

WASHINGTON - Today the Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C. announced that twelve local fire departments have been awarded badly needed funding through the Assistance to Firefighters grant program.

The departments and specific amounts received are as follows:

Department

Purpose

Amount

Brent Volunteer Fire Department

Vehicle Acquisition

\$156,750

Collins Chapel Fire & Rescue

Vehicle Acquisition

251,750

Davis Lake Fire Department, Inc.

Operations and Safety

20,321

Dunnavant

Vehicle Acquisition

175,750

Enterprise Volunteer Fire & Rescue

Operations and Safety

69,844

Jemison Fire Department

Operations and Safety

94,622

Marble Valley Volunteer Fire Department

Vehicle Acquisition

197,137

Mt. Olive Fire and Rescue Service

Vehicle Acquisition

131,100

Riverside Fire and Rescue

Operations and Safety

23,750

Stewartville Volunteer Fire Department

Vehicle Acquisition

207,100

Verbena Volunteer Fire & Rescue Dept., Inc.

Operations and Safety

38,922

Warrior River Volunteer Fire Department

Vehicle Acquisition

190,950

All local fire departments were awarded these grants based on recommendations from nine major national fire service organizations. Many fire and rescue departments applied for the grants, but only the applications most closely conforming to program priorities were reviewed and scored by peer review panels.

In Fiscal Year 2006, the DHS Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will award approximately **\$485 million** directly to fire departments and emergency medical service (EMS) organizations to enhance their ability to protect the health and safety of the public, as well as that of first-responder personnel, with respect to fire and fire related hazards.

Congressman Bachus congratulates all twelve of these departments for their hard work in securing these grants because they will further provide their citizens with added fire and medical response capabilities.

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