officers (VPOs or Tribal Police) were less likely to leave the program.
4. By focusing on the core reasons VPSOs remain in the program, Wood (2000) found that:
  - a. Immersion within the Alaska Native culture made VPSOs more likely to remain in the program.
  - b. VPSOs that were married were more likely to remain in the program.
  - c. VPSOs serving their own communities were more likely to remain in the program.
  - d. VPSOs working in collaboration with other police paraprofessionals increased the likelihood of remaining in the program.

Finally, it is pertinent to note a slightly dated report produced in 1995 which the Justice Center published as part of a larger research project for the Alaska Department of Public Safety entitled *Public Safety and Policing in Alaska Native Villages*.<sup>28</sup> The report concluded that a majority of respondents from rural, predominately Native Alaskan villages, felt that law enforcement, to the extent possible, needed to be addressed at a local level for the greatest effectiveness. Additionally, respondents indicated a general satisfaction with rural community life, but also had an articulated understanding of the social problems that needed to be addressed.

## Recommendations and Suggestions

Having attempted to review a wide swath of statistics and research analysis produced by the UAA Justice Center, we now turn towards understanding what these statistics and studies suggest for the Council. Before getting into the Justice Center's specific recommendations, as well as the suggestions we might glean from the information presented here, a note of caution is warranted.

One must be careful in attempting to make causal relationships between statistics and the social issues we are grappling with here. While it is essential to be as informed as possible in the subject areas that the Council works within, simply indicating a set of statistics as a basis for implementing policies or projects fails to address broad complexities in creating a robust response to domestic violence and sexual assault. Therefore, the recommendations and suggestions here are geared more towards spurring a larger discussion and further scrutiny within areas the Council may deem crucial in addressing.

## UAA Justice Center Recommendations

Attached to this report are two documents which pertain to those recommendations the Justice Center has deemed particularly important in addressing. The two documents attached include:

1. "Effective Criminal Justice Responses for Violence Against Women in Alaska"<sup>29</sup>
2. *Report and Recommendations: Reducing Sexual Assault in Alaska*<sup>30</sup>

<sup>28</sup> Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. (1995). (1995). *Public Safety and Policing in Alaska Native Villages: Component Three of Alaska Public Safety Project*. Report prepared for the Alaska Department of Public Safety. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.

<sup>29</sup> Armstrong, B. <anbaa@uaa.alaska.edu> (2010, March 4). [Personal Email]. Submitted to Council staff as Attachment.

We'll not review each recommendation here, as they are enumerated within the attached documents, but it is noteworthy that both of these sets of recommendations contain core emphasis areas, which are also reflected in the studies already presented within this report. These are:

1. Increasing law enforcement capabilities for investigative purposes, as well as strengthening VPSO, VPO, and TPO rural community programs.
2. Addressing alcohol abuse through education and/or prohibitive actions.
3. Enhancing access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners.

The Judiciary Committee recommendations also include provisions seeking a statewide victimization survey and a more comprehensive data collection system to be under the auspices of the Alaska Department of Public Safety. This system would record key characteristics from cases of violence against women reported to all law enforcement agencies in the state. The Justice Center and the Alaska Department of Public Safety have already discussed such a system and have already identified key characteristics that would be important to track.

Due to the lack of a complete statewide law enforcement and prosecutorial data collection system, none of the studies mentioned in this report provide a statewide description of violence against Alaskan women. While we now have significant information from cases reported to the Anchorage Police Department and the Alaska State Troopers, we do not have a statewide description.

Additionally, focusing on reports to law enforcement only provides a partial picture of violence against women in Alaska. As new initiatives to reduce domestic violence and sexual assault in Alaska are being considered, we must develop the capacity to evaluate those initiatives. Unfortunately, relying on rates of offenses reported to law enforcement is insufficient, inaccurate, and misleading:

- a. These rates do not include offenses that were not reported to law enforcement.
- b. Sexual assault and domestic violence are less likely to be reported than other offenses.
- c. Not all law enforcement agencies provide data on reported offenses.
- d. Increases in rates of reported offenses may indicate:
  - i. Success, because victims are becoming more likely to report.
  - ii. Failure, because victimization rates are increasing.
- e. Decreases in rates of reported offenses may indicate:
  - i. Success, because victimization rates are declining.
  - ii. Failure, because victims are becoming less likely to report.

Although the rate of forcible rape in Alaska has declined by 31% from 2003 to 2008, we cannot determine whether our efforts to combat sexual violence are succeeding (by lowering victimization rates) or failing (by inadvertently making it more difficult for victims to report to law enforcement). In addition, we cannot determine whether our efforts are succeeding in some locations but failing in others. To answer these questions necessitates a victimization survey. The Justice Center and the

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<sup>30</sup> Alaska Senate. Judiciary Committee. (2009). Memorandum: *Report and Recommendations: Reducing Sexual Assault in Alaska*. URL: [http://www.aksenate.org/french/101609\\_Senate\\_Judiciary\\_report\\_on\\_sexual\\_assault.pdf](http://www.aksenate.org/french/101609_Senate_Judiciary_report_on_sexual_assault.pdf)

Council have already begun one victimization survey and hope to continue this survey in subsequent fiscal years.

## Suggestions Following Review

Beyond the recommendations that the UAA Justice Center has suggested, there also appear to be several other suggestive areas of interest that can be gleaned from the UAA Justice Center's studies presented here for the Council's purposes. To address these we'll cover each within the following topical areas: 1) Targeted prevention strategies, 2) CDVSA funded victim service programs, 3) Data collection and analysis needs, and finally, 4) Municipal and State law enforcement collaboration.

### Targeted Prevention Strategies

Within the past decade a particular emphasis has arisen on prevention and prevention strategies throughout the United States, as well as Alaska. Evidence of this can be seen in the various prevention initiatives that have been developed and continue to be refined within states like Washington and Virginia.<sup>31</sup> The recent Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault initiative undertaken by Alaska's Governor Parnell also specifically seeks to implement preventative measures to combat domestic and sexual violence.

While domestic and sexual violence prevention strategies are still being refined, it is important to get a sense of the complexities that prevention initiatives involve. Counter to what might be initially assumed, prevention is largely understood to take shape in three forms (Wolfe and Jaffe 2003).<sup>32</sup> First, primary prevention seeks to prevent violence before it is ever committed. Secondary prevention, on the other hand, seeks to target services and campaigns for particular populations (typically understood to be at-risk populations) to reduce suspected or known risk factors associated with violence. Finally, tertiary prevention can largely be understood as interventions to mitigate the negative consequences that ensue following the perpetration of violence.

It is important to note that CDVSA's funded victim service programs have been on the forefront of creating and implementing prevention strategies through educational and other intervention-based programs on a local level. Additionally, these victim service programs and other professionals in the field have entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) called Domestic Violence Prevention Enhancement and Leadership through Alliances (DELTA). DELTA focuses upon primary prevention and its work is guided by local partnerships with victim service programs throughout the state of Alaska.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>31</sup> See "Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention," (2010) *The City of Seattle, Human Services Department*. URL: <http://www.cityofseattle.net/humanservices/domesticviolence/> and "Sexual and Domestic Violence Prevention," (2010) *Virginia Department of Health*. URL: <http://www.vahealth.org/injury/sexualviolence/>

<sup>32</sup> Jaffe, P. G. & Wolfe, D. A. (2003, January). *Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault*. Harrisburg, PA: VAWnet, a project of the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence/Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence. URL: <http://www.vawnet.org>

<sup>33</sup> Grassgreen, Lori and Siebold, Wendi. *Pathways To Prevent Domestic Violence: A Plan for Alaska 2010-2016*. (2010). Report prepared under grant US4/CE001522-02 a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. 1-24.

As is evident in the statistics reviewed here, the UAA Justice Center's studies are primarily geared towards analyzing tertiary preventions. That is to say, that following acts of violence, if they are reported, law enforcement, corrections, health professionals, Alaska's court system, and other state and private agencies, are involved in the mitigation of the negative effects caused by acts of domestic and sexual violence. Given this *de facto* focus we can really only address, in general terms, those populations that seem most likely at risk to be victims of violence or perpetrators, and possibly seek secondary interventions to reduce the associated risk factors.

A prominent associated risk factor already addressed by the Justice Center, but deserving of reiteration, is substance abuse, particularly of alcohol. While making a causal relationship between the perpetration of violence and the use of alcohol would be unwise, a simple cursory glance at the statistics presented here show that incidents of domestic and sexual violence in the majority of cases involved either severe or moderate use of alcohol.

Given this information, the Council and its partners should strive to collaborate with state, local, and other organizations to implement strong secondary prevention measures to address alcohol abuse, possibly through education or the implementation of other policies and strategies to curb alcohol abuse.

Examining how best to implement secondary prevention measures, targeting both victims and perpetrators, should also be part of the Council's considerations. For example, while it is widely understood that within Alaska sexual violence overwhelmingly involves female victims and male perpetrators, the studies here also indicate that a vast majority of assaults take place intra-racially between friends, relatives and acquaintances. Additionally, the examination of sexual violence information presented here shows a fairly significant age difference typically between younger female victims and older male perpetrators. Delving further into these apparent victim and perpetrator risk populations may prove beneficial for the Council in implementing and collaborating with others in creating effective secondary prevention strategies.

Although the Justice Center data focuses on assaults that have been reported to law enforcement, several findings are important for primary prevention. In particular, the data show that the stereotypical image of a young adult female assaulted by a male stranger appear to be rare. Many victims are minors and many are assaulted by friends and acquaintances. Primary prevention efforts should be geared towards common forms of assault rather than stereotypical images of assault.

Finally, in contemplating secondary prevention measures, it is crucial that the Council work towards strengthening existing ties with Alaska Native regional and community bodies, as well as creating new partnerships, to further understand and positively address the general overrepresentation of Alaska Natives as victims and perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence within the state of Alaska.

In considering secondary prevention, the Council should seek to not only incorporate the inferences that can possibly be made from the information presented here and elsewhere, but also to take time to examine other public models of prevention to inform the planning and execution of secondary prevention projects or long term programs.

### *CDVSA Funded Victim Service Programs*

In the information presented here regarding the Ahtna Women study (Magen and Wood 2006) only 13% of participants contacted a woman's shelter and 25% found women's shelters to be "not helpful at all." Wood, co-author of the Ahtna Women study, conjectures that these figures are largely due to the limited access to victim service programs in the Copper River Basin area.<sup>34</sup> Given the breadth of Alaska's rural and isolated regions and their communities, this difficulty certainly is not limited to the Copper River Basin alone.

The issue of service catchment is not a simple issue to tackle. A significant amount of resources, both fiscally and professionally, must be in place and secured before goals towards increasing service catchment areas and communities can be achieved. Additionally, these gains cannot be at the expense of well established victim service programs that the Council and others already support. It is, however, fundamental for the Council to address how to innovate in the short term to meet victim needs and plan for the long term in growing and building a strong service infrastructure to aid victims of violence.

In this light, within the short term the Council should continue work with established victim service programs and community organizations to ensure and verify that those isolated communities without a readily accessible victim service facility and staff are provided with some quantifiable and qualitative measure of care and assistance. In the longer term, the Council and its partners should also examine ways that service catchment areas and communities can be feasibly increased to meet community and victim needs.

