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FAI Helps Combat Opioid Epidemic in the Interior

(**Fairbanks**, **Alaska**) – The Fairbanks International Airport (FAI) was requested to respond to the passenger screening checkpoint Sunday, October 1, 2017 to investigate a passenger for the possible possession of illicit drugs. Upon arrival, officers determined that the subject possessed a mix of numerous types of drug controlled substances without a prescription and an unknown substance labeled as Opium Raw Latex.

Lab results confirmed that the unknown substance labeled Opium Raw Latex was a mixture of codeine and marijuana hash oil. FAI is pursuing felony drug charges against the subject for attempting to transport controlled substances illegally through the airport.

"The airport is committed to helping eliminate illegal drug transportation and building a Safer Alaska for everyone," said Airport Manager, Jeff Roach.

Governor Walker declared a public health crisis in order to combat the state's opioid epidemic last February. FAI and its police officers are committed to doing their part in combatting this threat to Alaska's citizens.

Please help keep your community safe by reporting illegal drug transportation to the FAI tip line at 1-800-TIP-4FIA or (1-877-847-4342) or the Alaska State Troopers.

For more steps you can take to counteract the opioid epidemic, including secure storage of prescriptions and safe disposal of unused medications, visit <u>opioids.alaska.gov</u>.

Visit https://gov.alaska.gov/administration-focus/safer-alaska/ for more information about Safer Alaska.

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities oversees 242 airports, 10 ferries serving 35 communities, over 5,600 miles of highway and 731 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to "*Keep Alaska Moving* through service and infrastructure."

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"Keep Alaska Flying and Thriving."