

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) today announced that the Coker Volunteer Fire Department in Tuscaloosa County has been awarded a federal fire grant in the amount of \$66,965.

"Firefighters are on the front lines every day, protecting lives and saving property. They deserve modern equipment and the best in safety gear. This grant program helps ensure that fire companies have the necessary resources to quickly and effectively respond to emergency calls. The Coker Volunteer Fire Department is to be commended for qualifying for this funding," Bachus said.

Bachus announced the following grant.

Coker Volunteer Fire Department - \$66,965

Operations and Safety Grant for the purchase of self-contained breathing apparatus, radios, medical equipment, an extrication tool (Jaws of Life), and turnout gear.

Chief Larry Higgins said, "We are very happy we received this grant. It will be a tremendous help to our department. We are also very thankful for all the support Congressman Bachus has provided."

Funds awarded under the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program are used to meet the firefighting and emergency needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated medical services organizations. Only the applications most closely conforming to program priorities are considered and scored by peer review panels.

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