

## Rothman Announces \$ 73,879 Federal Grant For Kearny Fire Department

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For Kearny Fire Department  
Funds To Boost Local Homeland Security,  
Come From National Program Congressman Helped Establish

Kearny, NJ - Continuing his efforts to bolster homeland security in Northern New Jersey by providing first responders with the resources they need to protect the public and themselves, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ9) today announced a \$73,879 federal grant for the Kearny Fire Department. The grant comes from the Assistance to Firefighter Grant program, which was established under legislation Rothman cosponsored. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA), which are both part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, are administering the funds.

"As we look to further strengthen our homeland security, we recognize that our local firefighters are a vital part of our first line of defense in almost all emergencies," said Rothman, a member of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus. "With the nation's terror alert now raised to high, it is imperative that we provide all of our local first responders, such as Kearny's firefighters, with the resources they need to ensure their own safety and the safety of all those in our communities whose lives they protect day in and day out. Whether responding to a terrorist attack or a local fire, we need to be sure ahead of time that our firefighters are equipped to respond quickly and efficiently to any emergency."

The \$73,879 federal grant for Kearny will go toward training and equipment for a confined space rescue team. In accordance with the grant's rules, Kearny will contribute a 10 percent match for the grant. The Assistance to Firefighters Grant program awards one-year grants directly to local fire departments, enhancing their abilities to respond to fire and fire-related hazards in their communities.

"I am very appreciative of Congressman Rothman's efforts to help bring federal money to Kearny so that our firefighters have the training and equipment they need to keep all residents safe," Kearny Mayor Al Santos said. "Kearny is always looking for ways to improve our already outstanding fire department, which is why we are so grateful for this federal assistance."

Rothman added, "In addition to helping protect the people of Kearny, this federal grant saves local taxpayers more than \$73,000 from the full cost of this firefighter training and equipment."

Local fire departments interested in applying for future Assistance to Firefighters Grant program grants are encouraged to call Brendan Gill in Rothman's Hackensack office at 201-646-0808 for more information.

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