

**WASHINGTON** – Congressman Spencer Bachus (AL-6) announced that the Thorsby Fire Department has been awarded a federal fire grant totaling \$33,250.

"Firefighters are on the front lines every day, protecting lives and property in the community. 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 Thorsby Volunteer Fire Department is to be commended for submitting such a strong application," Bachus said.

The Thorsby Fire Department will use the Operations and Safety Grant to purchase a new cascade compressor system to fill the air packs that help fighters breathe in smoky conditions.

Captain Clay Bentley said, "On behalf of the Thorsby Fire Department, we appreciate the grant and the assistance provided by Congressman Bachus. The funds will allow us to replace antiquated and outdated equipment, improving safety for our firefighters."

Funds awarded under the Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant program are used to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency 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.