

FireNet FEMA Announces \$170 Million In Grant Awards to 2,756 Fire Departments

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FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ANNOUNCES \$170 MILLION IN GRANT AWARDS TO 2,756 FIRE DEPARTMENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. - As of the end of the 2002 fiscal year, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the United States Fire Administration (USFA) have awarded more than \$170 million to 2756 fire departments throughout the United States as part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program.

"The men and women of the nation's fire departments face many emergency response challenges. These firefighters, and the citizens they serve, need to know this nation is committed to their safety and their ability to effectively respond to these challenges," FEMA Director Joe M. Allbaugh said.

More than 19,500 fire departments applied for Assistance to Firefighters grants. In addition to the \$150 million already awarded, FEMA will distribute another \$210 million through grants before the end of calendar year 2002, far exceeding the total amount of last year's awards.

"We continue to move forward to get these awards distributed to fire departments across the United States," USFA Administrator R. David Paulison said. "A goal of this year's award process was to distribute at least \$150 million to fire departments by the end of September. This was a critical benchmark of success established by President Bush and I'm happy to say we've met it."

A current list of Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program 2002 award recipients is posted on the USFA web site at www.usfa.fema.gov/grants. Future grant recipients will be posted as awards are made.

The USFA is a part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

This message brought to you by the

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