

Contra Costa County Fire Protection District

Press Release

Subject: FIRE DISTRICT AWARDED FEDERAL GRANT FOR NEW LADDER TRUCK

Date: January 24, 2011

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The U.S Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, announced the award of a grant to the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District on Friday, January 14th in the amount of \$664,480 in the Fire Apparatus category of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program to be used for the purchase of a new ladder truck. The new ladder truck will replace a 30 year old ladder truck for the Fire District.

Fire Chief Daryl Louder stated “this is an example of a great partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The grant funding will assist the District in providing critical public safety services to the community.”

“Congratulations are in order to the Fire District on receiving this federal grant from FEMA. It couldn’t have come at a better time to help the Fire District purchase a needed new ladder truck that will serve in protecting our community,” said Rep. George Miller (D-Martinez).

“Contra Costa County residents want a fire department ready and able to handle the toughest situations, and with this federal grant, the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District will be able to add a desperately needed ladder truck to their team,” said Congressman John Garamendi (D-Walnut Creek, CA). “I’m also pleased to hear that the truck will be made in America. We must ‘Make It In America’ to bring back manufacturing jobs – the backbone of America’s middle class. I want to thank Homeland Security Secretary Napolitano, Fire Chief Louder, and everyone who made this truck a reality.”

Three personnel will staff the new truck which is capable of providing access to the 7th floor of a building to assist in firefighting and rescue efforts in the dozens of mid- and high-rise office buildings, multi-story multi-residential apartment and condominium buildings, and multi-story mixed-use commercial/residential occupancies located in the Fire District. In addition to firefighting capabilities,

the new truck will carry a multitude of specialized rescue equipment for use in extricating patients from heavily damaged vehicles, cutting and drilling equipment, water rescue and rope rescue equipment, and advanced life support equipment for frontline emergency medical services responses.

The new truck is expected to be in service and operational by January, 2012.

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical service organizations. Since 2001, AFG has helped firefighters and other first responders to obtain critically needed equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources needed to protect the public and emergency personnel from fire and related hazards.