



March 28, 2017
DPS PR# 17-006

Joint Investigation in Kodiak Leads to Meth Lab

(KODIAK, Alaska) – On March 16, 2017 at approximately 1304 hours, Alaska State Troopers Statewide Drug Enforcement Unit (SDEU) received a report of a suspicious package shipped from California to a residence in Kodiak. Investigation revealed that the package contained approximately a half pound of methamphetamine. The total street value of the seized methamphetamine is approximately of \$82,759.50.

On March 17, 2017, at approximately 1830 hours, investigators with the SDEU, Kodiak Police Department and the United States Coast Guard Investigative Service made contact with a suspect at the business the package was addressed to be delivered. The contact resulted in successfully locating further evidence of drug trafficking and the arrest of Steven E. Stersic, 56 of Kodiak. Investigators obtained a search warrant for a property. During the service of the search warrant a Meth lab was discovered. As there was a health and safety risk associated with the lab, law enforcement agents participating in the search left the structure and secured the premises.

On March 18, 2017, at approximately 0900 hours, Alaska State Trooper personnel from Anchorage with clandestine lab certifications were picked up and transported to the Kodiak USCG Air Station. They ultimately responded to the business property, processed the scene and ultimately rendered the location safe to collect evidence. The personnel also was able to confirmation that the location was used as a meth lab. On March 23, 2017, the United States Drug Enforcement Agency and Environmental Compliance Consultants arrived in Kodiak to oversee the seizure of hazardous materials.

On March 23, 2017, the Kodiak grand jury issued a true bill against Steve Stersic. The charges included four counts of Misconduct Involving a Controlled Substance in the Second Degree and a single count of Misconduct Involving Weapons in the Second degree. Stersic was released on bail \$2,000 bail and third party custodian requirements on March 22, 2017.