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Shuster Announces DHS Grant to the Geeseytown Community Fire Company in Hollidaysburg

Washington, D.C. - **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the Geeseytown Community Fire Company has been awarded an Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant from the Department of Homeland Security. This is the first time the fire company has received a grant of this kind.

The Geeseytown Community Fire Company will use the \$115,524 federal grant for three major improvements to their fire station. They will use the funding to purchase 18 sets of new protective turn-out gear to replace older units; buy new interoperable radio equipment as well as two new truck radios; and purchase a new exhaust system to remove dangerous diesel fumes from the company's apparatus rooms.

"I congratulate the Geeseytown Community Fire Company on their first successful Department of Homeland Security grant," Shuster said. "The fire company will use this grant to make substantial improvements that will enable its firefighters to better respond to emergencies while staying safe."

"This grant is essential in providing our volunteer fire fighters with the best equipment possible to safeguard our communities," Shuster said. "If not for this grant program, fire companies like Geeseytown would be unable to upgrade their equipment and keep their firefighters safe."

Fire Chief Mike Walls said "This grant has allowed us to make some very necessary safety and operating improvements that, without this program, would have taken much longer in implementing. This community's firefighters need to have the best available equipment to be able to operate safely and effectively."

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP) awards one-year grants directly to fire departments and rescue personnel to support the nation's first responders and the services they deliver. The Department of Homeland Security's Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (SLGCP) administers the program, in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration.

More information on the Geeseytown Community Fire Company can be found online at <http://www.geeseytownfire.com/>.

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