

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) announced that the Center Point Fire Department in Jefferson County has been awarded a federal fire grant in the amount of \$286,962.

“Firefighters are on the front lines every day, protecting lives and saving property. This grant program provides funding for rapidly growing communities to hire new firefighters. The Center Point Fire Department provides outstanding service to the community, and this will help them maintain that high standard,” Bachus said.

Bachus announced the following grant.

**Center Point Fire Department - \$286,962**

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Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant for the hiring of three additional full-time firefighters.

Chief Howard Summerford said, “I would like to thank Congressman Bachus for his support. He has been a great supporter of this grant program and all of us here appreciate his support. We have been very fortunate to get grants for equipment in the past but this will allow us to hire three more firefighters. There is a big need for this kind of support out here and this will help with the staffing. I don’t think most people know that the Center Point Fire District covers Center Point, Clay, and Pinson along with all the unincorporated areas. We cover 60 square miles.”

Mayor Tom Henderson said, “We are very happy to get this grant. This grant will allow us to hire more personnel at our fire department, which will mean more protection for our citizens.”

The goal of the SAFER program is to enhance the ability of fire departments to attract and maintain 24-hour staffing and to assure that their communities have adequate protection from fire and fire-related hazards.

The program is administered the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

