

CHRIS COLLINS
27TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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Congress of the United States
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May 27, 2014

Mr. Brian E. Kamoie
Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
800 K. Street NW, 9th Floor North Tower
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Kamoie:

I would like to express my support for Silver Springs Fire Department located in Silver Springs, New York and its Assistance to Firefighters Grant application. This grant would allow for the Silver Springs Fire Department to make a much needed upgrades to its equipment.

The Silver Springs Fire Department is manned by volunteer firefighters that provide a valuable service to the community. These volunteers are stretched thin and dedicate much of their time to answering a large volume of calls. While each of these calls has numerous risks involved, aged equipment should not be one of those risks the volunteers have to face. This district will use the grant to purchase 22 sets of new turnout gear, and make a first-time purchase of eight ice rescue suits.

With this grant, the Department will be able to correct recent citations handed down by the New York State Department of Labor during a Public Employee Safety & Health Inspection for having outdated and non-compliant turnout gear. This grant will also allow the Department to purchase equipment for the severely under-equipped ice rescue team that serves all of Wyoming County. The requested ice rescue suits will allow the volunteers to more safely and effectively conduct rescues. The Department is currently equipped to rescue only one individual at a time. With the additional equipment it will be able to rescue up to three victims of an ice fishing, skating, or snowmobiling accident simultaneously.

For these reasons, I am asking you to support this application in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations. If I may provide any further assistance, please contact our District Office at 716-634-2324.

Sincerely,



CHRIS COLLINS
Member of Congress