

September 19, 2007 Murtha Announces Local Fire Department Grants

For Immediate Release

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Washington D.C. - Congressman John P. Murtha announced today that the Department of Homeland Security has released Assistance to Firefighters Grants to 12th District volunteer fire departments.

These competitive grants are provided to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations to enhance first responders' ability to protect the health and safety of the public and that of first-responder personnel. Since 2004, Assistance to Firefighters Grants has provided a total of almost \$2.2 billion to first-responder organizations to purchase response equipment, personal protective equipment, and vehicles.

Armstrong County

Kiski Township Fire Department No.1	\$69,683
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The Department plans to purchase 30 sets of bunker gear, which consists of coats, hats, suits and boots worn by firefighters during a fire. They also plan on purchasing 30 sets of rescue gear, lighter and more mobile gear that is used during non-fire related calls.

Westmoreland County

George G. McMurtry Fire Department Vandergrift No. 1	\$38,772
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The Department plans to purchase new extraction gear, tools that are used to rescue individuals during an accident. They also plan on purchasing a Cascade Air System which is used to refill Self Contained Breathing Apparatus air tanks.