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NEWS RELEASE

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State Settles Barrow Pull-tab Case

Attorney General Gregg Renkes announced today that the State of Alaska has entered into an agreement with the Native Village of Barrow about its pull-tab operations.

“We are pleased that the Native Village of Barrow has now obtained a permit from the State of Alaska,” the Attorney General said. “We want to encourage charitable gaming, but in accordance with state laws and regulations, so that all charitable gaming operators are abiding by the same rules and the playing field is level.”

The case arose out of complaints the state received about illegal pull-tab businesses conducted by the Native Village of Barrow. On June 30, 2003, the Alaska State Troopers shut down the operations by serving a search warrant on the pull-tab premises in Barrow and seizing games, cash, records and equipment used in the pull-tab operation. As part of the agreement, the State of Alaska will not file criminal charges for gambling that may have occurred before the pull-tab operation ceased. Both the State and the Native Village of Barrow have agreed that the items seized will be forfeited to the state, with the exception of certain office equipment being returned to the Native Village of Barrow.

For copies of the written agreement, contact: Senior Assistant Attorney General Richard Svobodny at (907) 465-3620.

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