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Shuster Announces Critical Fire Grant to Robertsdale-Wood & Broad Top V.F.D. Serving Bedford, Huntingdon and Fulton Counties

Washington, D.C. – **Congressman Bill Shuster** is pleased to announce that the Robertsdale-Wood & Broad Top V.F.D. has been awarded a \$190,000 grant through the Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The fire department will use the grant to purchase a new tanker truck.

“This is fantastic news for area residents and the volunteers of the RW&BT fire department,” Shuster said. “Tanker trucks are extremely expensive to buy and most times cannot be covered through fundraising alone. That is why this grant program is so important to rural fire departments like this.”

“The RW&BT Fire Department would like to thank Congressman Shuster for enabling us to obtain this grant. We will use this grant to purchase a new tanker. In the rural area that we live a tanker is utilized on all fire calls. Our current tanker dates back to 1970’s and it’s old and slow,” said Roy McCabe, a member of the fire department.”

“Time is of the essence for us and it is necessary for the tankers to get on the scene as soon as possible. This will help us to get the job done and will make sure that a dependable water supply is available in time to save lives and property.”

Congressman Shuster would also like to remind local fire firefighters that the application period for interested fire companies to take part in the FY 2010 AFG Program is now open. The application period will close on Friday, May 28, 2010, at 5:00 p.m. EDT. The AFG Program guidance and application materials are currently available for review at www.firegrantsupport.com.

Congressman Shuster encourages fire departments across the 9th district to take advantage of the application period to apply for funding to help finance new equipment and training.

The AFG Program provides financial assistance directly to fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service (EMS) organizations to enhance their capabilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. The primary goal of the program is to help fire departments and nonaffiliated EMS organizations meet their firefighting and emergency response needs. The AFG Program seeks to support organizations that lack the tools and resources necessary to more

effectively protect the life and safety of the public and their emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards.

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