

## **Life-saving Technology Donated to Pittsburgh Fire Department**

Gail Wolf, a FFIC Pittsburgh employee, is a little closer to her local firefighters than most of us. She's married to one.

When two firefighters died fighting a blaze in Pittsburgh in early 2004, Gail and her husband wondered if there was some way they could help prevent such tragedies. With the launch of Fireman's Fund Heritage, Gail approached FFIC executives and suggested the Fireman's Fund Heritage program help out the Pittsburgh Fire Department.

In examining the needs of the Pittsburgh Fire Department, Fireman's Fund Heritage executives learned the Department would strongly benefit from the use of a thermal imaging camera (TIC), a tool that allows firefighters to "see" through smoke, enabling them to find victims faster, identify the seat of the fire earlier and detect structural dangers that could put them at risk.

On July 22, 2004, in partnership with Bullard, a producer of thermal imaging cameras, Fireman's Fund Heritage presented the Pittsburgh Fire Department with a Bullard TI Commander - a Bullard thermal imaging camera.

"Firefighters devote their lives to keeping our communities safe," said Darryl Siry, executive director Fireman's Fund Heritage. "They accomplish great things with available resources, and donations such as this TIC will have a meaningful impact on their safety and ability to do their jobs."

The donation event was held at the fire station that lost two of its firefighters. Pittsburgh Mayor Tom Murphy, Pittsburgh Fire Chief Michele, Gail Wolf and other FFIC employees, among others, attended the event.

Gail Wolf's inquiry about helping her local firefighters was the first of its kind answered by Fireman's Fund Heritage. However, there now are a number of opportunities that are available to FFIC employees across the nation regarding volunteer, fundraising and grant giving opportunities for helping out local firefighters.