

Washington, **Apr 13** - U.S. Congressman Mike Pence announced today that the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to



Congressman Pence in his
Washington office

Firefighters Grant (AFG) program will be accepting applications for "Fire Grant" awards from April 15, 2009 until May 20, 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.

NOTE:

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) provided \$210 million in funding to DHS to construct new fire stations or modify existing fire stations. That funding opportunity will be announced in the near future and eligible applicants will be instructed on the application requirements at that time. Station construction will NOT be part of this offering. Interested parties should monitor

www.recovery.gov

for updated information on this and other first responder funding opportunities.

Background from Department of Homeland Security:

The application period is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at 8:00 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT). Applications for these grants must be received by Wednesday, May 20, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT).

Nationally, the AFG awards, which will be distributed in phases, will 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.

An applicant tutorial is available at www.firegrantsupport.com .