

WASHINGTON- Congressman Spencer Bachus is pleased to announce that the Department of Homeland Security has released over \$36 Million to Alabama's first responders. The \$36,853,000 from the State Homeland Security Grant Program will be used for training, equipment, exercises, and planning to help Alabama's law enforcement and emergency response personnel better prepare and secure our communities from potential terrorist threats and other disasters.

Since its creation last year, the Department of Homeland Security has allocated more than \$71 million to the state of Alabama: \$9,457,000 in FY'03, \$25,049,000 in the FY'03 supplemental budget, and \$36,853,000 in FY'04.

The Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Justice has provided \$13.1 billion dollars in direct homeland security grants from FY'02 to FY'04, as compared to only \$1.2 billion allocated from FY'99 to FY'01 - more than a 900% increase in the commitment and spending on homeland security.

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