

# TESTEMONY

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The present conditions in the Northwest Arctic Borough are: The State is in charge of a broken system. No funds, few Village police, reactionary and antagonistic State Police and Court system. A punitive Correctional system that corrects or treats no one. Little or no citizen involvement.

I believe that some or all of the following actions would help to correct the injustices perpetrated on our people:

- 1 - Base the entire system on compassion as opposed to reaction and punitive measures.
- 2 - Establish Village and Neighborhood police and court systems based on prevention, restitution and closure.
- 3 - Retain existing court system for major felonies.
- 4 - Give Native Villages a choice between Tribal and State systems with access to existing higher court systems.
- 5 - Use volunteer police and judges to the greatest extent possible.
- 6 - Train all Village police in social/ traditional justice.
- 7 - Involve Village people in the Village justice system.

8 - Back-up the Village police system with Homeland Defense. Establish a State Defense Force in each rural Village for Homeland Defense and disaster assistance. This would give the State Troopers a trained resource that could be called to duty to assist in major violence and arrest situations.

Without some assistance from Village residents there is not enough outside resources to accomplish the necessary tasks.