### *Data Collection and Analysis Needs*

There are several aspects to data collection and analysis that the Council, in this age of information and knowledge driven policy, must recognize as continuous and long term commitments. Fundamentally, the Council is tasked with the following in regards to data collection and analysis:

- (6) Conduct public hearings and studies on issues relating to violence, including domestic violence and sexual assault, and on issues relating to the role of crisis intervention and prevention. (AS.18.66.050)

Beyond this statutory requirement, following the passage of Sections 40292 and 40509 of Title IV, within the Violence Against Women Act of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the U.S. government has put strong emphasis on centralizing data collection in a qualitative and quantifiable systematic process. Given these requirements and emphases, the Council should take particular care to continually examine and consider areas where research and other studies need to be conducted.

This report indicates several research areas which are in need of data collection and analysis. First, Alaska specific studies within the past decade that primarily deal with child and minor sexual and physical abuse appear to be non-existent. The only study examined here by the UAA Justice Center that

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<sup>34</sup> Armstrong, B. <anbaa@uaa.alaska.edu> (2010, April 13). [Personal Email]. Forwarded email originally sent to Justice Center.

dealt with child abuse was the 1998 study *Results from the Long-term Inmate Survey: Focus on Child Abuse Histories* (Langworthy et al.).

In the research conducted for this report, no readily applicable, contemporary, or available study, even outside of the Justice Center's research, seemed to cover child or minor abuse in any quantifiable or qualitative fashion within the state of Alaska. The exception to this appears to be data available through the federal agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - the Administration for Children and Families (ACF). The ACF has compiled and reported child and minor abuse rates through their States to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System for a number of years.<sup>35</sup> The Alaska Office of Child Services also provides data in regards to cases of child and minor abuse, but its presentation of figures are limited and have, as of late, produced little qualitative analysis of the data their agency collects.

Given the absence of studies surrounding the issue of child and minor physical and sexual abuse, the Council should seek to partner with relevant state agencies and other organizations to address this data collection and analytical shortfall.

Secondly, another area in which the Council should seek to collect data for research purposes revolves around the overall effectiveness of victim service programs. As has already been discussed, the Ahtna women study of the Copper River Basin revealed the limitations that service catchment areas impose on the effectiveness of providing services. Outside of this limitation, there appears to be a need to understand the comparative outcomes between victims who utilize victim services and those who do not. A study of this nature could inform the Council of both its victim services strengths and weaknesses and implement policies and programs accordingly.

To achieve such a study of victim service effectiveness, collaboration and planning with law enforcement, the Alaska Court System, as well as the Council's own victim service programs, would be essential. Understanding how victims come to utilize services and the overall outcomes of those that do is a crucial research initiative that has yet to be undertaken.

Finally, the Justice Center research on case attrition within domestic and sexual violence cases also appears to be an important area of research the Council could consider. Unlike the above mentioned areas of data collection and analysis, data and analysis of case attrition actually exist. The Council, however, could implement further research into the process of case attrition to increase understanding of how rates could be reduced. The Justice Center, in its series of recommendations, indicates that increased investigative capacities for both the AST and municipal police departments could reduce attrition rates. The Council, given a detailed understanding of how case attrition takes place, could also implement recommendations and policies of its own to contribute towards the improvement of these rates.

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<sup>35</sup> See Children's Bureau. "Statistics and Research." Accessed April 2010. URL: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats\\_research/index.htm](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/stats_research/index.htm)

Overall, the suggestions here regarding data collection and analytical needs are limited. Given the constantly evolving nature of data collection and relevant areas for research, the Council will need to continually evaluate its own data collection and analytical needs to benefit knowledge-based implementation of projects and programs.

### ***Municipal and State Law Enforcement Collaboration***

Postle's et al. (2007) analysis of 989 reports of sexual assault and child sexual abuse reported to the Alaska State Troopers between 2003 and 2004 indicated that only 2% of victims were informed of the Victims of Crime Compensation Board (VCCB) and only 1% of victims were informed of their victim rights.

There are two possibilities for these low figures: 1) this information is being passed to victims and is simply not being documented, or 2) this information is not being communicated to victims at all. Whichever may be the case, the Council should work with law enforcement and paralegals to ensure that personnel are aware and trained within the scope of VCCB services and victims' rights. Additionally, the Council should seek to ensure that this information is being passed to victims and is being adequately documented.

The recommendations, thus far, have revolved around fairly complicated tasks that that Council could undertake. One suggestion, however, while involving considerable planning and implementation, is straightforward: the Council should ensure that victims are informed of their rights and the services available to them. There appears to be no other more immediate and practical way to accomplish this other than ensuring that personnel working directly with victims are not only well versed in this information, but are also passing on this information to victims.

## **Prospects and Conclusion**

The issues of sexual and domestic violence are pressing social issues that demand attention within our state and throughout the nation. Given their prevalence and negative effects, these issues are far from static affairs that can be solved with one approach or another. The Justice Center itself has ongoing projects and studies are currently being pursued. These projects and others by the Justice Center should be examined by the Council upon their completion to further its pursuit in preventing and responding to sexual and domestic violence.

The Council, its staff, and the programs it supports are also continually refining program execution from the administrative level to the project and program level towards providing and implementing the most effective and available means necessary to address domestic and sexual violence. Throughout this process, an examination of its vision, purpose, and programs should constantly be scrutinized and seek innovative solutions to the enduring problems of domestic and sexual violence.

Those examinations should include the use of new resources and theoretical approaches available to the Council. For instance, as the Council nears a stable phase of data collection from its victim service programs, a closer look at the populations being served could reveal a host of preventative measures

that could be undertaken to prevent and reduce, as well as mitigate, the consequential effects caused by incidents of domestic and sexual violence.

On a preliminary analysis of data collected for state Fiscal Year 2009 from the Council's supported victim service programs, it appears, not surprisingly given what the Justice Center's studies have shown, that Alaskan Natives are disproportionately recipients of the victim services provided throughout the state. Additionally, Alaska Department of Labor statistics show Alaska Native populations are overrepresented in populations at or below the poverty line. While there are a host of reasons that could explain both of these generalizations, not least among them is the location of a majority of the Council's supported victim service programs, and Alaska Native cultural lifestyles which include subsistence practices, it is important that the Council explore inter-agency and interdisciplinary approaches for addressing these issues. In this case, the Council could ask: How is economic status related to rates of violence or the utilization of victim services? What services or programs could the Council seek to implement to improve economic statuses prior and following acts of violence?

Examining the Council's own collected data for possible project and program initiatives towards creating a comprehensive and collective response to domestic and sexual violence is only one of the many pursuits that can be utilized for the growth of a robust response infrastructure.

This report has sought to cover broadly the UAA Justice Center's research within the past decade that pertains to the Council's focus on domestic violence and sexual assault. Additionally, it has covered the Justice Center's specific recommendations, as well as suggestions that can be inferred from the information presented throughout this report. It is up to the Council, its many partners, and collaboration with other professionals, to ultimately work towards an Alaska free from domestic and sexual violence. The information and recommendations herein are only one small contribution towards that work.

# Alaska State Legislature

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## Senate Judiciary Committee

### MEMORANDUM

#### *Report and Recommendations: Reducing Sexual Assault in Alaska*

##### *Introduction:*

Alaska has the highest reported rate of sexual assault in the United States. Between 2003 and 2007, Alaska's reported rate of forcible rape was over two and a half times the national average, with Anchorage reports at almost three times the national rate and Fairbanks reports at over five times the national rate. This does not include all sexual assaults in Alaska, since the definition used in the federal reporting system (the Uniform Crime Report) excludes child victims, male victims, and many other forms of sexual assault. Nevertheless, forcible rape is a greater percentage of all violent crimes reported in Alaska than it is nationally, at 12% of all violent crime in Alaska as opposed to 6% of violent crime in the United States on average.

Between 2003 and 2004, the Troopers received 1,184 reports of contact sexual violence cases involving forcible rape, sexual assault, or sexual abuse of a minor. Of those, some 884 were deemed to have occurred and to have an identifiable suspect. The troopers then turned over 449 cases, or about half, to the Department of Law for their screening. Of these, 271 were accepted for prosecution, and some 217 convictions resulted.

During hearings of the Senate Judiciary Committee conducted during 2009, committee members heard testimony as to what Alaska can do to reduce sexual assault and improve rates of prosecution and conviction.

The following issues were discussed:

##### *A. Inadequate and inaccurate data:*

1. The current system for tracking reports of sexual assault is inadequate at best. The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) excludes many kinds of sexual assault, making it

- unreliable, even for reported crimes. Not all police departments in Alaska provide information to the UCR, though they are statutorily required to do so. According to the Department of Public Safety, 41 local police departments failed to file the data needed for the Uniform Crime Report in 2007.
2. Alaska has never done a victimization study (a survey that includes both reported and unreported cases). Because of this, we do not know if Alaska's rates of sexual assault are higher, or the rate at which reports are made are higher, or both. So, for example, Fairbanks may have a very high rate of sexual violence, or it may be that citizens are simply more likely to report that violence, or it may be that both these things are true. Nationwide, it is estimated that 52% of sexual assaults are not reported to law enforcement. Without a victimization study, there is no way to know if this is also the case in Alaska.
  3. Finally, the statistics that are available, largely collected through studies done by the Justice Center of the University of Alaska, show differences in the groups that are most likely to be victimized in various regions. For instance, a review of Alaska State Trooper cases showed that 94% reports are of victims who were 15 years of age or younger, while 73% of reports coming to the Anchorage Police Department are from victims aged 18 and older.

*Recommendations:*

- *The legislature should fund a victimization survey to determine the actual rate of both reported and unreported sexual assaults in Alaska. This survey should be large enough to look at the state by region, so that programs and policies can be tailored to be most effective.*
- *Legislation should be enacted requiring the Department of Public Safety to collect annual statistics on reported sexual assault in Alaska as defined in state law. This legislation should require local police department participation.*
- *A data system should be developed to track sexual assaults from report to conviction. This will require interagency cooperation and so should be addressed by a group such as MAJIC or the Criminal Justice Working Group.*

*B. Certain resources have a disproportionate and positive impact on cases being accepted for prosecution, yet for the most part no consistent state policy has been implemented to ensure that these best practices are followed.*

1. UAA Justice Center studies show that certain factors increase the likelihood of prosecution and conviction. These include the presence of a Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO), a Village Police Officer or Tribal Police Officer for crimes in villages. In State Trooper cases where a VPSO was available, rates of serious assault went down by 40% and the likelihood of the case being accepted for prosecution went up by three and a half times.
2. When victims received a medical-forensic exam, it more than doubled the likelihood that their case was accepted for prosecution. Documentation of non-genital injury was particularly important in the eventual decision to prosecute a case. However, of the 15 Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner programs that have been instituted in Alaska, only 4 are currently active.
3. In cases where witnesses were located and interviewed, and where appropriate investigative follow-up and victim support was done, the likelihood of prosecution increased by more than three times.
4. Finally, DNA evidence is becoming increasingly critical to sexual assault prosecutions and testimony indicated that there are significant delays and backlogs in getting this evidence processed in a timely way.

*Recommendations:*

- *The legislature should continue to increase the number of villages with local law enforcement through the VPSO program.*
- *The legislature should consider grant funding for local hospitals to provide qualified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners and to support the cost of existing programs. In addition, a pilot project which looks at the use of telemedicine in extending SANE services to rural communities without SANE nurses should be explored.*
- *Law enforcement agencies should prioritize sexual assault investigations so that investigators have the time to contact potential witnesses, work with victims, and collect any other evidence that may be available in these cases.*
- *The legislature and the Department of Public Safety must address the needs of the State Crime lab and look at methods to process DNA evidence in a timely way.*

*C. Alcohol use is significantly associated with sexual assault.*

1. In a study of Anchorage Police Department cases, over 60% of victims and 70% of suspects had used alcohol just prior to or at the time of the assault. Similar statistics were also found in a study of cases in Alaska's Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program. In Trooper cases, where the victims tended overwhelmingly to be children, the victim use was 27% and suspect use was 42%. In addition, significant numbers of victims report having consumed alcohol to the point of incapacitation (e.g., Anchorage 23%; Fairbanks 31%). This both increases the vulnerability of the victim to an assault and can make cases more difficult to prosecute.

2. The UAA Justice Center reports that rates of serious injury from assault are 36% lower in dry villages and, further, that cases involving alcohol use are less likely to be referred for prosecution and are less likely to be accepted for prosecution when they are referred.

*Recommendations:*

- *Alaska should continue to support programs and policies that reduce alcohol consumption*
- *Education efforts in sexual assault awareness and prevention should specifically address alcohol use and its potential adverse effects on personal safety.*

*D. Ongoing efforts to reduce recidivism by known sex offenders is critically important.*

1. In a 1988 study (Abel, et al), of offenders who participated and who admitted to child molestations and rapes, 97% were never arrested for these crimes. The lag time for detection of sex offenders ranges from between 6 years to 16 years according to various national studies.

2. Nationally, almost 45% of prisoners serving time for rape or sexual assault committed their crime while on probation or parole.

*Recommendations:*

- *Alaska should continue to fund and expand its sex offender management programs, particularly the current Containment Model, which utilizes offender polygraphs but in prison and on probation.*
- *Alaska's Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, which locates offenders who are looking for victims using the internet, should be expanded. This program has resulted in arrests and convictions of adults who would otherwise have offended against children.*

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The Senate Judiciary Committee would like to thank the many experts who provided their time and knowledge to the committee during these hearings. The committee particularly acknowledges the work done by the UAA Justice Center, which has provided vital leadership in its research regarding violence against women in Alaska.

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## **Effective Criminal Justice Responses for Violence Against Women in Alaska (compiled from UAA Justice Center research)**

### **Enhancing local paraprofessional police presence (VPSO, VPO, TPO)**

- Villages with a local paraprofessional police presence had rates of serious injury caused by assault that were 40% less than those villages without a local paraprofessional police presence (Wood and Gruenwald, 2006).
- Sexual assault cases with adult victims that were originally reported to police paraprofessionals were 3.5 times more likely to be prosecuted than sexual assault cases originally reported directly to State Troopers (Wood, Rosay, Postle, and TePas, 2007).

### **Strengthening local alcohol prohibitions**

- Alaska Native villages that were dry from 1991 to 2000 had serious assault injury rates that were 36% less than rates of villages that did not prohibit alcohol at all during that time frame (Wood and Gruenwald, 2006).
- Drinking was associated with a significantly higher risk of assault victimization in a sample of Alaska Native women in the Copper River Basin (Magen and Wood, 2006).
- AST sexual assault cases with a victim who had used drugs or alcohol were less likely to be referred for prosecution (Wood, Rosay, Postle, and TePas, 2007; Postle, Rosay, Wood, and TePas, 2007).
- AST sexual assault cases with a victim who had used drugs or alcohol were less likely to be accepted by prosecutors (Postle, Rosay, Wood, and TePas, 2007).
- Alaska SANE patients were less likely to have their cases accepted for prosecution if they were intoxicated at the time of the assault (Rosay and Henry, 2007).

### **Enhancing investigation capacity**

- AST sexual assault cases where witnesses had been located and interviewed were over three times more likely to be referred for prosecution (Wood, Rosay, Postle, and TePas, 2007).
- AST sexual assault cases where troopers had time and resources to gain victim cooperation were 3.5 times more likely to be referred for prosecution (Wood, Rosay, Postle, and TePas, 2007).
- AST sexual assault cases that were closed within 16 days of the report were over three times more likely to be accepted for prosecution than AST sexual assault cases that were not (Postle, Rosay, Wood, and TePas, 2007).

### **Promoting access to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners**

- AST sexual assault cases with a forensic exam were over two times more likely to be accepted for prosecution than AST sexual assault cases without a forensic exam (Postle, Rosay, Wood, and TePas, 2007).
- The documentation of physical injury in Alaska SANE cases increased the likelihood of referring cases for prosecution (Snodgrass and Rosay, 2007; Rosay and Henry, 2007).
- The documentation of physical injury in Alaska SANE cases increased the likelihood of accepting cases for prosecution (Rosay and Henry, 2007).
- The documentation of physical injury in Alaska SANE cases increased the likelihood of obtaining a conviction (Rosay and Henry, 2007).
- Sexual assault cases are more likely to be referred to prosecution if the victim can report to a SANE within 48 hours of the assault (Rosay and Henry, 2007).
- The documentation of spermatozoa significantly increased the likelihood that SANE cases in Alaska would be referred for prosecution (Snodgrass and Rosay, 2007).

## Domestic violence

### Reports

*Descriptive Analysis of Assaults in Domestic Violence Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2004* by Marny Rivera, André B. Rosay, Darryl S. Wood, Greg Postle, and Katherine TePas. Report prepared under Grant No. 2005-WG-BX-0011 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and Grants Nos. 2003-WF-BX-0201 and 2004-WF-AX-0033 awarded by the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice through the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2008.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.04.dv-assaults.html>).

Domestic violence is an undeniable urban and rural problem in Alaska, but detailed data on domestic violence incidents outside Anchorage are sparse. This report provides an overview of characteristics of domestic violence incidents involving assaults in Alaska communities outside Anchorage reported to the Alaska State Troopers in 2004. A total of 1,281 cases with an assault charge involving domestic violence were reviewed. The report describes suspect and victim characteristics, incident characteristics, and legal resolutions of the cases. Preliminary findings mirror national and Anchorage statistics: the majority of domestic violence assault incidents occur between victims and suspects of the same race, and the victim's home is the most common location of the domestic violence incident. On the other hand, both Anchorage data and the data from this study show a much higher use of alcohol by suspects and victims in Alaska than is reported nationally.

*Intimate Partner Violence Against Ahtna (Alaska Native) Women in the Copper River Basin* by Randy H. Magen and Darryl S. Wood. Report prepared under Grant No. 2000-WT-VX-0013 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: School of Social Work, University of Alaska Anchorage and Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Jul 2006.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0026.aknativewomen/0026.02.ahtna.html>).

This study examined the frequency, severity, and consequences of intimate partner violence against an availability sample of Athabaskan women (n=91) residing in the interior of Alaska. Data about victimization experiences as well as cultural involvement, residential mobility, living arrangements, social cohesion, alcohol use, and post-traumatic stress were gathered through interviews. Slightly less than two-thirds of respondents (63.7%) reported intimate partner violence victimization at some point in their lifetime. Nearly one out of five women surveyed (17.6%) reported that they had been physically assaulted by an intimate partner in the most recent 12 months. Intimate partner victimization was more prevalent and more frequent when compared to what has been reported by the National Violence Against Women Survey.

*Brady Statute Data: Establishing Noncriminal Classifications for the Alaska Department of Public Safety* by Cassie Atwell, Lawrence C. Trostle, and Allan R. Barnes. Report prepared

for the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Alaska Department of Public Safety. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 1998.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9615brady/9615brad.html>).

The Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act of 1993 prohibited the purchase of firearms by persons in certain noncriminal categories. These reports describe potential data sources for the identification of mental commitments, addicted substance abusers, illegal aliens, and persons who have been the subject of a domestic violence restraining order, and discuss possible procedures, problems, and solutions associated with data collection for the purpose of Brady background checks. Lack of infrastructure for collecting certain types of data, incompleteness of information, and state constitutional protections, including the guarantee of privacy, were the chief obstacles to completely meeting the provisions of the Brady Act in Alaska.

*Brady Statute Data: Persons Who Are Subject to a Court Order Restraining Them From Threatening or Committing Acts of Domestic Violence or Abuse* by Cassie Atwell, Allan R. Barnes, and Lawrence C. Trostle. Report prepared for the Bureau of Justice Statistics and the Alaska Department of Public Safety. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 6 Mar 1998.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9615brady/9615brad.html>).

## Articles

"Animal Abuse and Domestic Violence" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 26(3): 6–7 (Fall 2009).  
([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/d\\_animalabuse.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/d_animalabuse.html)).

Animal abuse is one factor in the dynamic of intimate partner violence, and can be used by law enforcement and domestic violence advocates in assessing risk. Studies have documented high rates of pet ownership by domestic violence victims in shelters, a substantial rate of children's exposure to pet abuse, and clear indications that domestic violence victims' concern for pets affects decisions to stay in or leave relationships with batterers. This article describes efforts to address some of these issues, including some in Alaska. A bibliography of further reading on animal abuse and domestic violence is included.

"Attrition in Cases of Violence Against Women Reported to the Alaska State Troopers" by Darryl S. Wood, André B. Rosay, Marny Rivera, and Katherine TePas. *Alaska Justice Forum* 26(3): 2–4 (Fall 2009).  
([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/b\\_attritionvaw.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/b_attritionvaw.html)).

The Alaska statutory requirement that arrests be made for all crimes involving domestic violence is rooted in research that suggests mandatory arrest has a specific deterrent effect in cases of misdemeanor assault committed by males against their female intimate partners. In this article we consider police, prosecutor, and court decision-making about intimate partner violence (IPV) cases initially dealt with by the Alaska State Troopers in 2004. The results presented allow us to consider the attrition of cases of IPV assault reported to the Troopers and prosecuted by the Alaska Department of Law. Although Alaska's mandatory arrest law is

the only policy specifically requiring official response to IPV cases, it appears that the law's spirit of full enforcement guided other decisions regarding IPV cases as they continued through the criminal justice process in 2004. While attrition still occurred, it happened at a rate that was substantially less than what has been found outside of Alaska, indicating that IPV is taken seriously in rural Alaska. This appears to be as true for Alaska Native victims as it is for non-Native victims and it does not seem to be affected by the difficulties of travel to conduct investigations.

"Predicting Legal Resolutions in Domestic Violence Cases" by Marny Rivera, André B. Rosay, Darryl S. Wood, and Katherine TePas. *Alaska Justice Forum* 26(3): 1, 8–12 (Fall 2009). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/a\\_dvrez.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/a_dvrez.html)).

This article discusses characteristics of assaults in domestic violence incidents reported to Alaska State Troopers — reports, suspects, victims, victim-suspect relationships, and incidents — and the degree to which they influenced prosecution of domestic violence cases. Characteristics that predicted prosecution generally included the following: severity of the incident or corroboration of the victims' description of events, thorough investigation and/or interrogation practices, intimate partner relationship between victim and suspect, and the incident occurring in an area with a VPSO or VPO program. Characteristics that significantly predicted prosecution can be used as the basis for modifications in policy and/or practice to enhance prosecution of domestic violence cases in Alaska.

"Batterer Intervention Programs (BIPs)" by Khristy Parker. *Justice Center Research Overview* 1 (Feb 2009). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/overview/overview.01.bip.pdf>).

An overview of key research findings nationally and in Alaska on batterer intervention programs (BIPs). BIPs are intervention and treatment programs intended to reduce recidivism rates among men arrested for domestic violence offenses.

"Intimate Partner Violence Against Athabaskan Women Residing in Interior Alaska: Results of a Victimization Survey" by Darryl S. Wood and Randy H. Magen. *Violence Against Women* 15(4): 497–507 (Apr 2009). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0026.aknativewomen/0026.04.athabaskan.html> (<http://vaw.sagepub.com/cgi/content/abstract/15/4/497>)).

A survey instrument mirroring the National Violence Against Women Survey was administered in person to measure the incidence and prevalence of intimate partner violence against Athabaskan women residing in the interior of Alaska. Roughly two thirds of respondents (63.7%) reported an intimate partner assault victimization at some point in their adult lifetime, and 18% of the respondents reported that they had been physically assaulted by an intimate partner in the year preceding the survey. Findings revealed that intimate partner assault victimization is more prevalent and is considerably more frequent when compared to that reported for American women in general.

"Assaults in Domestic Violence Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers" by Marny Rivera, André B. Rosay, Darryl S. Wood, Greg Postle, and Katherine TePas. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(3): 1, 7–12 (Fall 2008).

([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/3fall2008/a\\_dvassaults.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/3fall2008/a_dvassaults.html)).

Domestic violence is an undeniable urban and rural problem in Alaska, but detailed data on domestic violence incidents outside Anchorage are sparse. This article reports on a study of domestic violence incidents involving assaults in communities outside Anchorage reported to the Alaska State Troopers in 2004. A total of 1,281 cases with an assault charge involving domestic violence were reviewed. The article reports on suspect and victim characteristics, incident characteristics, and legal resolutions of the cases. Preliminary findings mirror national and Anchorage statistics: the majority of domestic violence assault incidents occur between victims and suspects of the same race, and the victim's home is the most common location of the domestic violence incident. On the other hand, both Anchorage data and the data from this study show a much higher use of alcohol by suspects and victims in Alaska than is reported nationally.

"Mandatory Arrest in Domestic Violence Cases" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(3): 9 (Fall 2008).  
([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/3fall2008/b\\_dvarrests.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/3fall2008/b_dvarrests.html)).

This article describes the provisions of Alaska Statute 18.65.530, which was passed as part of the Domestic Violence Prevention and Victim Protection Act of 1996 and which requires law enforcement officers to arrest persons who the officer has probable cause to believe have committed domestic violence, have violated a domestic violence protective order, or have violated a condition of release.

"Court Innovations in Domestic Violence Cases" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 22(3): 1-7 (Fall 2005).  
([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/22/3fall2005/a\\_courtdv.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/22/3fall2005/a_courtdv.html)).

A Judicial Council evaluation of two new Alaska Court System programs focused on the domestic violence protective order process shows that the programs have had some modest success, but not all of the hoped-for results. The programs, funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant, provided for two new types of positions within the court process: an advocate position attached to the women's shelter operated by Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC), and a facilitator position placed within the court system's Family Law Self-Help Center. The results shown by the evaluation are mixed and can be interpreted in different ways. The main findings of the evaluation are presented here.

"Density of Police Calls-for-Service, 2003: Domestic Violence" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 3c (3) (Nov 2004).  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series03/index.html>).

"An Examination of Police Service Deployment: Domestic Violence" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 3b(3) (Jul 2004).  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series03/index.html>).

"Implementation of Police Domestic Violence Policy" by Carrie D. Longoria. *Alaska Justice Forum* 11(4): 1, 6-8 (Winter 1995).

([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/11/4winter1995/a\\_dvapd.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/11/4winter1995/a_dvapd.html)).

A report from the Anchorage SAFE City Program examining police response to domestic violence calls reveals that Anchorage Police Department (APD) has successfully implemented a domestic violence policy which treats such cases as criminal offenses and reflects consistent concern for victim safety. This article examines the implementation of APD's domestic violence policy in three areas: (1) arrest action, (2) evidence collection through the use of report forms, and (3) officer action in ensuring victim safety and distribution of victim resource information.

### **Conference papers, multimedia presentations, interviews, videos**

"Assaults in Domestic Violence Incidents: Descriptive Statistics and Predictors of Legal Resolutions" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by Marny Rivera. Slide presentation presented to Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC), Anchorage, AK, 9 Mar 2010. Supported by Grant No. 2005-WG-BX-0011 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and Grants Nos. 2003-WF-BX-0201 and 2004-WF-AX-0033 awarded by the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice through the Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.) (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.05.awaic.html>).

This slideshow presents descriptive statistics on all assaults in domestic violence incidents (N=1,281) reported to Alaska State Troopers in 2004 that were closed by the time of the study, and describes predictors of prosecution based on the data and correlates of injury and cultural factors in the described incidents.

"Interview With Dr. Marny Rivera" [.mp3 audio file (radio interview)] by Kells Hetherington, interviewer. *Meet the People*. Sandpoint, AK: KSDP 830 AM, 6 Feb 2009. ([http://alaskapublicbroadcasting.com/mtp/mtp\\_MarnyRiveraFeb62009.mp3](http://alaskapublicbroadcasting.com/mtp/mtp_MarnyRiveraFeb62009.mp3)).

Kells Hetherington of KSDP 830 AM–Sandpoint, a public radio station serving the Aleutians East Borough, interviews Dr. Marny Rivera about domestic violence in Alaska. The interview aired on the half-hour public affairs program *Meet the People*. Dr. Rivera discussed findings of a recent study, *Descriptive Analysis of Assaults in Domestic Violence Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2004* by Marny Rivera, André Rosay, Darryl Wood, Greg Postle, and Katherine TePas.

"Overview of UAA Justice Center Violence Against Women Research" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska State Troopers Commanders Conference, Anchorage, AK, 18 Feb 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-02.jc-vaw-research.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence.

"Sexual Violence in Alaska" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center Advisory Council, Anchorage, AK, 1 Jun 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-04.jc-vaw-nsvrc.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence.

"UAA Research on Violence Against Women" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, Juneau, AK, 25 Mar 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-03.jc-vaw-research.html>).

This PowerPoint slide presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence. Audio of this presentation before the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, lasting about one hour and twenty minutes, is archived on the Alaska Legislature website

<[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_audio.asp?session=26&chamber=S&comm=JUD&date=3/25/2009&start=1333](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_audio.asp?session=26&chamber=S&comm=JUD&date=3/25/2009&start=1333)> in FTR Player format (Windows-only player downloadable at legislative website) and at Gavel to Gavel Alaska

<<http://www.ktoo.org/gavel/archive.cfm?audio=14562&request=FE0DCFF29038A17C83C8168CD890F7B7>> in mpu/mp3 format (can be listened to in most media players including Winamp and iTunes).

"Domestic Violence Protective Orders" (video) produced and written by Antonia Moras. Produced for the Alaska Court System. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2006. 21:19, streaming video. (Available from Alaska Court System.) (<http://courts.alaska.gov/shcdv.htm#video> <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-4709002208749130443&hl=en#>).

Produced in collaboration with the Alaska Court System, this instructional video describes the protective order application process for clients of the court system's Family Law Self-Help Center and for other agencies. The video explains how to apply for a domestic violence protective order in an Alaska state court, how clients can represent themselves at hearings for long-term (one-year) orders, and how to plan for their safety. It also highlights issues that clients need to think about if they have children. The video is available in English, Spanish, and Yup'ik as streaming video at Google Videos by way of the Alaska Court System website.

Wood, Darryl S. and Magen, Randy H. (Nov 2006). "Intimate Partner Violence Against Athabaskan Women Residing in Interior Alaska: Results of a Victimization Survey." Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, Los Angeles, California. ([http://www.aidainc.net/2007\\_crimedatconf/presentations/Wood\\_Magen.pdf](http://www.aidainc.net/2007_crimedatconf/presentations/Wood_Magen.pdf)).

A survey instrument mirroring that used in the National Violence Against Women Survey (NVAWS) was used to examine the frequency, severity, and consequences of intimate partner violence against an availability sample of Athabaskan women (n = 91) residing in the interior of Alaska. Data about victimization experiences were gathered in face-to-face

interviews conducted in the region in 2003. Slightly less than two-thirds of respondents (63.7%) reported a violent victimization perpetrated by an intimate partner at some point in their lifetime. More than a sixth of women surveyed (18%) reported that they had been physically assaulted by an intimate partner in the 12 months preceding the survey. Intimate partner assault victimization is more prevalent and is considerably more frequent for the respondents to our survey when compared to what has been reported for American women in general (as measured by the NVAWS).

"Nallunruyuutellriit Wall' Nelgutkilriit Uitarcurlallriit Qanercetaarvegkun Ikayungcautiit (Domestic Violence Protective Orders)" (video in Yup'ik ) produced and written by Antonia Moras. Produced for the Alaska Court System. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2006. 20:03, Streaming video. (Available from Alaska Court System.) (<http://courts.alaska.gov/shcdv.htm#video> <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-1472691810451009680&hl=en#>).

Produced in collaboration with the Alaska Court System, this instructional video describes the protective order application process for clients of the court system's Family Law Self-Help Center and for other agencies. The video explains how to apply for a domestic violence protective order in an Alaska state court, how clients can represent themselves at hearings for long-term (one-year) orders, and how to plan for their safety. It also highlights issues that clients need to think about if they have children. The video is available in English, Spanish, and Yup'ik as streaming video at Google Videos by way of the Alaska Court System website.

"Ordenes De Protección Contra La Violencia Domestica (Domestic Violence Protective Orders)" (video in Spanish) produced and written by Antonia Moras. Produced for the Alaska Court System. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2006. 22:01, streaming video. (Available from Alaska Court System.) (<http://courts.alaska.gov/shcdv.htm#video> <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=2164062099457695059&hl=en#>).

Produced in collaboration with the Alaska Court System, this instructional video describes the protective order application process for clients of the court system's Family Law Self-Help Center and for other agencies. The video explains how to apply for a domestic violence protective order in an Alaska state court, how clients can represent themselves at hearings for long-term (one-year) orders, and how to plan for their safety. It also highlights issues that clients need to think about if they have children. The video is available in English, Spanish, and Yup'ik as streaming video at Google Videos by way of the Alaska Court System website.

## Sexual assault

### Reports

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2003-2004* by Greg Postle, André B. Rosay, Darryl S. Wood, and Katherine TePas . Report prepared under Grant No. 2005-WG-BX-0011 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice and Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Grant Numbers 2003-WF-BX-0210 and 2004-WF-AX-0033 awarded by the Violence Against Women Office, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.02.sexualassault.html>).

