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Hartford, CT -U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) announced today that the Hartford Fire Department will receive a federal grant award of \$240,800 from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program. With this funding, Hartford will be able to purchase a new fire engine for the southeast section of the city. The current truck responds to emergencies in an area larger than any other truck in Hartford as well as providing support to surrounding municipalities. Larson wrote a letter to the Department of Homeland Security in support of the city's grant application.

"I'm pleased to join Mayor Eddie Perez and Fire Chief Charles Teale in announcing this award to the city. With this funding, the City of Hartford will be able to better ensure the safety and security of our citizens. We will replace one of the city's oldest fire engines with a newer, more efficient model," said Larson. "I will continue to support the Assistance to Firefighters grant program, as it enhances the security of the residents and first responders of Hartford and the entire First Congressional District."

In 2007, Larson announced a similar fire grant to the Hartford Fire Department for \$601,000 for the purchase of a new fire tower ladder.

Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez said, "I want to thank Congressman Larson for his leadership and never-ending support for our Fire Department and all of our Public Safety officials. The safety and security of our residents and visitors is a top priority and it is essential that Hartford has the tools needed to keep them safe and keep our firefighters safe as well. Hartford also serves surrounding communities in need so this is more than just a Hartford firetruck it is a safety apparatus for the entire region. It gives added meaning to Homeland Security."

Hartford Fire Department Chief Charles A. Teale, Sr. said, "The Hartford Fire Department is pleased to announce that it has received verification of an Assistance to Firefighters Grant through FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security. The total amount of the grant will be utilized to pay 80% of the cost of an Engine Apparatus, which is currently needed in the Southeast section of the city. I would like to thank Congressman Larson for his efforts related to the acquisition of this award. Especially since September 11, 2001, he has shown a sincere appreciation and concern for the residents of the City of Hartford through its Fire Department. The resources that will be acquired would not be possible without his influence."

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