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For Immediate Release

SCHUYLER LAKE FIRST RESPONDERS TO RECEIVE BIG BOOST

New Equipment to Support Fire Department's Emergency Medical Operations

SCHUYLER LAKE, N.Y. (Aug. 4, 2009) – The current economic downturn is negatively impacting fire departments in the state of New York, according to a comprehensive national survey of firefighters sponsored by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The study polled 30 percent of all fire departments in the country, revealing that more than half (51 percent) of the 828 responding New York departments have had to increase fundraising efforts.

Now, thanks to a \$15,000 grant awarded by CSI Insurance Agency Inc. and Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, the Schuyler Lake Fire Department will be receiving essential equipment to strengthen its emergency medical operations.

Specifically, grant funds are earmarked for a pulse oximeter that allows emergency medical technicians to non-invasively determine levels of oxygen in patients' blood by using wavelengths of light. Funds will also be used to purchase various specialized stretchers, including one allowing emergency responders to reach patients in tight locations and another that supports the lifting of heavy individuals.

Grant funds will also support Schuyler Lake's CPR and automated external defibrillation (AED) training for its first responders with the department purchasing, among other items: various training mannequins, a TV and DVD player for classroom instruction, and an AED training prop that teaches the proper usage of the machines.

Schuyler Lake Fire Chief William Peters will be joined by the village's volunteer firefighters and local officials, as executives from CSI Insurance and Fireman's Fund present the grant package. Chief Peters will discuss the new equipment and how the new tools will support the department's emergency response efforts.

Date/Time:
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 2009
7:00 p.m.

Location:
Schuyler Lake Fire Department
1490 County Hwy 22
Schuyler Lake, NY

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“Our community residents rely greatly on the services of our department, and this new equipment, along with the essential training for our EMTs, is going to better prepare our first responders for emergencies,” said Chief Peters.

“I realize the negative affect the economy is having across the country and, in particular, within the fire service,” said John Carr, president of CSI Insurance. “Taking that into account, I’m proud to continue supporting this volunteer department 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 are able to direct these grants to support fire departments. CSI Insurance has now directed a total of \$47,000 to Schuyler Lake.

About CSI Insurance Agency Inc.

CSI Insurance Agency Inc. has been a leader in both commercial and personal property protection. Working hand in hand with the best underwriters in the industry, we have developed highly specialized insurance programs designed to meet the unique needs of: students, photographers, inflatable amusements companies, equipment rental businesses and other niche markets that require industry-specific solutions. Learn more about CSI by visiting www.CSIprotection.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.

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