



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 12, 2008

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Shuster Announces Grant to the Shade Gap Area Volunteer Fire Company in Huntingdon County

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the Shade Gap Volunteer Fire Company has successfully secured a \$56,088 grant through the Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Fire Fighters Program (AFGP).

The \$56,088 grant will be used to purchase 3,000 feet of new 5 inch hose; a new high pressure cascade system to refill firefighters' self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA); and two new turbo draft systems. The turbo draft system allows firefighters to bypass fire hydrants and access water from any source which is an important addition for rural emergency service.

"This is fantastic news for the volunteers of the Shade Gap Area Volunteer Fire Company," Shuster said. "The equipment the fire company will purchase through this grant will increase the firefighters' effectiveness and improve their ability to fight fires wherever they happen."

"Our department is grateful for this funding, without which the purchase of this equipment would not have been possible. We are very fortunate and feel this will enhance our capabilities to better serve our area, as well as that of our surrounding areas and departments," Shannon Fegan, Shade Gap Area EMT/Firefighter said.

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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