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# Congress of the United States
## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

July 13, 2015

Mr. Brian Kamoie, Assistant Administrator
DHS/FEMA/Grants Program Preparedness
Tech World Building – 9th Floor South Tower
800 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20472-3620

Application No. EMW-2014-FP-00201

Dear Mr.Kamoie:

As Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, please allow me to express very strong support for the Kearny Fire Department's application for funding pursuant to the Fire Prevention Safety Grant. **This application is one of my top priorities for funding in FY 2014**.

An FP&S Grant of $51,781 is broken into two parts. A sum of $42,306 will be used for new fire prevention software and $9,475 will be used for fire and arson investigative training. The fire prevention software would allow the borough to purchase printers, four tablets and implement new mobile inspection software. This new technology will provide fair and effective code enforcement, the performance of more inspections and the availability of vital information to their entire staff.

The funds for the fire and arson investigate will be used to provide Arson Awareness training for all of Kearny's firefighters and to send five inspectors to the Fire and Arson Investigator Academy. This Academy will train the firefighters to recognize signs of arson and the proper way to preserve evidence. With the right tools and training, the firefighter of Kearny will be more educated and therefore more effective.

Due to Kearny's financial restraints for the last three years the Fire Prevention Bureau of Kearny has been unable to employ the necessary staff needed for inspections. These inspectors enforce codes of high- life hazards buildings and respond to incidents where they discover violations such as illegal apartments. Furthermore, the advantage of these well organized and

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educated inspectors is truly immeasurable when we think about the lives that these preventative steps can save. The approval of this grant would aid in Kearny's continued efforts to provide greater productivity and performance for its community with the latest equipment.

Throughout my 18 years in the United States House of Representatives, I have fought at every opportunity to make sure our firefighters have the equipment, vehicles, training, and other resources they need to protect our citizens and their personal property. As author of the FIRE Act, I understand that fire departments such as Kearny's are an integral part of our emergency management system and require our utmost respect and assistance in their time of need.

I am pleased to support the Kearny Fire Department's application and respectfully ask that you look favorably upon their request, within the boundaries of applicable rules and guidelines. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Very Truly Yours,

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress