

Contact:
Danny Perry

T. 212.524.7892
C. 707.386.8476
dperry@ffic.com

For Immediate Release

CENTREVILLE FIRST RESPONDERS TO RECEIVE BOOST

New Equipment to Support Fire Department's Emergency Response Efforts

CENTREVILLE, Va. (Aug. 3, 2009) – The current economic downturn is negatively impacting fire departments in the greater areas of Washington, D.C., according to a comprehensive national survey of firefighters sponsored by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The study, which polled 30 percent of all fire departments in the country, revealed that 64 percent of the 45 responding departments in the Washington, D.C., area have been forced to delay purchasing new equipment.

Now, thanks to a \$5,000 grant awarded by Alliant Insurance Services and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, the Centreville Volunteer Fire Department will be receiving some essential new equipment to strengthen its emergency response efforts.

Specifically, grant funds are earmarked for, among other things, water life vests that will be placed on emergency medical units and voltage sensors used during hazardous weather to determine if downed power lines are energized.

"Two of our current emergency medical units lack life vests so these funds will allow us to fulfill that essential need, which will ultimately better prepare us for water rescue operations," said Centreville Fire Chief Jeff Sargent. "The voltage sensors are critical instruments that will help protect our first responders, as well as civilians, from being electrocuted at emergency scenes."

Chief Sargent and Centreville volunteer firefighters will be joined by executives from Alliant Insurance Services and Fireman's Fund for the presentation of the grant package. Chief Sargent will discuss the new equipment and how the items will support the fire department's rescue efforts.

Date/Time:
Monday, August 3, 2008
7:30 p.m.

Location:
Centreville Vol. Fire Department
5856 Old Centreville Rd.
Centreville, VA

-MORE-

Page 2: (Centreville Fire Grant)

“We realize the negative affect the economy is having across the country and, in particular, within the fire service,” said John Muha, executive vice president of Alliant Insurance Services, whose office is located in Chantilly. “Taking that into account, we’re proud to support this volunteer department and the Centreville community in a tangible way.”

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 1,400 different departments totaling more than \$23 million. Independent insurance agencies that sell Fireman’s Fund products, like Alliant, are able to direct these grants to support fire departments.

About Alliant Insurance Services

Alliant Insurance ranks among the 15 largest insurance brokerage firms in the United States and is the nation’s second largest privately held insurance brokerage firm. The knowledge that Alliant has gained in its more than eight decades of working with many of the top insurance companies in the world allows the company to provide its clients with the guidance and high-quality performance they deserve. To learn more, visit www.alliantinsurance.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.

#####