



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 25, 2008

www.house.gov/shuster

Contact: Jeff Urbanchuk, Press Secretary
(202) 225-2431
(202) 593-1040 cell
(202) 225-2486 fax
jg.urbanchuk@mail.house.gov

Shuster Announces Grant to the Franklin Fire Company #4 in Chambersburg

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that Franklin Fire Company #4 of Chambersburg has received a grant from the Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

“Volunteer fire fighters like those at Friendship Fire Company #4 are our first line of defense in times of emergency and crisis,” Shuster said. “These firefighters rush into dangerous situations that put their lives at risk and we need to make sure they are fully protected.”

The grant in the amount of \$24,410 was approved to assist the fire company with complying with new highway safety standards. The fire company will use the money to add reflective material to their equipment for easy identification while working on busy roadways.

“Routes 11, 30 and Interstate 81 are heavily trafficked highways,” Shuster added. “When our firefighters respond to a call on these roads they should be easily identified so drivers can avoid them,” Shuster added. “Unfortunately, for many volunteer departments, adding these markings can be an expensive proposition. That’s where the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program can step in to fill the gap.”

“The Franklin Fire Company is pleased to be receiving this grant” said Fire Chief Mark Trace. “We want to provide our Volunteer Firefighters with the safest working environment possible. Hopefully adding the reflective striping will get drivers attention and they will slow down when passing by our emergency scenes.” Chief Trace adds, “What we do is dangerous and no one gets paid for it. I just want everyone to go home to their family at the end of the day.”

The Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program plays a critical role in our nation’s overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and fire-related hazards. In Fiscal Year 2008, the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program will award approximately \$500 million directly to fire departments and EMS organizations to better help them respond to their community’s needs.

###