

WASHINGTON, DC-U.S. Congressman Mike Pence announced today that the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program will be accepting applications for Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) Grants from September 21, 2009 until October 23, 2009:

"The first responders in our communities are on the front lines of emergency response and we owe them a debt of gratitude and respect for their service-and their protection and assistance must be a priority.

"As Hoosiers, we can be proud that some of the finest firefighting units in the nation reside in our district and I am confident that they would be competitive with any other applicants for this grant funding.

"My staff stands ready to assist those firefighters in our district with applying for these important federal resources that will play an important role in strengthening our district's emergency management efforts."

Contact Kim Bennett, Congressman Pence's Deputy District Director at (765) 747-5566 for more information and assistance.

Background from Department of Homeland Security:

The application period is scheduled to begin on September 21, 2009 at 8:00 AM EST and all applications must be received by October 23, 2009 at 5:00 PM EST.

FP&S grants support projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards. These awards are made in order to mitigate high incidences of death and injury and to carry out research for improving firefighter safety.

DHS's AFG program is an important component of the Administration's larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the Nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and fire-related hazards. It is administered by the Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Grant Programs Directorate in coordination with the U.S. Fire Administration.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.firegrantsupport.com/>