

WASHINGTON- Congressman Spencer Bachus is very pleased to announce that several Fire Departments in the 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional district will be receiving badly needed funds through the Federal Emergency Management Association's grant program.

The departments and amount received are as follows:

- West Shelby Fire and Rescue, \$10,943
- Em  
ergency Medical Services
  
- Fairview Volunteer Fire and Rescue,

\$1

62,900-

Firefighting Vehicle

- Bagley Fire and Rescue,

\$14,040-

Fire Operations and Safety

For the 2003 program, Congress appropriated, and President Bush

signed into law, \$750 million in direct assistance in support of the nation's firefighters and the services they deliver. This year FEMA received approximately 19,950 applications for the 2003 grant program. The application period closed in early April 2003 and the total request of all departments, including the non-federal share, totaled approximately \$2.5 billion.

The Assistance for Firefighters Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States. These funds are used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations, firefighter health and safety programs, new fire apparatus, emergency medical service programs, and fire prevention and safety programs.

Congressman Bachus congratulates all of these Fire departments for their hard work in securing these grants because they will further provide the citizens of the 6<sup>th</sup> district with added fire and medical response

capabilities.