

## Press Release

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## FEMA AWARDS MORE THAN \$2 MILLION TO ALABAMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS FROM THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT (AFG) PROGRAM

**ATLANTA** – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded \$2,038,177 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program to local fire departments and emergency responders in the state of Alabama.

"Providing better equipment, training and staffing for fire departments across the country has one main goal—saving lives," said FEMA Regional Administrator Phil May. "But everyone can do their part. Something as simple as changing the batteries in smoke alarms can save lives."

This week's round of the national Assistance to Firefighters Grants include grants provided to the following first responders in Alabama from the:

## FY 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program

Daphne FD	Daphne	Operations and Safety	\$47,500
Enterprise Rescue, Inc.	Enterprise	Vehicle Acquisition	\$65,250
Texasville VFD	Clayton	Operations and Safety	\$4,845
Lenox-Springhill VFD	Repton	Vehicle Acquisition	\$118,750
Rutledge VFD	Rutledge	Operations and Safety	\$77,653
Old Kingston VFD	Prattville	Operations and Safety	\$38,475
Ridge Grove VFD	Lafayette	Vehicle Acquisition	\$219,522
Gadsden FD	Gadsden	Operations and Safety	\$66,096
Blountsville Volunteer Fire & Rescue	Blountsville	Operations and Safety	\$56,050
Jones Chapel VFD	Cullman	Operations and Safety	\$56,560
Argo Area Volunteer Dept.	Cordova	Vehicle Acquisition	\$69,825
Swearengin VFD	Scottsboro	Vehicle Acquisition	\$190,000
Owens Cross Roads	Owens Cross Roads	Operations and Safety	\$71,725
Nicol VFD	Tuscaloosa	Vehicle Acquisition	\$119,225
County 17 Fire & Rescue	Maylene	Vehicle Acquisition	\$232,750
Ashville FD	Ashville	Operations and Safety	\$7,547
Brookside Fire & Rescue Services	Brookside	Operations and Safety	\$108,942
Ward VFD	Ward	Vehicle Acquisition	\$118,750
Summerfield VFD	Selma	Operations and Safety	\$53,048
City of Birmingham Fire & Rescue Service	Birmingham	Operations and Safety	\$315,664

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The Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program is an important component of the administration's larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the nation's overall level of preparedness. The AFG is designed to enhance response capabilities and to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public with respect to fire and other hazards. The grants enable local fire departments and emergency medical services organizations to purchase or receive training, conduct first responder health and safety programs, and buy equipment and response vehicles.

These grant programs are administered cooperatively by two FEMA components: the Grant Programs Directorate and the United States Fire Administration. The full list of past and current recipients and other Assistance to Firefighter Grant program information is posted on the AFG website at (www.firegrantsupport.com).

FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

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