

February 25, 2009 - Murtha Announces Westmoreland County Fire Department 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 in Westmoreland County.

“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 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 \$2.75 billion to first-responder organizations to purchase response equipment, personal protective equipment, and vehicles.

Westmoreland
County

Freewill Hose Company #3 and #4, Latrobe (Operations and Safety) \$33,858

Monessen Volunteer Fire Department #2 (Operations and Safety) \$48,450

So. New Kensington,

Kinloch, Lower Burrell #1 Volunteer Fire Company (Operations and Safety) \$79,361

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