

**CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**  
4TH DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

September 11, 2012

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**DEAN, NEW JERSEY DELEGATION**

Ms. Elizabeth Harman  
Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security, FEMA  
245 Murray Lane, Building 410  
Washington, D.C. 20528-0410

Dear Ms. Harman,

I am pleased to support the federal grant application grant number by The Roosevelt Volunteer First Aid Squad Inc. in my Congressional District, for the purposes of increasing the safety of volunteers and improving public safety and emergency response.

The squad responds to all emergency medical calls in the Borough of Roosevelt, a two-square mile town with a population of 1,000 residents. The all-volunteer squad serves the downtown commercial area, plus the 100,000-acre State game reserve for hunting, fishing, horseback riding and horse shows. These activities can draw thousands of visitors at a time.

Additionally, some of the busiest roads in New Jersey, the most densely populated state in the nation, are in close proximity. The New Jersey Turnpike, Interstate 195 and State Highway 33 are all within six miles or less of the squad headquarters.

The small town of Roosevelt does not have the tax base to support large purchases, though it serves all neighboring towns via mutual aid. Donations from town residents are extremely limited, and budget-strapped State of New Jersey, has dramatically scaled back funding to the all local municipalities.

There are three top priorities the squad needs. Firstly, a Vehicle Exhaust Evacuation System to protect its volunteers from vehicle exhaust emissions is needed. Secondly, the Squad does not have any personal protective equipment such as suitable coveralls, helmets and cut-resistant gloves for motor vehicle accidents. Thirdly, the Squad has no land-based water rescue equipment for its three large fresh water lakes that are used for boating and fishing by up to 1,000 fishermen at a time. When a water emergency arises, the Squad must wait until mutual aid Squads arrive, thereby significantly delaying critical response time.

As a Member of Congress who helped create the Assistance to Firefighters Grant, I thank you for the important work you do. Please be assured I lend my support to this

Co-Chairman of: Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease • Bi-Partisan Coalition for Combating Anti-Semitism • Lyme Disease Caucus  
Coalition for Autism Research and Education • Global Internet Freedom Caucus • Bi-Partisan Congressional Pro-Life Caucus  
Spina Bifida Caucus • Vietnam Caucus • Poland Caucus • Bosnia Caucus  
Ad Hoc Congressional Committee for Irish Affairs • Congressional Caucus on Human Trafficking

worthwhile application for the Roosevelt First Aid Squad.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH  
Member of Congress

CHS:js