

MOBILE - U.S. Rep. Jo Bonner, R-Alabama, today announced the award of funding to the Mexia Volunteer Fire Department from the United States Department of Homeland Security and the United States Fire Administration. The grant, totaling \$50,864, is being made available through the USFA's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program and will be used for the purpose of fire operations and firefighter safety.

"I am extremely pleased the Department of Homeland Security has approved this funding for the Mexia Volunteer Fire Department," Bonner said. "Mexia and its residents are to be strongly commended for their work in recent years in strengthening their own department and, through that process, providing a greater degree of safety and fire prevention for their community."

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program provides one-year grant funding to local fire departments to assist them in improving their ability to respond to fire-related and other emergencies in their communities. The funding is used primarily in four major program areas: Fire Operations and Firefighter Safety, Fire Prevention, Emergency Medical Services and Firefighting Vehicles Acquisition. Through twenty-seven rounds of grant awards this year, the Fire Administration has awarded over 7300 grants totaling more than \$564 million.