

Julie Anderson  
Commissioner

www.Commerce.Alaska.Gov



Department of Commerce,  
Community, and  
Economic Development

Anchorage, Alaska

STATE OF ALASKA

PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

**20-012**

## **DCCED Awards \$6 Million in Grants to Improve Rural Alaska Public Safety Facilities**

**Friday, May 8, 2020 (Anchorage)** – The Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development (DCCED) has awarded fifteen Emergency Federal Law Enforcement Assistant (EFLEA) grants, totaling \$6 million, to improve rural public safety facilities.

“These grants are a big win for our rural communities and public safety efforts,” **said Governor Mike Dunleavy**. “I want to thank the Department of Public Safety and our federal delegation for their work and support of the State of Alaska’s application to receive these funds. I also want to thank the Department of Commerce for working with the communities to distribute this money quickly.”

The State of Alaska was awarded the \$6 million EFLEA grant by the U.S. Department of Justice. Applications were solicited by the Department of Public Safety and reviewed by an Application Selection Committee selected by DCCED’s Division of Community and Regional Affairs (DCRA). The EFLEA funds will be used by 31 rural Alaska communities for placement of fabricated buildings with office space and holding cells where necessary or for renovations of existing public facility office space and holding cells.

“Alaska has struggled to recruit and retain public safety personnel in our rural communities, partially due to the lack of basic infrastructure to support these officers,” **said DCCED Commissioner Julie Anderson**. “These grants will assist rural communities with infrastructure needs that are essential to sustaining rural public safety positions.”

Eligible applicants included Alaska Native organizations, Alaska Native Villages, federal recognized Indian tribes, and municipal governments in communities with populations of less than 1,000. To receive the grants monies, selected applicants are required complete an environmental review and enter into a grant agreement with DCRA.

###

**Media Contact:** Pauletta Bourne, (907) 451-2721, [Pauletta.Bourne@Alaska.gov](mailto:Pauletta.Bourne@Alaska.gov)