

November 27, 2006 Local fire companies receive grants

For Immediate Release

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Johnstown, PA - U.S. Rep. John Murtha today announced that the Fallowfield Township Volunteer Fire Company, the Morrell Volunteer Fire Department, and the Summerhill Borough Volunteer Fire Company have been awarded grants from the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant program for firefighter operations and training.

* Fallowfield Township Volunteer Fire Company	\$194,070
* Morrell Volunteer Fire Department	\$101,768
* Summerhill Borough Volunteer Fire Company	\$50,799

"The jobs of volunteer firefighters are often made more difficult by the need to operate on shoestring budgets with no room to buy the equipment that allows them to respond safely and efficiently," Murtha said. "These grants relieve some of the financial pressure on those who freely sacrifice their time and often risk their lives to protect their friends and neighbors."

The Assistance to Firefighters program is administered by the U.S. Fire Administration, part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Funds are used for operations and firefighter safety programs such as training, equipment and personal protective equipment; fire prevention programs such as public education, fire code enforcement, and the purchase and installation of smoke alarms; and the purchase of firefighting vehicles such as pumpers, brush trucks and rescue vehicles.