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City of Duluth Communications Office

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DATE: 05/16/2013

SUBJECT: Duluth Fire Department Awarded Federal Grant for Operations and Safety

BY: Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator

Duluth Fire Department Awarded Federal Grant for Operations and Safety

The Duluth Fire Department has been awarded \$129,100 in federal funding for aid with operations and safety as part of the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program. The award notification came through Senator Al Franken's office.

Federal funds are awarded through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program (AFG), which aims to strengthen the health and safety of the nation's first responders and those they serve. Fire Chief John Strongitharm stated "This grant will allow the Duluth Fire Department to replace older fire suppression tools and upgrade protective equipment for its fire fighters. The firefighter grant support has been critical funding source for fire departments across the country providing resources to better protect our communities and protect fire fighters."

Since the beginning of the FEMA fire grant program in 2002, the Duluth Fire Department has received ten grants in excess of 1.9 million dollars. The grant awards focused on fire prevention, EMS equipment, fire suppression equipment, personal protective equipment, staffing, and a fire apparatus.

For more information contact: John Strongitharm, Fire Chief - Duluth Fire Department at 218-730-4400.

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