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Press Release

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DHS AWARDS OVER ONE MILLION TO PREVENT FIRE DEATH AND INJURY

Funds Support Fire Prevention Projects, Research

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today the third round of Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grants, awarding 25 grants totaling over \$1.2 million to fire departments and fire prevention organizations throughout the United States.

Under the FY 2006 program, FP&S will award approximately 300 awards totaling \$27 million to fire departments and other eligible organizations to reduce losses from fire and fire-related hazards. FP&S projects focus on preventing fire-related injuries to children, seniors, firefighters, and other high-risk groups. FP&S also supports innovative fire prevention solutions and research on improving firefighter health and safety.

"Every year, fire kills more Americans than all natural disasters combined," said FEMA Administrator David Paulison. "These grants support critical efforts to protect the public and firefighters from death or injury due to fires that could be prevented."

FP&S awards support projects in two categories:

- o Fire Prevention and Safety, such as public education, arson prevention/awareness, code enforcement/awareness, wildfire prevention/education, juvenile fire setter intervention, burn prevention, media/PR campaigns, sprinkler awareness, or smoke alarm distribution.
- o Firefighter Safety Research and Development, such as data collection and analysis projects; sociological projects and problem-focused technology studies that address firefighter safety, wellness, fitness, or health.

FP&S is part of FEMA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program, which is a key component in a comprehensive and coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and fire-related hazards. For the list of FP&S grantees, as well as additional information on the Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) and Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) programs, see the website at http://www.firegrantsupport.com.