This study examines the characteristics of sexual assault and sexual abuse of minor incidents reported to the Alaska State Troopers (AST), providing the first statewide overview of such cases. The sample utilized for the analysis included all sexual assault and sexual abuse of minor incidents reported from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004 and includes information from 989 reports, 1,903 charges, 1,050 suspects, 1,082 victims, and 771 witnesses. The descriptive analysis documents the characteristics of these reports, suspects, victims, incidents, and witnesses, and examines three legal resolutions: whether cases were referred for prosecution, whether cases were accepted for prosecution, and whether cases resulted in a conviction.

*Reporting Sexual Assault Victimization to Law Enforcement* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.06.reportsexoffense.html>).

As part of a larger study examining the characteristics of sexual assault victimizations in Alaska as observed and recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners, 101 patients in Bethel, Fairbanks, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna provided information about their decision to report their victimization to law enforcement. The report documents who these patients consulted prior to reporting, the actions and reactions that patients received from others, how patients initially attributed blame, and how concerned patients initially were about disbelief and negative reactions from others. The report also examines whether patients had begun to take control over the recovery process, the amount of time elapsed from assault to examination, and what factors predict the amount of time elapsed from assault to examination.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage, Alaska: 2002/2003 Update* by André Rosay, Jeannie Sanders, Mary Lee Collins, Sandra Smith, Bonnie Caladine, and Donna Monahan. Report prepared for the Anchorage Police Department. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Feb 2006.

(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0107sxassaultupdate/0107-03sexualassault.html>).

This brief report updates the previous report *Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage* to document some of the changes in the nature of sexual assault in Anchorage, Alaska from 2000 to 2003. From 2000 to 2003, the rates of reported sexual assaults in Anchorage continued to be significantly higher than national rates; most victims continued to be female, and almost all suspects male; over half of sexual assaults continued to occur in private residences; and the Spenard and Fairview community council areas continued to experience the highest numbers of sexual assaults in the municipality. However, from 2000 to 2003, some key changes in the nature of sexual assaults were observed. The number of forcible rapes and sexual assaults reported showed a steady increase; sexual assault victimizations increased particularly among Natives and Blacks, among persons younger than 15 years old and those aged 45 to 54 years of age; stranger assaults declined while non-stranger assaults increased; and sexual assaults occurring in the Downtown community council area increased by 144 percent. While this update provides a brief overview of some key changes in the nature of sexual assaults in Anchorage, it does provide enough information to assist in changing policy, and the information presented is now two years old. Ideally, a monitoring program would be developed in Anchorage to provide real-time empirical information about sexual assault and forcible rape to assist in efforts to fight these crimes.

*Sexual Assault Case Processing: A Descriptive Model of Attrition and Decision Making* by G. Matthew Snodgrass. Report prepared for the Alaska Department of Law. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, May 2006.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0611sexassault/0611sxcasprocess.html>).

The outcomes of sexual assaults involving one suspect and one victim reported to the Anchorage Police Department (APD) in 2000 to 2003 were examined. Overall, 1,235 sexual assaults were reported to APD during this period, of which 1,074 involved one suspect and one victim. Data were collected on 1,052 of these cases to learn how the Alaska Department of Law disposed of these cases. Of the 1,052 cases examined, 188 (17.9%) were referred to the Department of Law, 127 were accepted for prosecution, and 111 resulted in a conviction. Clearly, the point of greatest attrition is from report to referral, with 85.2 percent of reported sexual assaults not being referred for prosecution. However, most offenders whose cases reach prosecutors are held accountable in some degree through the imposition of criminal sanctions.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage, Alaska* by André Rosay and Robert H. Langworthy. Report prepared under Grant No. 2000-RH-CX-K039 from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Oct 2003. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0107sxassault/0107sexualassaults.html>).

It has long been known that forcible rapes and sexual assaults occur at a higher rate in Anchorage and in Alaska than in the U.S. as a whole. The Justice Center, in collaboration with the Anchorage Police Department, conducted an epidemiological study aimed at providing a better understanding of the parameters of the rape and sexual assault problem in Anchorage. Researchers looked at case data drawn from the 541 sexual assaults reported to

the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. These data provide the first solid information on victim and suspect characteristics, time and location of assaults, and other details about sexual assaults and rapes reported to the police. In some cases the data contradict some of the more common assumptions regarding Anchorage's rape problem.

## Articles

"Reducing Violence Against Women in Alaska" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 26(3): 5 (Fall 2009). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/c\\_reducingvaw.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/26/3fall2009/c_reducingvaw.html)).

Alaska has long been plagued by high rates of violence against women. Relative to the average U.S. rate of forcible rapes reported to law enforcement from 2003 to 2008, the average Alaska rate was 2.6 times higher, the average Anchorage rate was 2.9 times higher, and the average Fairbanks rate was 5.0 times higher. Alaska has the highest rate of forcible rape reported to law enforcement out of all U.S. states. This article summarizes recent recommendations from the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee and from Governor Sean Parnell to reduce violence against women in Alaska.

"Victim-Suspect Relationship in Sexual Assault Cases Reported to Law Enforcement: Alaska and National Data" by André B. Rosay and Steven Amundson. *Justice Center Research Overview* 3 (Apr 2009). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/overview/overview.03.victim-suspect.pdf>).

An overview of key research findings nationally and in Alaska on the relationships between victims and suspects in sexual assault cases.

"Anonymous Reporting and Forensic Examinations" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 10 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/f\\_vawa.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/f_vawa.html)).

This article describes provisions of the 2005 Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act and its application in Alaska. Under the act, states must provide victims of sexual assault with access to forensic medical examinations by a trained examiner free of charge (or with full reimbursement), regardless of whether victims decide to cooperate with law enforcement.

"Case Attrition of Sexual Violence Offenses: Empirical Findings" by Darryl S. Wood and André B. Rosay. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 1, 18–20 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/b\\_attrition.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/b_attrition.html)).

Allegations have been made that the State of Alaska discriminates on a geographic and racial basis in the provision of criminal justice services to Alaska Native villages that are isolated from the main road system, including in response to sexual violence against Alaska Natives. Although compelling, the case made against the state is largely anecdotal. This article considers information gathered from the case files of the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and

the Alaska Department of Law (DOL) to determine if there is an empirical basis for claims of unequal enforcement of sexual violence statutes.

"Further Reading on Sexual Assault" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 16 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/h\\_sexualassaultbib.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/h_sexualassaultbib.html)).

A bibliography of articles and studies on sexual assault in Alaska. Most are available online.

"Sexual Assaults Reported to Alaska State Troopers" by André B. Rosay, Greg Postle, Darryl S. Wood, and Katherine TePas. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25 (1–2): 6–9 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/d\\_ast.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/d_ast.html)).

Most research on sexual assault and the sexual abuse of minors in the state of Alaska has been focused on Anchorage; little has been known about the characteristics of these problems in other communities. The Justice Center, working with the Alaska State Troopers and the Alaska Department of Law, has completed the first thorough review of sexual assault incidents reported to Troopers in 2003 and 2004. The results delineate a first draft of the problem in Alaska's smaller communities, for the population primarily served by the Troopers.

"Sexual Crime" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 1 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/a\\_sexualcrime.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/a_sexualcrime.html)).

This brief article introduces a special double-issue of the *Alaska Justice Forum* focusing issues related to sexual crime. Reported figures indicated that Alaska consistently has an exceptionally high rate of sexual assault, with rates of forcible rape — 76 per 100,000 in the general population — over twice the national rate of 30.9. Because reports of sexual crimes tend to inflame emotions, it is important to ground public discussion in what is actually known about the crimes, victims, offenders, and law enforcement and prosecution efforts.

"Sexual Assaults in Anchorage" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 22(4): 2-3 (Winter 2006). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/22/4winter2006/b\\_sxassault.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/22/4winter2006/b_sxassault.html)).

Information from four years of police files shows that the problem of sexual assault in Anchorage has discernible contours: most assaults take place indoors, between people who are not strangers to each other, with either or both parties having consumed alcohol. This article provides an overview of reported sexual assaults in the city from 2000 through 2003 using data from a recently-completed report which updates an earlier study released in 2003.

"Sexual Assault Case Processing: A Descriptive Model of Attrition and Decision Making" by G. Matthew Snodgrass. *Alaska Justice Forum* 23(1): 1, 4-8 (Spring 2006). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/23/1spring2006/a\\_sxassaultcases.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/23/1spring2006/a_sxassaultcases.html)).

The outcomes of sexual assaults involving one suspect and one victim reported to the

Anchorage Police Department (APD) in 2000 to 2003 were examined. Overall, 1,235 sexual assaults were reported to APD during this period, of which 1,074 involved one suspect and one victim. Data were collected on 1,052 of these cases to learn how the Alaska Department of Law disposed of these cases. Of the 1,052 cases examined, 188 (17.9%) were referred to the Department of Law, 127 were accepted for prosecution, and 111 resulted in a conviction. Clearly, the point of greatest attrition is from report to referral, with 85.2 percent of reported sexual assaults not being referred for prosecution. However, most offenders whose cases reach prosecutors are held accountable in some degree through the imposition of criminal sanctions.

"Disposition of Sexual Assault Cases" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 20(4): 8 (Winter 2004). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/20/4winter2004/d\\_rapedisposition.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/20/4winter2004/d_rapedisposition.html)).

The Alaska Judicial Council study *Alaska Felony Process: 1999* was conducted to ascertain whether the disproportionate percentages of ethnic minorities observed in the criminal justice system at all points in the process were the result of discrimination in the courts. Statistical analysis presented in the study shows that cases involving sexual offenses were handled even-handedly, with no effects associated with ethnicity in charge reduction, pre-disposition incarceration or sentence. Some disparities did appear in association with case location and with type of attorney.

"Forcible Rapes and Sexual Assaults in Anchorage" by André Rosay. *Alaska Justice Forum* 20(4): 1, 9-11 (Winter 2004). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/20/4winter2004/a\\_rapes.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/20/4winter2004/a_rapes.html)).

Alaska generally, and Anchorage specifically, have been plagued by a high incidence of forcible rapes and sexual assaults. A joint project of the UAA Justice Center and the Anchorage Police Department has focused on gaining a better understanding of the parameters of the rape problem in Anchorage. Researchers collected data from all sexual assaults and rapes reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. These data provide the first solid information on victim and suspect characteristics, time and location of assaults, and other details about sexual assaults and rapes reported to the police, and suggest that effective solutions to problem need to be both suspect-focused and victim-focused, as well as event-focused.

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Age of Victim" by Catherine Morris and André Rosay. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(3) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series02/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on 541 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares the 210 victims that were less than 21 years old to the 339 victims that were 21 years old or older. The poster compares the victim's race, suspect's race, the location of the pick-up, the location of the assault, the day and time of the incident, alcohol use by the victim and suspect, the suspect's age, and the relationship between the victim and the suspect.

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Community Council" by André Rosay and Robert H. Langworthy. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(2) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series02/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares sexual assaults that occurred in five different community councils – Downtown, Fairview, Mountain View, Northeast, and Spenard. The poster compares the victim and suspect's age, the victim and suspect's race, the victim and suspect's alcohol use, the location of the assault, the day of the assault, and the victim-suspect relationship. These results were important because they suggest that the nature of sexual assault varies by geographic location.

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Day of Week" by Alexa Fleming and André Rosay. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(6) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series02/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on 541 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares the 237 assaults that occurred during the week to the 264 assaults that occurred during the weekend. The poster compares the victim's age, suspect's age, victim's race, suspect's race, the location of the pick-up, the location of the assault, alcohol use by both the victim and suspect, and the relationship between the victim and the suspect.

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Relationship" by Amanda Matthews and André Rosay. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(5) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series02/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on 282 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares the 168 victims assaulted by non-strangers to the 99 victims assaulted by strangers. The poster compares the victim's age, suspect's age, victim's race, suspect's race, the location of the pick-up, the location of the assault, alcohol use by both the victim and suspect, victim injuries, and the time elapsed from the assault to the report.

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Season" by Jeff Valentine and André Rosay. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(7) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series2/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on 541 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares the assaults that occurred in the Fall (September, October, and November), Winter

(December, January, and February), Spring (March, April, May), and summer (June, July, August). The poster compares suspect characteristics (age, race, and alcohol use), victim characteristics (age, race, and alcohol use), and assault characteristics (pick-up location, assault location, and relationship between victim and suspect).

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Victim's Alcohol Use" by G. Matthew Snodgrass and André Rosay. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(8) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series2/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on 282 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares the 167 victims that had used alcohol to the 102 victims that had not. The poster compares the victim's age, suspect's age, victim's race, suspect's race, the location of the pick-up, the location of the assault, alcohol use by the suspect, victim injuries, the time elapsed from the assault to the report, and the relationship between the victim and the suspect.

"Sexual Assault Study: Differences by Victim's Race" by Kamaree Altaffer and André Rosay. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(4) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series2/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This analysis is based on 541 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, this analysis compares the 257 Caucasian victims to 234 Alaska Native victims. The poster compares the victim's age, suspect's age, the suspect's race, the location of the pick-up, the location of the assault, the day and time of the incident, alcohol use by both the victim and suspect, and the relationship between the victim and the suspect.

"Sexual Assault Study: Overview" by André Rosay and Robert H. Langworthy. *Anchorage Community Indicators* 2(1) (Apr 2004). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/indicators/anchorage/series2/index.html>).

Poster originally presented to the Anchorage Police Department and the 2004 Alaska Summit on Violence Against Women. This poster summarizes the characteristics of 541 sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. More specifically, it provides information on the demographic characteristics of victims and suspects (race and age), on the relationship between victims and suspects, on the locations of assaults, on drug and alcohol use by both victims and suspects, and on the time elapsed from assault to report. In addition, it provides information on the relationship between incident locations and bar locations.

"Review Essay—*A Natural History of Rape: Biological Bases of Sexual Coercion*" by Sharon Araj. *Alaska Justice Forum* 17(2): 2–3 (Summer 2000). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/17/2summer2000/b\\_rape.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/17/2summer2000/b_rape.html)).

Grounded in Darwinian theory, *A Natural History of Rape: Biological Bases of Sexual Coercion* by Randy Thornhill and Craig T. Palmer argues that rape is a sexually motivated behavior, not an act of power and control. In this review, a University of Alaska Anchorage sociologist argues that the book's authors fail to provide convincing data to support their biological explanation for rape.

"Processing Serious Crimes in Alaska: Do Differences Exist?" by Amy Dellinger. *Alaska Justice Forum* 10(1): 1, 5–8 (Spring 1993). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/10/1spring1993/a\\_process.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/10/1spring1993/a_process.html)).

Comparing data on rape cases in Alaska with similar data for other violent crimes may help to clarify how the crime of rape is handled within the justice system. Comparison of criminal justice processing for 1986-1991 of homicide, rape, robbery, and assault cases supports the conclusion that the percentage of persons arrested, prosecuted, and brought to trial on the original arrest charge is lowest for rape among the four violent crimes. Other differences between dispositions for persons arrested for rape and those arrested within the other three crime categories are also evident.

### **Conference papers and multimedia presentations**

"Overview of UAA Justice Center Violence Against Women Research" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska State Troopers Commanders Conference, Anchorage, AK, 18 Feb 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-02.jc-vaw-research.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence.

"Sexual Assault in Alaska" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, Anchorage, AK, 3 Aug 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-08.jc-vaw-senatejudiciary.pdf>).

This PowerPoint slide presentation provides an overview of key results from Justice Center research on sexual assault in Alaska.

"Sexual Violence in Alaska" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center Advisory Council, Anchorage, AK, 1 Jun 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-04.jc-vaw-nsvrc.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center

research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence.

"UAA Research on Violence Against Women" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, Juneau, AK, 25 Mar 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-03.jc-vaw-research.html>).

This PowerPoint slide presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence. Audio of this presentation before the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, lasting about one hour and twenty minutes, is archived on the Alaska Legislature website

<[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_audio.asp?session=26&chamber=S&comm=JUD&date1=3/25/2009&start=1333](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_audio.asp?session=26&chamber=S&comm=JUD&date1=3/25/2009&start=1333)> in FTR Player format (Windows-only player downloadable at legislative website) and at Gavel to Gavel Alaska

<<http://www.ktoo.org/gavel/archive.cfm?audio=14562&request=FE0DCFF29038A17C83C8168CD890F7B7>> in mpu/mp3 format (can be listened to in most media players including Winamp and iTunes).

"Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2003-2004" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Jan 2008. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.03.press.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation provides an overview of findings of a statewide study of all sexual assault and sexual abuse of minor incidents reported to the Alaska State Troopers (AST) from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004.

"Exploratory Spatial Analyses of Sexual Assaults in Anchorage" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André Rosay and Robert H. Langworthy. Slide presentation presented to the Seventh Annual International Crime Mapping Research Conference, National Institute of Justice, Boston, MA, Apr 2004. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0408.spatialsxassault/0408exploratory.html>).

Using data on the locations of sexual assaults reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001, the authors used Exploratory Spatial Data Analysis techniques to (1) identify the locations where sexual assaults were concentrated and (2) examine the correlates of these spatial concentrations. In both analyses, the authors also examined differences between White and Native victimizations. The spatial concentrations of sexual assault victimizations vary significantly by race, as do the correlates of the respective spatial concentrations. The authors conclude that there is a relationship between assault locations and bar locations, but that the relationship is far from perfect and the question of whether a causal mechanism exists remains unknown. Nonetheless, successful interventions to prevent sexual assaults must involve bars, but targeting bars will be both inefficient and insufficient for fully addressing the problem of sexual assault prevention in Anchorage.

"Using Problem-Oriented Policing to Reduce Sexual Assaults" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André Rosay and Robert H. Langworthy. Slide presentation presented to the Societies of

Criminology, 1st Key Issues Conference, Paris, France, May 2004.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0408.spatialsxassault/0408.pop-sxassault.html>).

Alaska generally and Anchorage specifically have been plagued by the incidence of sexual assaults. From 1982 to 2001, the rate of forcible rape per 100,000 in Anchorage was, on average, 122 percent higher than the U.S. rate. To combat this problem, the authors engaged in a problem-oriented policing exercise in cooperation with the Anchorage Police Department. They began this exercise by performing a detailed descriptive analysis of sexual assaults in Anchorage. Data were collected from 541 reports of sexual assault cases reported to the Anchorage Police Department in 2000 and 2001. These data contain detailed information on the assaults, victims, and suspects. Using crime-mapping technologies, hot spots of sexual assaults were identified and profiles developed for each hot spot. With this detailed understanding of the characteristics of each hot spot, empirically-based strategies were developed to reduce the occurrence of sexual assaults. After implementing each strategy, an evaluation of whether the occurrence of sexual assaults had significantly declined was performed. This presentation focuses on the initial stages of problem-oriented policing—the identification and explanation of hot spots. More specifically, the utility of using crime-mapping technologies in the identification of hot spots of sexual assaults is documented, and the necessity of using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies to explain where and why sexual assaults are geographically concentrated is described. With a better understanding of the nature of sexual assaults, it has been possible to develop and implement more successful intervention strategies.

## Sexual assault nurse examiners (SANE)

### Reports

*Alaska Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Study: Final Report* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.07.final.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of sexual assault victimizations in Alaska, as observed and recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners in Anchorage, Kodiak, Bethel, Soldotna, Nome, Fairbanks, Homer, and Kotzebue. The sample utilized for this study includes all sexual assault nurse examinations conducted in Anchorage from 1996 to 2004, in Bethel and Fairbanks in 2005 and 2006, and in Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna in 2005 ( $N = 1,699$ ). This final report provides a thorough descriptive analysis of the sexual assault nurse examinations included in this study. This descriptive analysis focuses on demographic characteristics of patients; pre-assault, assault, and post-assault characteristics; exam characteristics and findings; suspect characteristics; and legal resolutions. The report then examines the predictors of genital injury. More specifically, it examines the effect of time elapsed from assault to report and of patient condition at the time of the assault. The effect of time elapsed from assault to report is examined by comparing the genital injuries of patients that reported to a sexual assault nurse examiner within 24 hours to the genital injuries of patients that did not. The effect of patient condition at the time of the assault is examined by comparing the genital injuries of patients that were sober, intoxicated, and incapacitated at the time of the assault. Results show that neither time elapsed from assault to report nor patient condition at the time of the assault impacted genital injury. The report also examines the effect of genital injury on legal resolutions. More specifically, it examines how the presence and frequency of genital injury impacts the likelihood that cases are referred for prosecution, the likelihood that cases are accepted by prosecutors, and the likelihood that cases result in a conviction. Results show that genital injury did not impact legal resolutions. Other factors, non-genital injury in particular, were significantly associated with both genital injury and legal resolutions. The relevance of these additional factors is discussed.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Alaska* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.05.alaska.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of 1,699 sexual assault victimizations recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners — all those conducted in Anchorage, Alaska from 1996 to 2004, in Bethel and Fairbanks in 2005 and 2006, and in Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna in 2005. The report documents the demographic characteristics of patients, pre-assault characteristics, assault characteristics, post-assault characteristics, exam characteristics and findings, suspect characteristics, and legal resolutions.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Anchorage: 1996-2004* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.01.anchorage.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of 1,383 sexual assault victimizations recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners in Anchorage, Alaska from 1996 to 2004. The report documents the demographic characteristics of patients, pre-assault characteristics, assault characteristics, post-assault characteristics, exam characteristics and findings, suspect characteristics, and legal resolutions.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Bethel: 2005-2006* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.03.bethel.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of 105 sexual assault victimizations recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners in Bethel, Alaska in 2005 and 2006. The report documents the demographic characteristics of patients, pre-assault characteristics, assault characteristics, post-assault characteristics, exam characteristics and findings, suspect characteristics, and legal resolutions.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Bethel, Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.04.rural.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of 172 sexual assault victimizations recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners — all those conducted in Bethel, Alaska in 2005 and 2006, and in Homer, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Nome, and Soldotna in 2005. The report documents the demographic characteristics of patients, pre-assault characteristics, assault characteristics, post-assault characteristics, exam characteristics and findings, suspect characteristics, and legal resolutions.

*Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Fairbanks: 2005-2006* by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. Report prepared under Grant No. 2004-WB-GX-0003 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2007. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0501sexualassaults/0501.02.fairbanks.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of 144 sexual assault victimizations recorded by sexual assault nurse examiners in Fairbanks, Alaska in 2005 and 2006. The report documents the demographic characteristics of patients, pre-assault characteristics, assault

characteristics, post-assault characteristics, exam characteristics and findings, suspect characteristics, and legal resolutions.

## Articles

"Sexual Assault Nurse Examinations in Alaska" by André B. Rosay and Tara Henry. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 10–13 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/e\\_sane.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/e_sane.html)).

Sexual assault nurse examinations are important in responding to sexual assaults — both in treating victims and in collecting forensic evidence. The presence of genital injury, as documented in an examination, can be a factor in the prosecution of sexual assault cases. This article reports results from a study of the relationship between a patient's condition at the time of assault and the time elapsed between the assault and its report, and the presence or absence of genital injury. The study also examined the effect of the presence of genital injury on legal case resolutions and assembled descriptive data on a broad sample of cases handled under the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) protocol.

"Anonymous Reporting and Forensic Examinations" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 10 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/f\\_vawa.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/f_vawa.html)).

This article describes provisions of the 2005 Violence Against Women and Department of Justice Reauthorization Act and its application in Alaska. Under the act, states must provide victims of sexual assault with access to forensic medical examinations by a trained examiner free of charge (or with full reimbursement), regardless of whether victims decide to cooperate with law enforcement.

# Stalking

## Reports

*Descriptive Analysis of Stalking Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 1994-2005* by André B. Rosay, Darryl S. Wood, Greg Postle, and Katherine TePas. Report prepared under Grant No. 2005-WG-BX-0011 awarded by the National Institute of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Feb 2007.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.01.stalking.html>).

This project examined the characteristics of stalking incidents reported to the Alaska State Troopers from 1994 to 2005. It included information from 210 reports, 222 charges, 211 suspects, 216 victims, and 246 witnesses. For those stalking incidents reported from 1999 to 2004, the charges, suspects, victims, witnesses, and legal resolutions are documented.

## Articles

"Stalking Crimes: Do Alaska Stalking Laws Serve Their Purpose in a Wireless, Social Networking Age?" by Pamela Kelley. *Alaska Justice Forum* 24(1): 2–5 (Spring 2007).  
([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/24/1spring2007/b\\_stalkinglaws.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/24/1spring2007/b_stalkinglaws.html)).

Alaska adopted a stalking statute in 1993. More than a decade later, the National Center for Victims of Crime empanelled a Model Stalking Code Advisory Board to evaluate stalking legislation throughout the United States. In part because of technological changes, the advisory board concluded there was a need to promulgate an updated criminal stalking statutory model. This article examines the suggested statutory update and explores whether a needs exists in Alaska warranting revision of Alaska's criminal statutes.

"Stalking in Alaska" by André B. Rosay, Greg Postle, Katherine TePas, and Darryl S. Wood. *Alaska Justice Forum* 24(1): 1, 7–12 (Spring 2007).  
([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/24/1spring2007/a\\_stalking.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/24/1spring2007/a_stalking.html)).

A recent Justice Center examination of Alaska State Trooper case files has revealed that the crime of stalking is probably greatly underreported by victims as well as underrecognized by law enforcement, and hence not charged often enough in Alaska. Data from all stalking incidents reported to Alaska State Troopers from 1994 to 2005 were collected to gather descriptive information. The research provides a first overview of a specific crime whose characteristics are not widely known beyond the justice community.

## Conference papers and multimedia presentations

"Overview of UAA Justice Center Violence Against Women Research" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska State Troopers Commanders Conference, Anchorage, AK, 18 Feb 2009.  
(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-02.jc-vaw-research.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence.

"Sexual Violence in Alaska" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center Advisory Council, Anchorage, AK, 1 Jun 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-04.jc-vaw-nsvrc.html>).

This PowerPoint presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence.

"UAA Research on Violence Against Women" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Slide presentation presented to the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, Juneau, AK, 25 Mar 2009. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/vaw/2009-03.jc-vaw-research.html>).

This PowerPoint slide presentation presents an overview of key results from Justice Center research on violence against women in Alaska, including studies on sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence. Audio of this presentation before the Alaska Senate Judiciary Committee, lasting about one hour and twenty minutes, is archived on the Alaska Legislature website

<[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_audio.asp?session=26&chamber=S&comm=JUD&date1=3/25/2009&start=1333](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_audio.asp?session=26&chamber=S&comm=JUD&date1=3/25/2009&start=1333)> in FTR Player format (Windows-only player downloadable at legislative website) and at Gavel to Gavel Alaska

<<http://www.ktoo.org/gavel/archive.cfm?audio=14562&request=FE0DCFF29038A17C83C8168CD890F7B7>> in mpu/mp3 format (can be listened to in most media players including Winamp and iTunes).

## Child sexual abuse (Sexual abuse of minors)

### Reports

*Results From the Long-Term Inmate Survey: Focus on Child Abuse Histories* by Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis. Report prepared for the Alaska Department of Corrections. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Jun 1998. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9809doc/9809doc2.html>).

This report of long-term inmates in Alaska correctional facilities attempts to describe the childhood experiences of a sample of long-term inmates, address the "cycle of abuse" issue, and present the correlates of abuse which may impact the pattern of offending or inmate functioning. Over 80 percent of long-term inmates report having been physically abused as children; over 65 percent report having suffered neglect. Included are seven background studies providing a review of literature on the relationship between childhood abuse and adult criminality, methods to measure the incidence of child abuse and neglect, survey methodology and administration, survey biases, tables, personal interview administration and results, and correlates of abuse.

This report includes the following subreports:

"Incidence of Child Abuse and the Relationship to Criminality: Literature Review" by Robert H. Langworthy, Peter Crum, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis.

This review is intended to provide a "backcloth" of information about the incidence of child abuse in the population generally, in the prisoner population, and to explore what is known about the relationship between abuse as a child and future adult criminality.

"Measuring Child Abuse and Neglect: A Review of Methods" by Richard W. Curtis, Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Peter Crum.

This background study presents a discussion of the principal design elements of an offender profile questionnaire designed to assess childhood abuse and neglect experienced by inmates in Alaska correctional institutions. Discussion includes the source of the measurement instruments, elements and interpretation of the measurement instruments, and the interview administration techniques to be used.

"Survey Methods and Administration" by Richard W. Curtis and Allan R. Barnes. In Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis.

This background study describes the three types of surveys used to collect data during the course of a study focusing on the relationship between child abuse and adult criminality in Alaska: congregate interviews, personal interviews, and an inmate case file jacket survey.

"An Assessment of Survey Biases" by Robert H. Langworthy. In Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis,

This background study seeks to assess how respondents to the congregate interview portion of the study compared to the larger eligible inmate population and what biases were inherent in the survey sample.

"Tables to Support Profile Analysis" by Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis.

These tables provide background data in support of the analysis contained in the study.

"Personal Interview Administration and Results" by Allan R. Barnes and Richard W. Curtis. In Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis.

This background study describes the administration and results of personal interviews with prison inmates.

"Correlates of Abuse" by Robert H. Langworthy, Peter Crum, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis. In Robert H. Langworthy,

This background study focuses on correlates of abuse with particular attention to "plausible consequences"—criminal experience, hostility, disassociation, anxiety, coping strategies, and history of psychological treatment.

*Preliminary Results From the Long-Term Inmate Survey: Focus on Child Abuse Histories* by Robert H. Langworthy, Allan R. Barnes, and Richard W. Curtis. Report prepared for the Alaska Department of Corrections. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 21 Apr 1998.

(<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9809doc/9809doc1.html>).

This preliminary report of long-term inmates in Alaska correctional facilities finds that over 80 percent of long-term inmates report having been physically abused as children; over 65 percent report having suffered neglect. Other findings related to the child abuse histories of long-term inmates are also reported.

## Articles

"Case Attrition of Sexual Violence Offenses: Empirical Findings" by Darryl S. Wood and André B. Rosay. *Alaska Justice Forum* 25(1–2): 1, 18–20 (Spring 2008-Summer 2008). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/b\\_attrition.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/25/1-2springsummer2008/b_attrition.html)).

Allegations have been made that the State of Alaska discriminates on a geographic and racial basis in the provision of criminal justice services to Alaska Native villages that are isolated from the main road system, including in response to sexual violence against Alaska Natives. Although compelling, the case made against the state is largely anecdotal. This article considers information gathered from the case files of the Alaska State Troopers (AST) and

the Alaska Department of Law (DOL) to determine if there is an empirical basis for claims of unequal enforcement of sexual violence statutes.

"Disposition of Sexual Assault Cases" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 20(4): 8 (Winter 2004). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/20/4winter2004/d\\_rapedisposition.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/20/4winter2004/d_rapedisposition.html)).

The Alaska Judicial Council study, *Alaska Felony Process: 1999*, was conducted to ascertain whether the disproportionate percentages of ethnic minorities observed in the criminal justice system at all points in the process were the result of discrimination in the courts. Statistical analysis presented in the study shows that cases involving sexual offenses were handled even-handedly, with no effects associated with ethnicity in charge reduction, pre-disposition incarceration or sentence. Some disparities did appear in association with case location and with type of attorney.

### **Conference papers and multimedia presentations**

"Descriptive Analysis of Sexual Assault Incidents Reported to Alaska State Troopers: 2003-2004" (PowerPoint slide presentation) by André B. Rosay. Jan 2008. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.) (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0601intimatepartnerviolence/0601.03.press.html>)

This PowerPoint presentation provides an overview of findings of a statewide study of all sexual assault and sexual abuse of minor incidents reported to the Alaska State Troopers (AST) from January 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004.

## VPSOs

### Reports

*Alaska Rural Justice Issues: A Selected Bibliography* by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, 2006. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/2000/0510ruraljustice/0510ruralbib.html>).

This annotated bibliography covers research undertaken in the areas of rural governance, policing, the courts, corrections, juvenile justice, and other areas pertinent to rural Alaska. The volume also includes a monograph discussing rural justice issues as revealed through the research, an index of important Alaska Native legal cases from 1918 to the present, and maps illustrating the Alaska criminal and civil justice system.

*Turnover Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers: An Examination of the Factors Associated With Attrition* by Darryl S. Wood. Report prepared under Grant No. 98-IJ-CX-0035 from the National Institute of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Mar 2000. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9901vpso/9901vpso.html>).

An extensive look at the extent of turnover in the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program and the factors associated with it. Some of the variables examined did not show as strong a relationship with officer turnover as has been suggested in common public discussion. The analysis showed that while dissatisfaction with pay and housing are widespread, they do not predict turnover—which historically has been very high. Dissatisfaction with training does seem to be associated with officer turnover, but, in fact, most officers are satisfied with their training. Being of Alaska Native heritage is also not associated with turnover. In fact, the more an officer was attached to a Native background—including serving in a home village—the less likely he was to leave a position. The measurements of stress also failed to show a clear connection with turnover, although one variable initially included to look at stress—the presence of another officer in the same community—was associated with staying in the program. This finding aligned with other findings that those variables that indicate a strong connection to life in a community—among them, variables such as being married, having an extra job, being of Native background, and having another officer to work with—are associated with stability in the program.

