



FEMA

Press Release

April 23, 2010
RIV-10-092
Media Contact: 770-220-5226

FEMA AWARDS NEARLY \$250,000 TO ALABAMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS FROM THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT PROGRAM

ATLANTA – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded \$244,332 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program to local fire departments and emergency responders in the state of Alabama.

“Having a fire-safe community doesn’t start with your local fire department, it starts at home,” said FEMA Regional Administrator Phil May. “While government can provide the training and resources to ensure our firefighters are prepared for any situation, it’s just as important that our citizens take the time to educate themselves for the hazards that could strike their areas.”

This week’s round of the national AFGs include grants provided to the following first responders in the state of Alabama:

FY 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program

City of Florence Fire & Rescue	Florence	Operations and Safety	\$97,200
Cuba VFD	Cuba	Operations and Safety	\$45,244
Shady Grove VFD	Adamsville	Operations and Safety	\$61,306
Hillsboro Area VFD	Hillsboro	Operations and Safety	\$30,590

FY 2009 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Program

Tuscaloosa Fire & Rescue Service	Tuscaloosa	Fire Prevention	\$9,992
----------------------------------	------------	-----------------	---------

The Department of Homeland Security’s 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.

The Department of Homeland Security’s Fire Prevention and Safety Grants (FP&S) grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. The primary goal is to target high-risk populations and mitigate high incidences of death and injury. Examples of the types of projects supported by FP&S include fire prevention and public safety education campaigns, juvenile firesetter interventions, media campaigns, and arson prevention and awareness programs.

(MORE)

FEMA AWARDS NEARLY \$250,000 TO ALABAMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS...Page 2

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.

###