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**Joe Courtney**  
**Congress of the United States**  
**2nd District, Connecticut**

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April 2, 2019

Christopher Logan  
Acting Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street, SW.  
Washington, DC 20472

**RE: U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney (CT-02) Endorsement: Essex, CT Port Security Grant Program Proposal**

Dear Mr. Logan:

It is my pleasure to write in support of the Town of Essex of Essex, CT for funding under the 2019 Port Security Grant Program. The town seeks \$345,000 to acquire a 2019 MetalCraft Marine FireBrand 28 to replace an outmoded and unserviceable vessel.

Steeped in history, the Town of Essex is a municipality in Middlesex County, comprised of Essex Village, Centerbrook, Ivoryton and surrounded on three sides by water. Once a prominent inlet for vessel production, Essex is still home to shipyards and marina shops. The protected coves and short distance from Long Island Sound remain important geographical features.

Today, the Essex Fire Engine Company Number 1 utilizes a converted fishing vessel that is not suitable for fire suppression activities. Moreover, the region lacks adequate CBRNE protection. The acquisition of a new vessel will enable a comprehensive contingency plan, mitigation of local and regional risks, and is consistent with the President's national strategy for CBRNE standards.

Essex Fire Engine Company responds to over 800 calls for assistance annually with an impressive roster of 60 committed individuals. This proposal would empower the Town of Essex to best serve its residents and allow the Essex Fire Engine Company to fully and successfully execute its public mission. Finally, this application supports the implementation of the National Preparedness System.

Sincerely,

JOE COURTNEY  
Member of Congress