

Nancy Johnson



Fifth District, Connecticut

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 16, 2005

Contact: Brian Schubert

(202) 225-4476

Johnson Announces Grants for Firefighters

Funds Improve Firefighter Equipment and Safety

NEW BRITAIN, CT – Congresswoman Nancy Johnson today announced the New Britain, Waterbury and Watertown fire departments will receive over \$700,000 in federal grants to improve equipment and firefighter safety.

The New Britain Fire Department will receive a \$216,630 federal grant to replace outdated breathing apparatus equipment used by firefighters at emergency scenes. The grant will also fund equipment to improve air quality in city firehouses and rid the buildings of vehicle exhaust fumes.

The Waterbury Fire Department will receive a \$386,771 federal grant to fund to train and equip a “rapid intervention team,” a specially trained firefighting unit that rescues injured or trapped firefighters.

The Watertown Fire Department will receive a \$103,680 federal grant to replace outdated breathing apparatus equipment.

“Connecticut’s firefighters serve our communities with courage and dedication,” Johnson said. “This important funding will improve the safety of our firefighters while they work to protect us. I am grateful for their hard work and commitment to our communities.”

“We need to have the right equipment in place so we can function in a safe and effective manner,” said New Britain Chief Mark Carr. “It is so important to have the support of Congresswoman Johnson. She has always worked with us and been our champion.”

“Direct federal grants for fire departments are extremely important, and we’re very happy to receive this federal funding,” said Waterbury Fire Chief Michale A. Maglione. “We thank Congresswoman Johnson for her continued support of firefighters.”

“We greatly appreciate the support Congresswoman Johnson has shown Watertown firefighters and so many of our neighboring departments,” said Watertown Fire Chief Larry Black. “This funding will be a great boost to our morale and our ability to protect the town.”

The grants were made through the Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety Program, which funds training, wellness and fitness, firefighting equipment, personal protective equipment, and modifications to fire stations and facilities. It is one of four categories of firefighter assistance grants, all funded through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

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