



**FEMA**

# Press Release

March 19, 2010  
RIV-10-050  
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## **FEMA AWARDS NEARLY \$700,000 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 \$665,031 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) program to local fire departments and emergency responders in the state of Alabama.

“First responders form the backbone of emergency management,” said FEMA Regional Administrator Phil May. “Providing them with better training and equipment is an important investment in our future as a nation.”

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

### **FY 2009 Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program**

|                      |           |                       |           |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| Atmore FD            | Atmore    | Operations and Safety | \$181,450 |
| Abanda Fire & Rescue | Wadley    | Operations and Safety | \$261,801 |
| Valley One VFD       | Princeton | Operations and Safety | \$17,497  |
| Warrior River VFD    | Adger     | Operations and Safety | \$149,058 |
| North Chilton FD     | Jemison   | Operations and Safety | \$46,360  |

### **FY 2009 Fire Prevention and Safety Grants Program**

|                     |         |                 |         |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| Madison Fire/Rescue | Madison | Fire Prevention | \$8,865 |
|---------------------|---------|-----------------|---------|

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.

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)

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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](http://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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