

March 4, 2009 - Murtha Announces Local 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.

Armstrong
County

Hose Company #6, Kittanning (Operations
and Safety) \$57,286

Markle Volunteer Fire Department (Operations and Safety) \$41,776

Fayette
County

South Union Volunteer Fire Company (Operations and Safety) \$40,375

Washington
County

Lock #4 Volunteer Fire Company (Operations and Safety) \$59,552

Stockdale Volunteer Fire Department (Operations and Safety) \$59,375

Westmoreland
County

Arnold Volunteer Engine Company #2 (Operations and Safety) \$92,705

Crabtree Volunteer Fire Department (Operations and Safety) \$117,538

Seward Volunteer Fire Company (Operations and Safety) \$22,743

Sewickley Township V.F.D. #1 (Operations
and Safety) \$106,231

Westmoreland Homesteads Volunteer Fire Department (Operations and Safety) \$35,568

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