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For Immediate Release

## **MANHASSET-LAKEVILLE COMMUNITY TO BENEFIT FROM DONATED SEARCH & RESCUE TRAINING FACILITY**

### *Fire Department Members to Receive Critical Training*

MANHASSET, N.Y. (June 24, 2009) – When trying to rescue civilians and firefighters trapped inside of burning buildings and homes, every second counts. Now, thanks to a \$6,000 grant, Manhasset-Lakeville firefighters will receive high-level training to enhance its search and rescue operations.

Rampart Brokerage Corp. is partnering with Fireman's Fund Insurance Company to award the donation to the Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department for the creation of a search and rescue training facility.

The facility's practice area will consist of a maze that firefighters, while wearing full gear, will utilize to train. It can be filled with non-toxic smoke, helping to simulate the inside of a burning home. The maze's layout can also be altered to replicate the various home floor plans in the fire department's coverage area.

"The inside of a burning building or home is a very chaotic environment, which can cause all sorts of injuries," said Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Chief Michael F. Uttaro. "The maze will boost the confidence of our firefighters, helping them better negotiate the interior of these settings."

"It's vital that firefighters, who risk their lives everyday, have access to all the essential training in order for them to be as safe as possible," said Gary Morris of Rampart Brokerage Corp. "A well-trained fire department ultimately makes the community they serve safer as well."

Chief Uttaro will be joined by Manhasset-Lakeville volunteer firefighters as Rampart Brokerage Corp. and Fireman's Fund executives award the grant package. Chief Uttaro will discuss the benefits of the rescue training facility.

**Date/Time:**  
**Weds., June 24, 2009**  
**11:00 a.m.**

**Location:**  
**Manhasset-Lakeville Fire Department**  
**2 Community Dr. East**  
**Manhasset, NY**

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The grant package is part of a nationwide philanthropic program funded by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The program is designed to provide needed equipment, training and educational tools to local fire departments. Since 2004, Fireman's Fund has issued grants to over 1,100 different departments totaling more than \$22 million. Independent insurance agencies/brokers that sell Fireman's Fund products, like Rampart Brokerage Corp., are able to direct these grants to support fire service organizations.

### **About Rampart Brokerage Corp.**

Headquartered in Lake Success, The Rampart Group has more than 160 employees company-wide. Serving clients across the country and providing exceptional coverage throughout the world, The Rampart Group is one of the largest and fastest-growing full-service insurance brokerages. Since its founding in 1965, the company has made client service a priority, and its staff continues to provide the attentive, responsive service that is vital for its clients. To learn more, visit [www.rampartinsurance.com](http://www.rampartinsurance.com).

### **About Fireman's Fund**

Fireman's Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal and commercial insurance products nationwide. It is rated 'AA-' by Standard & Poor's Rating Services. Founded in 1863 with a mission to support firefighters, Fireman's Fund continues this effort today through its national philanthropic work. Fireman's Fund is a member of the Allianz Group (NYSE: AZ), one of the world's largest providers of insurance and other financial services. For more information, visit [www.firemansfund.com](http://www.firemansfund.com).

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