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For Immediate Release

FIVE ALABAMA FIRE DEPARTMENTS SHARE \$137,000 GRANT PACKAGE

Thermal Imaging Camera, Rescue Gear, Other Equipment Included in Grants

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (Dec. 10, 2007) – CRC Insurance Services, Inc. and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company are announcing the recipients of five fire department grants totaling \$137,000.

Five local Alabama fire departments are receiving the money, which will be used to purchase a variety of new rescue gear and other equipment.

\$15,000 - Equality Fire Department

*Thermal imaging camera, global positioning devices and radios

\$25,000 – Ray Volunteer Fire Department (in Alexander City)

*Thermal imaging camera, ventilation/rescue saw, training videos

\$25,000 – Red Hill Fire Department (in Tallassee)

*Thermal imaging camera, breathing apparatus (air tanks), ventilation/rescue saw, training videos

\$32,000 – Kowaglia Volunteer Fire Department (in Eclectic)

*Vehicle extrication/rescue gear

\$40,000 – Vestavia Hills Fire Department

*Air compressor for breathing tanks, communications equipment

The grant package is part of a nationwide program called Fireman's Fund Heritage[®] which is 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 hundreds of different departments totaling nearly \$15 million. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman's Fund products are able to direct these grants to support fire stations in their communities. CRC was instrumental in directing these specific donations to the select Alabama departments.

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(Page 2: Alabama Fire Grants)

“Budget restraints often make it difficult for local fire departments to go out and purchase all the new equipment they need,” said Ron Helveston with CRC Insurance Services. “This grant money will have an impact in five distinct communities across the state and we’re hopeful the new equipment will ultimately save lives.”

Steve Bruney, chief of Kowaliga Volunteer Fire Department, said the grant money will make a big difference: “Smaller volunteer departments don’t often have the large budgets needed to go out and purchase all the equipment they would like. This statewide grant package is helping several communities and ensuring firefighters have the tools they need to do their jobs.”

Firefighters from across the state, local dignitaries, and executives from CRC Insurance Services and Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company will come together for a special public event where the grant package will be presented to each individual department:

Date / Time:

**Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2007
5:30 p.m.**

Location:

**Rave Theater, Vestavia Hills #10
1911 Kentucky Ave.
Vestavia Hills, AL**

After the presentations, there will be a free screening of the critically-acclaimed documentary, “Into the Fire.” This 70-minute movie, as seen on The History Channel®, captures amazing stories told first-hand by men and women firefighters who have dedicated their lives to protecting others. “Into the Fire,” funded and presented by Fireman’s Fund®, shows the lives of real-life firefighters and the daily trials and triumphs of their jobs.

About CRC Insurance Services, Inc.

Founded in 1982, CRC Insurance Services is the largest property and casualty wholesale broker in North America. As a wholly-owned subsidiary of BB&T, CRC Insurance Services has specialized departments that focus on a number of products, including casualty, property and professional. Unlike most brokerage firms, CRC has established its own claims department to follow up on claims and ensure that our clients receive the best service possible after a loss. For more information, visit www.crcins.com.

About Fireman’s Fund

Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company is a premier property and casualty insurance company providing personal, commercial and specialty insurance products nationwide. 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. It is rated 'A+' by Standard & Poor's Ratings Services. For more information, visit www.firemansfund.com.

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