



FEMA

Press Release

August 21, 2009
RIV-09-124
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FEMA AWARDS NEARLY \$600,000 TO ALABAMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS FROM THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) PROGRAM

ATLANTA – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded \$590,985 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program to local fire departments and organizations in the state of Alabama. Nationally, the fiscal year (FY) 2008 AFG awards will provide approximately \$500 million to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations throughout the country.

“This direct funding is essential to train and equip our first responders who protect lives and property against all hazards in our communities each day,” said U.S. Fire Administration Acting Administrator Glenn A. Gaines. “The USFA and FEMA will continue to remain steadfast in our commitment to support America’s firefighters through these critical grant funds.”

This week’s round of the national Assistance to Firefighters Grants amount to \$18,463,499 and includes grants provided to the following fire departments and organizations in Alabama from the:

FY 2008 Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program

Hatchechubbee VFD	Hatchechubbee	Operations and Safety	\$94,007
Mt. Weisner VFD	Piedmont	Operations and Safety	\$38,000
Summit VFD	Blountsville	Operations and Safety	\$29,545
Highland VFD	Gadsden	Operations and Safety	\$89,210
Limrock/Aspel VFD	Scottsboro	Operations and Safety	\$11,521

FY 2008 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Program

Micaville VFD	Heflin	Fire Prevention	\$3,562
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FY 2008 SAFER Grants Program

Huguley FD	Lanett	Hiring	\$325,140
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The Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program is an important component of the Administration’s larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation’s overall level of preparedness. The AFG is designed to enhance response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public with respect to fire and other hazards. The grants enable local fire departments and emergency medical services organizations to purchase or receive training, conduct first responder health and safety programs, and buy equipment and response vehicles.

(MORE)

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The Department of Homeland Security's Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (FP&S) grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to target high-risk populations and mitigate high incidences of death and injury. Examples of the types of projects supported by FP&S include fire prevention and public safety education campaigns, juvenile firesetter interventions, media campaigns, and arson prevention and awareness programs.

The Department of Homeland Security's Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program was created to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations in order to help them increase the number of trained, "front-line" firefighters available in their communities. The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards.

These grant programs are administered cooperatively by two FEMA components: the Grant Programs Directorate and the United States Fire Administration. The full list of past and current recipients and other Assistance to Firefighter Grant program information is posted on the AFG website at (www.firegrantsupport.com).

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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