



FEMA

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Media Advisory

FEMA TO PRESENT A \$269,155 GRANT TO ISLAND COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #3

SEATTLE—Federal Emergency Management Agency Deputy Regional Administrator Dennis Hunsinger will present a fire grant check for \$269,155, as part of FEMA’s Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, to the Island County Fire District #3 on Whidbey Island, on **Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at 3 p.m.** The presentation will be made at the Fire Station at **5535 Cameron Road** in Freeland.

According to FEMA’s Regional Administrator Susan Reinertson, the AFG program is designed to help fire departments and emergency medical service organizations fund training, conduct first responder health and safety programs and buy equipment and response vehicles. The grant for Island County is designated to help the department with their operations and safety initiatives.

“Our nation’s firefighters are the first responders into almost every emergency,” said Reinertson. “The AFG program is jointly administered by FEMA and the U.S. Fire Administration to enhance local response capabilities and more effectively protect the public from all hazards. This grant to Island County Fire District #3 will do just that.”

According to Island County Fire District No. 3 Fire Chief Dan Stout, the grant will allow the purchase of 50 new 45-minute high-pressure Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). The grant will allow the Fire District to replace breathing apparatus that are nearing the end of their useful life and upgrade to new breathing apparatus which meets all of the most recent standards,” said Stout. “This new breathing apparatus will also assure that we are providing our firefighters with the best available safety equipment.”

Since FY 2001, and including FY 2007, over \$3.3 billion in AFG funding has been distributed to fire departments and first responder organizations to purchase response equipment, personal protective equipment, vehicles and fire prevention activities. AFG is administered cooperatively by two FEMA components: the National Preparedness Directorate and the United States Fire Administration. The full list of FY 2007 AFG recipients and other information is posted on the AFG website (www.firegrantsupport.com).

FEMA coordinates the federal government’s role in preparing for, preventing, mitigating the effects of, responding to, and recovering from all domestic disasters, whether natural or man-made, including acts of terror.

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