

January 21, 2009 - Murtha Announces Local Fire Department and EMS Grants

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Congressman

John P. Murtha announced today that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has released Assistance to Firefighters Grants to local fire departments and EMS organizations.

"Nearly 75 percent of our nation's 35,000 local fire agencies are volunteer," commented Murtha. "Their jobs are made more difficult by shrinking budgets that don't have the flexibility for funding equipment, training or new vehicles. These grants help our firefighters and EMS organizations respond safely and efficiently, so that they can do a better job protecting our communities."

These competitive grants are provided to fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS. Since 2004, Assistance to Firefighters Grants has provided a total of almost \$2.75 billion to first-responder organizations to purchase response equipment, personal protective equipment, and vehicles. Organizations to enhance first responders' ability to protect the health and safety of the public and that of first-responder personnel.

Fayette County

Fayette Emergency Medical Service, Connellsville	(Operations and Safety)	\$240,000
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Indiana County

Clymer Volunteer Fire Company #1	(Operations and Safety)	\$99,664
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Westmoreland County

Mt. Pleasant Twp. Vol. Fire Dept#2 of Trauger	(Vehicle Acquisition)	\$261,250
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Hannastown Volunteer Fire Company	(Operations and Safety)	\$42,750
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