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Shuster Announces Grant to the McConnellstown Volunteer Fire Department in Huntingdon County

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the McConnellstown Volunteer Fire Department has successfully secured a \$93,100 grant through the Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Fire Fighters Program (AFGP).

The \$93,100 grant will be used to purchase a variety of rescue equipment and personal protective apparel to enhance the department’s ability to serve its community. The grant money is extremely important because the McConnellstown V.F.D. is the only Department of Health heavy rescue department in Huntingdon County and can accomplish life saving missions that other departments aren’t equipped for.

“The equipment the McConnellstown V.F.D. will buy with this grant will save lives. It’s that simple,” Shuster said. “Every day the volunteers of this department stand ready to go into areas of extreme danger to rescue lives and save property from fire and other emergencies. Their job requires the best equipment possible and this grant will enable them to purchase what they need to get the job done.”

“I congratulate the volunteers for their successful grant application,” Shuster added.

“Grants of this nature are extremely important and necessary to provide the essential tools needed for specialized rescue capabilities that will benefit the entire Huntingdon County area. The funding needed to procure this specialized equipment would have never been realized through conventional fundraising means. This grant will be a great value to the entire area and it is greatly appreciated,” stated a fire department representative.

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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