

## Bristol Press: Fire Dept. Gets U.S. Aid to Learn Equipment

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BRISTOL - The Bristol Fire Department has won a \$24,320 grant from the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Program.

The grant will be used for training to bring all 80 firefighters in compliance with the National Fire Protection Association's standards for operating a fire trucks and other apparatus.

"I am thrilled that the Bristol Fire Department will receive this funding. It will provide critical training for Bristol's firefighters and improve the safety and security of one of our local communities," said Rep. John B. Larson, D-Dist. 1, in announcing the grant. "The Assistance to Firefighters Program provides fire departments across the nation with the ability to serve their community. It is the responsibility of Congress to ensure that essential programs such as this continue to be funded and supported."

Mayor Art Ward said, "The City of Bristol and its fire department greatly appreciate the work of Congressman Larson to address the professional needs of the city's fire department, especially in this time of budgetary constraints."

In Fiscal Year 2008, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will award approximately \$500 million directly to fire departments and EMS organizations around the country to enhance their response capabilities and meet NFPA compliance guidelines.