

CARDIN, MIKULSKI ANNOUNCE MORE THAN \$260,000 FOR POCOMOKE CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

WASHINGTON, D.C. – **U.S. Senators Benjamin L. Cardin and Barbara A. Mikulski** (both D-Md.) today announced the Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company have been awarded \$261,250 in federal funding through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP). Senator Mikulski is on the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the AFGP and fights each year to increase its federal funding. Senator Cardin is a member of the Budget Committee, which each year sets priorities for funding to federal agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security.

“First responders have always been on the front lines, keeping our families and our neighborhoods safe from harm,” said Senator Cardin. “I thank these brave men and women for their continuing service and sense of duty to our community. I am proud to support federal investment through local grants like this, which is essential to ensure our community heroes have the equipment and training they need to do their jobs safely and efficiently.”

“I know how important this funding is to Maryland communities – often it’s the difference between life and death. First responders protect our homes and communities, and the federal government has a responsibility to protect them by providing them with the tools they need to do their jobs safer and smarter,” said Senator Mikulski. “Every day when our first responders report for duty, they don’t know what they will face. That’s why I fight every year for the equipment, training, and staffing our protectors and communities deserve.”

The Pocomoke City Volunteer Fire Company has been awarded \$261,250 to purchase a new tanker. This is the first award for the department. For more information, please contact Rodney Sharpley at 410-957-1168.

AFGP grants fund firefighting equipment, personal protection equipment, training, firefighting vehicles, firefighter/first responder safety projects, and staffing recruitment and retention. Since 2001, Worcester County fire departments and emergency medical services have been awarded nearly \$1 million in AFGP funding.

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