



2370 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5751
(202) 225-5782 FAX

ROBERT A. ROE FEDERAL BUILDING
200 FEDERAL PLAZA, SUITE 500
PATERSON, NJ 07505
(973) 523-5152
(973) 523-0637 FAX

<http://pascrell.house.gov>
bill.pascrell@mail.house.gov

DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

November 26th, 2018

Christopher Logan
Acting Assistant Administrator for Grant Programs
U.S. Department of Homeland Security/ FEMA
400 C Street S.W., 3N
Washington, DC 20472-3635

*Application No. EMW-2018-FO-05923

Dear Mr. Logan,

As the Chairman of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I am pleased to offer my support for the application that the Teaneck Fire Department (TFD) has submitted to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. This application is requesting \$67,853 in funding to acquire PPE Washer-Extractor and Drying Cabinets. **This application is one of my top priorities for funding in 2018 in the 9th Congressional District of New Jersey.**

There are several critical infrastructure items located throughout the Township of Teaneck. The electric substations are part of the states interconnected electrical system. The Township is also home to five cell towers as well as an intricate transportation network. This system contains major highways such as Interstate 80 and 95 that lead to The George Washington Bridge. In total, the Department is responsible for Bergen County's second-most populous municipality with over 40,000 total residents. The Department also receives a high volume of calls, which total to around 3,000 over the past three years, making the fire department a vital necessity. The TFD is in a mutual aid agreement with multiple departments in Bergen County, such as the fire departments of Ridgefield Park, Bogota, Hackensack, Englewood, New Milford, and Bergenfield. When preparing to go out on a call, TFD's firefighters face time delays and operational deficiencies before their gear can be deployed. The updated equipment would protect the firefighters from any hazardous chemicals, blood-borne pathogens, carcinogens, and other contaminants that they can come across on calls. This would ensure the safety of the firefighters as well as the surrounding community.

Throughout my 22 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 the author of the FIRE Act, I understand that fire departments such as Teaneck's are an integral part of our emergency management system and require our utmost respect and assistance in their time of need. The Township of Teaneck is an area that is vulnerable to emergencies, and the urgency to provide safety for its citizens and first responders should not be overlooked.

I am pleased to support the Teaneck 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 my office.

Sincerely,

Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress