

The State of Alaska is adding four new K-9 law enforcement members. Two of these dogs have received names, but the two pictured above still need names—and they need them quickly! The Governor, the Department of Education and Early Development, and the Department of Public Safety are asking for your help picking great names for Alaska's new K-9s.

These four K-9s will be searching for methamphetamines, cocaine, and heroin. All three of these illegal drugs are very dangerous and harm many Alaskans. Use of heroin and other opioids is a growing problem all over the United States. In Alaska, Governor Bill Walker recently declared a public health crisis to combat the opioid epidemic and has signed Administrative Order 283, which outlines the important next steps the state will take to address the heroin and opioid epidemic.

Using K-9s is one of many efforts to make a Safer Alaska by Building Stronger Communities and this K-9 naming contest is a great opportunity to engage our state's students in illicit-drug prevention.

The contest closes at 11:59 p.m. on May 10th, 2017.

PRIZES:

The 6th-grade classes that successfully name the 2 K-9s will each receive:

- a school visit from the K-9 they successfully named and the K-9's law enforcement partner/handler (next fall)
- an appreciation plaque
- congratulations issued by Governor Walker