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Shuster Announces Grant to the Saxton Volunteer Fire Company in Bedford County

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the Saxton Volunteer Fire Company has successfully secured a \$75,236 grant through the Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Fire Fighters Program (AFGP).

The \$75,236 grant will be used to purchase a variety of operational and safety equipment to assist the company’s firefighters in their mission. Examples of the equipment slated for purchase include a commercial washer/dryer system for cleaning firefighter’s turnout gear, Rapid Intervention Team equipment and a thermal imaging camera. Additionally, the fire company will use the funding for a firefighter wellness and physical fitness program. This is extremely important because firefighting places extreme stress on the cardiovascular system and heart disease is a constant threat for firefighters of all ages.

“This is welcome news for the volunteers of the Saxton fire company,” Shuster said. “The equipment and services the fire company will purchase through this grant will protect the lives of firefighters and add to their arsenal of equipment to serve and protect the community.”

Saxton Fire Chief Mark Taylor said that “all of the Saxton Volunteers would like to express their sincere appreciation to Congressman Shuster and the other government officials for their continued support of the Assistance to Firefighter’s Grant Program and offer our special thanks for this grant award.”

“The purchase of this equipment would not have been possible without this grant. All the funding will be used to increase our operational efficiency to the communities we serve and protect,” added Chief Taylor.

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.

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