

Congressman Brady announces award of \$750,000 Homeland Security /FEMA Grant to Philadelphia Fire Department (11/20/03)

PHILADELPHIA

-- Congressman Robert A. Brady (D., Pa) today announced the award of a \$750,000 Assistance to Firefighter Grant to the Philadelphia Fire Department. The one-year grant supports Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety; Fire Prevention; Emergency Medical Service; and, Firefighter Vehicles Acquisition Programs.

The 2003 Assistance for Firefighters Grant Program is administered by the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The funds are used by the nation's firefighters to increase the effectiveness of firefighting operations, firefighter health and safety programs, new fire apparatus, emergency medical service program and fire and safety programs.

"The grant will support the role of Philadelphia firefighters as first responders in neighborhoods throughout the city," said Congressman Brady. "This direct support to our firefighters will help to ensure that they have the equipment and training they need.

The funding also represents the important role the federal government can play to help firefighters better protect their communities and themselves."

Nationally, since June almost 5800 fire departments have received over \$406 million to support their first responders. Pennsylvania fire departments have received 407 grants totaling \$31,322,601 from the 2003 funding.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant program assists rural, urban and suburban fire departments throughout the United States. Information on the grants is posted on the USFA web site at .