



FEMA

Press Release

March 20, 2009
RIV-09-079
Media Contact: 770-220-5226

ALABAMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS RECEIVE NEARLY \$2 MILLION IN FUNDING THROUGH FEMA'S ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM

ATLANTA – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today awarded \$1,997,500 in Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) funding to local fire departments and emergency medical services organizations in the state of Alabama.

“First response is always led by local government but, as we’ve seen many times, communications can be challenging,” said FEMA Regional Administrator Phil May. “One way to fix that is to put more resources in local hands before an emergency happens, and the fire grant programs do that very well.”

Nationally, this week’s grants total nearly \$16 million. The AFG program includes three kinds of awards: Fire Grants, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grants and Fire Prevention and Safety grants (FP&S). Today’s grants to Alabama organizations are:

Fire Grants (funding firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services organizations, and supporting regional projects involving multiple organizations serving more than one local jurisdiction)

Orange Beach Fire & Rescue	Orange Beach	Operations and Safety	\$1,000,000
Union Grove FD	Opp	Operations and Safety	\$47,500
Moundville VFD	Moundville	Operations and Safety	\$950,000

The fiscal year (FY) 2008 AFG awards, which are being distributed in phases, will ultimately provide about \$500 million to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations throughout the country.

The full list of this week’s recipients and other information, including program Fact Sheets, can be found on the AFG website (www.firegrantsupport.com).

FEMA leads and supports the nation in a risk-based, comprehensive emergency management system of preparedness, protection, response, recovery, and mitigation, to reduce the loss of life and property and protect the nation from all hazards including natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

###