*Turnover Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers: An Examination of the Factors Associated With Attrition—Summary* by Darryl S. Wood. Report prepared under Grant No. 98-IJ-CX-0035 from the National Institute of Justice. Anchorage, AK: Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage, Mar 2000. (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9901vpso/9901vpso.html>).

Since its inception in 1980, Alaska's Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) has provided policing and other public safety services (including fire fighting, search and rescue, water safety, and emergency medical services) to rural Alaska Native villages. The VPSO program was developed in response to public safety needs of the villages and to economies of scale, since individual villages could not generate resources for separate agencies to handle specific

programs. Since 1983, the first year for which adequate records are available, turnover in the VPSO program has averaged 36 percent per year; that is, for every 100 VSPOs serving in a given year, 36 have quit or been fired. This turnover rate is far higher than in any other sector of the public safety labor force. This report summarizes the findings of the final report on the research. It examines the extent of and reasons for VPSO turnover, and considers the ramifications of these findings as they pertain to the overall objectives of the VPSO program, the problems of rural police departments, and the feasibility of community-oriented policing in sparsely populated areas.

*Public Safety and the Justice System in Alaskan Native Villages* by John E. Angell. Jonesboro, TN: Pilgrimage, Inc., 1981.

This book describes the inability of the Alaska justice system to prevent crime, ensure public safety, and secure justice in Alaska Native communities. The author targets problems with emergency response times, provision of routine services, local public safety operations, community detention, legal and judicial operations, and trial and post-conviction services. Recommendations for reforming the state justice system to solve problems with the administration of public safety and justice in the bush are provided.

## Articles

"Improving Public Safety in Rural Alaska: A Review of Past Studies" by Justin Roberts. *Alaska Justice Forum* 21(4): 1, 3-8 (Winter 2005). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/21/4winter2005/a\\_ruralalaska.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/21/4winter2005/a_ruralalaska.html)).

An overview of recommendations made in various studies and evaluations of the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program since the early 1980s. The piece summarizes ideas made regarding several aspects of the program, including officer turnover, supervision, and training.

"Studies, Reports, and Documents Relevant to the VPSO Program" by Justin Roberts and Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 21(4): 6-7 (Winter 2005). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/21/4winter2005/d\\_vpsobib.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/21/4winter2005/d_vpsobib.html)).

A selected bibliography of articles and other works containing information or discussion relevant to the Alaska Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program.

"A Comparison of Group-Administered and Mail-Administered Surveys of Alaskan Village Public Safety Officers" by Darryl S. Wood. *Policing: An International Journal of Police Strategies and Management* 26(2): 329-340 (2003). (<http://caliban.emerald-library.com/vl=2163755/cl=76/nw=1/rpsv/cgi-bin/linker?ini=emerald&reqidx=/cw/mcb/1363951x/v26n2/s8/p329>).

In order to maximize response rates, a survey of Alaskan village public safety officers was conducted using both group-administration methods (n=32) and mail-administration methods

(n=29). Included in the survey were questions related to officer job satisfaction and stress. It was expected that officers who completed the group-administered survey would be more satisfied with their jobs and report less stress. Non-parametric analysis of variance techniques was used to compare the responses for each of the administration methods. No statistically significant differences between the responses of the two groups of officers were found.

"Explanations of Employment Turnover Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers" by Darryl S. Wood. *Journal of Criminal Justice* 30(3): 197-215 (2002). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9901vps0/9901dsw5.html>).

Since its inception in 1982, turnover has been a problem for Alaska's Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Program. This study employed principal components analysis methods to identify factors from the results of a survey of 113 VPSOs for use in an event history regression model to explain officer attrition. The results of the event history analysis indicate that Alaska Native heritage, marriage, satisfaction with training, a lack of absolute poverty, and the presence of other peace officers in the work situation were all associated with a decreased likelihood of officer turnover. The implications of these findings for rural police officer recruitment and retention are discussed.

"Police Turnover in Isolated Communities: The Alaska Experience" by Darryl S. Wood. *National Institute of Justice Journal* 246: 16-23 (Jan 2001). (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9901vps0/9901dsw9.html>).

In the rural areas of Alaska, where public safety services are provided to isolated areas spread across vast distances, officer employment turnover is a problem, particularly in isolated Alaska Native villages. Employment turnover rates as high as 500 percent per year are not unheard of in some Alaska Native village police agencies. A study of the factors associated with attrition in rural Alaska Native villages found that officers are more likely to remain in their positions if they are connected to the Native culture, serve in their home village, are not the sole officer in the village, and are married.

"Officer Turnover in the Village Public Safety Officer Program" by Darryl S. Wood. *Alaska Justice Forum* 17(2): 1, 4-7 (Summer 2000). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/17/2summer2000/a\\_vps0.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/17/2summer2000/a_vps0.html)).

Turnover among law enforcement officers serving in Alaska Native villages has been a problem since long before statehood. Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs) typically remain employed for only slightly less than two years. This article considers the findings of a study examining this problem. The study's main finding is that officers without strong connections of marriage, family, or culture in the communities they serve are most likely to terminate their employment as VPSOs.

"The Nonenforcement Role of Police in Western Alaska and the Eastern Canadian Arctic: An Analysis of Police Tasks in Remote Arctic Communities" by Darryl S. Wood and Lawrence C. Trostle. *Journal of Criminal Justice* 25(5): 367-379 (1997). (<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/B6V75-3SX248J-2/2/6747b8aac5963500ccc3c811e26fdcee>).

A discussion of policing in Alaska Native and Canadian Inuit villages that considers the ways in which policing in the Arctic and sub-Arctic involves more than just law enforcement, and the implications of this for hiring.

"The Nonenforcement Role of the VPSO" by Lawrence C. Trostle, Darren McShea, and Russell Perras. *Alaska Justice Forum* 8(4): 1, 9-12 (Winter 1992). ([http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/08/4winter1992/a\\_vpso.html](http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/forum/08/4winter1992/a_vpso.html)).

An examination of the non-enforcement work of Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs)—that is, work involving public safety and other community issues, other than the handling of criminal violations. The study looked on 13 villages in the Bristol Bay area. Of the reports made by VPSOs in 1989 and 1990, 59 percent involved non-criminal situations. The article provides extensive summary information on these cases.

"Village Public Safety Officers: A Further Look" by Lawrence C. Trostle. *Alaska Justice Forum* 9(1): 5-8 (Spring 1992).

The article presents statewide data on the non-criminal work of the VPSOs from the early 1990s, offering an extensive presentation of the types of non-law-enforcement tasks undertaken by VPSOs. In the state as a whole in 1990, close to 90 percent of VPSO service calls were non-enforcement-related, although figures varied widely on a regional and village level.

"Village Police Training" by Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage. *Alaska Justice Forum* 3(2): 1, 12 (Feb 1979).

This article summarizes major findings and recommendations from an evaluation of the Alaska Department of Public Safety's Village Police Training Program, which trained village police officers for service in predominately Alaska Native villages. The evaluation report, *Alaska Village Police Training: An Assessment and Recommendations* by John E. Angell (December 1978), found that from 1971 to 1978 nearly three-quarters of a million dollars were invested in training village police officers. However, of 292 people trained since the program's inception, only 70 were still serving in their villages as of late 1978.

"Village Safety Officer Program" by M. James Messick. *Alaska Justice Forum* 3(6): 1, 6-10 (Jun 1979).

In 1979, the Alaska Department of Public Safety initiated a restructuring of the then-existing Village Police Officer program in order to improve public safety and law enforcement in rural Alaska villages. The result of the restructuring was the Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program. This article, by one of the VPSO program's architects, presents the major problems the program sought to address and describes the proposed program, including VPSO training, program elements, and program funding.

## Conference papers and multimedia presentations

"Village Public Safety Officer Turnover and Violent Crime in Alaska Native Communities" by Darryl S. Wood. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Western and Pacific Association of Criminal Justice Educators, Park City, UT, Oct 2003. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.)

This statistical examination of violent crime in 115 villages for the period 1998 through 2002 revealed that, while sexual assault and homicide rates did not differ according to the presence or absence of a VPSO in a village, felony assault rates were higher in villages when there was no VPSO. Misdemeanor assault rates were actually lower in villages without a VPSO present. The paper discusses differing interpretations for its findings. The author also notes that the absence of a VPSO to facilitate reporting crime may be a source of bias in the Alaska State Trooper reports—which were the source of the study data.

"A Comparison of Group-Administered and Mail-Administered Surveys of Alaskan Village Public Safety Officers" by Darryl S. Wood. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Anaheim, CA, Mar 2002. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.)

In order to maximize response rates, a survey of Alaskan Village Public Safety Officers was conducted using both group-administration methods (n=32) and mail-administration methods (n=29). Included in the survey were questions related to officer job satisfaction and stress. It was expected that officers who completed the group-administered survey would be more satisfied with their jobs and would report less stress. Non-parametric analysis of variance was used to compare the responses for each of the administration methods. No statistically significant differences between the responses of the two groups of officers were found.

"Employment Turnover Among Alaska Native and Non-Native Village Public Safety Officers" by Darryl S. Wood. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology, San Francisco, CA, Nov 2000. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.) (<http://justice.uaa.alaska.edu/research/1990/9901vps0/9901dsw6.html>).

Employment turnover in the Alaska Public Safety Officer (VPSO) Program has been a problem since its beginnings in the early 1980s. This paper uses principal component analysis methods to identify factors from the responses of 113 VPSOs to a survey of officer stress, the demands of rural policing, isolation, career motivation, salary, and organizational and community support. The factors identified in the principal component analysis are then used in a Cox regression model to predict the likelihood of turnover. Comparisons are made between the factors associated with turnover among Alaska Native and non-Native VPSOs.

"Explanations of Employment Turnover in the Alaska Village Public Safety Officer Program" by Darryl S. Wood and Michael Jennings. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, New Orleans, LA, Mar 2000. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.)

Since its inception in 1980, officer turnover has been a problem for Alaska's Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) program. Principal component analysis methods are employed in this paper to identify factors from responses to a survey of 113 VPSOs to explain turnover in the program for use in an event history regression model. Included in the model are measures dealing with officer stress, directiveness, the demands of rural policing, career motivations, isolation, salary, training, and community support. Special attention is paid to the difficulties faced by Alaska Native VPSOs serving in the cultural milieu of their home communities.

"Job Attrition Among Alaska Village Public Safety Officers: Preliminary Findings From a Survey of Current and Former Officers" by Darryl S. Wood. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Orlando, FL, Mar 1999. (Available from Justice Center, University of Alaska Anchorage.)

Village Public Safety Officers (VPSOs), the sole law enforcement presence in over 75 Alaska Native villages, quit and leave the program at a rate of about 40 percent per year. This paper presents preliminary findings from a survey of current and former VPSOs (N=101) that provides insights into this rather high incidence of turnover. Factors related to the general stress of policing, to the "24/7" nature of rural law enforcement, and to the particular difficulties of being a peace officer in rural Native communities are taken into account to understand the factors associated with officers leaving VPSO service.