

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4805

March 2, 2023

Mr. Christopher Logan
Assistant Administrator for Grant Programs
Grant Programs Directorate
U.S. Department of Homeland Security / FEMA
400 C Street SW, 3N
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Mr. Logan,

I write in regards to the East Wood Volunteer Fire Department's (VFD) application for funding through the Assistance to Firefighter Grants program. Funding would enable the purchase of new personal protective equipment for responders, and I am in support of their application.

Similar to communities across the country, West Virginians rely on their local fire departments and ambulatory services for protection and emergency response. As Ranking Member of the Senate Appropriations Committee's Homeland Security Subcommittee, I have worked to ensure the men and women who serve in these departments have the equipment necessary to do their jobs effectively and safely.

Should funding be awarded, East Wood VFD will purchase twenty new SCBAs, to replace outdated and damaged equipment currently in use. Existing equipment faces severe risk of malfunction, placing firefighters in danger during emergency response. Improving equipment safety will allow the VFD to tackle emergency scenarios with greater confidence, and make their community safer.

Our first responders are willing to put their lives on the line to protect our communities every day, and we owe them a great debt of gratitude for this. Ensuring that emergency service departments can access critical resources that allow them to respond to incidents in the most safe and efficient manner is the best way that we can support these brave West Virginians. I hope you will give their application your full consideration.

Sincerely,



Shelley Moore Capito
United States Senator