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Joe Courtney

Congress of the United States
2nd District, Connecticut

WASHINGTON OFFICE:

2348 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
P (202) 225-2076
F (202) 225-4977

DISTRICT OFFICES:

55 MAIN STREET, SUITE 250
NORWICH, CT 06360
P (860) 886-0139
F (860) 886-2974

77 HAZARD AVENUE, UNIT J
ENFIELD, CT 06082
P (860) 741-6011
F (860) 741-6036

December 10, 2018

DHS-FEMA-GPD

Attn: Bridget Bean

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Grant Programs

400 C Street S.W., 3N

Washington, D.C. 20472-3635

RE: Fiscal Year 2018 Application Endorsement for the Stafford #1 Fire Department

Dear Ms. Bean:

It is with great enthusiasm that I write in support of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) application submitted by Stafford #1 Fire Department of Stafford, Connecticut. Incorporated in 1719, the Town of Stafford covers 58 square miles in northeastern CT and is home to approximately 12,000 residents.

Stafford #1 Fire Department is a 100% volunteer force and provides fire suppression, rescue, EMS and public fire education services and operates out of two stations. Responsible for Stafford's historic downtown, the region is comprised of over 30 multi-story and mill buildings. The department is also first due to an 88-bed community hospital with a level 3 trauma center and a 188-bed nursing home, as well as a municipal water pollution control facility.

This proposal seeks \$62,700 to replace Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) compressor/cascade/fill station. Currently, the Department utilizes a 40-year-old compressor system that is past its life cycle. Designed to fill to a pressure of 3000psi, the present system is obsolete as it is incapable of being upgraded to 4500psi. This proposal addresses critical efficiency and safety measures that are necessary for the Department to successfully execute its public mission.

As a crucial rapid intervention team in northeastern Connecticut, this application also supports neighboring municipalities through mutual aid agreements. It is my pleasure to fully endorse this AFG proposal for Stafford #1 Fire Department and I urge your thoughtful consideration of this funding request.

Sincerely,


JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress