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NEWS RELEASE

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS \$35,855 MOCK CHECK TO THE CITY OF CAMPBELL

Missouri Rural Development Acting State Director, Anita J. “Janie” Dunning, presented the City of Campbell with a \$35,855 mock check on Wednesday, January 16, 2008. The funds provided to the City will be utilized to purchase a fully-equipped vehicle for the Police Department and to purchase firefighting equipment for the City’s Fire Department.

“The new police and fire equipment is crucial to the protection of Campbell residents and those who risk their lives to save them. The local leadership and USDA Rural Development staff are to be commended for their dedication and hard work to make this project a reality,” stated U.S. Senator Christopher “Kit” Bond.

The City of Campbell’s Police and Fire Departments are both comprised of highly skilled and trained officers and firefighters, however, both departments have been disadvantaged by the lack of equipment to effectively continue their combined duties to serve and protect the 2200 residents of Campbell. With the funding provided by Rural Development, the Police Department will be able to acquire a new vehicle equipped with standard police equipment. This will allow the Police Department to have 3 vehicles equipped with the tools and resources essential in law enforcement. The Fire Department currently has 3 full-time fire fighters and 17 volunteers. With only 4 partial sets of turnout gear, only 2 or 3 fire fighters are able to safely enter a structure and battle a fire. The Fire Department plans to use their portion of the RD funds to purchase 14 additional sets of turnout gear, thereby increasing the number of firefighters able to actively combat fires when they occur.

U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill said, “Police officers and fire fighters risk their lives everyday to protect Missouri’s families. I’m pleased that this funding will help first responders in the city of Campbell get the tools they need to do their jobs safely and effectively.”

The funding for the police vehicle and the firefighting equipment is provided through the Economic Impact Initiative (EII) Grants program, a part of the USDA Rural Development’s Community Facilities (CF) Program. The EII Grants are specifically targeted to rural communities with extreme unemployment and severe economic depression. In addition to police vehicles and firefighting equipment, the CF loan and grant program also provides funding to help rural communities finance essential community facilities, health services, and the purchase of equipment which will provide vital services to rural residents. Some examples include financing an ambulance, fire trucks, warning sirens, jaws-of-life, rescue vehicle, 911 dispatch center, justice center, abuse center, public safety building, medical clinics and hospitals.



Pictured left to right: Mitzi Dell, Grant Writer; Pam Anglin, Rural Development Area Director; Eddie Barnett, Alderman; Ben Dyer, representing Senator Claire McCaskill; Janie Dunning, Missouri Rural Development Acting State Director; Randall Baker, City Clerk; Bill Trewatha, Alderman; Tresia Webb, Rural Development Manager

"Our first responders risk their lives to protect citizens. In rural areas, they routinely cover more ground than their counterparts in the city – that means more miles on vehicles and a greater strain on resources. I'm very proud that Campbell's police and fire departments are going to receive support from USDA Rural Development so they can continue to serve the people of our congressional district," said U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson.

"The intent of the CF program is to assist rural communities with financial packages to enhance the quality of life for rural Missourians," said Dunning. "Missouri Rural Development was very fortunate last year to have the opportunity to provide over \$11,200,000 in CF loans and grants. We are proud to be able to assist the City of Campbell in helping to provide a police vehicle and firefighting equipment for their residents."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life in rural communities. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development has invested over \$76.8 billion since the beginning of the Bush Administration to provide equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure.

Further information regarding any of the USDA Rural Development programs is available by contacting the Kennett Rural Development Office at tresia.webb@mo.usda.gov or by calling 573-888-2536, ext. 4. Rural Development's web site is: www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo.

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