



Committed to the future of rural communities.

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Mary Lue Richard

(573) 364-1479 Ext. 4

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT \$75,000 MOCK CHECK TO VICHY VOLUNTEER FIRE PROTECTION ASSOC.

Anita J. Dunning, the Missouri Acting State Director of USDA Rural Development, presented Vichy Volunteer Fire Protection Association with a \$75,000 Mock Check on Tuesday, December 4, 2007. The funds will be used to purchase one new fire truck and to install an existing tank on the new truck.

U.S. Senator Clair McCaskill said, "It's so important that we make sure our first responders are well-equipped and have the tools they need to do their job. These federal funds will help ensure that Vichy is able to better protect the community."

U.S. Representative Hulshof said, "First responders across Missouri are asked to perform a wide variety of duties on our behalf. It's important that they have the tools to do the job. That's especially true for rural emergency crews that too often have to rely upon outdated equipment. I am pleased that USDA has recognized the importance of this upgrade for firefighters in Vichy."

Dunning said, "Financing essential equipment is consistent with Rural Development's mission and President Bush's commitment to the future of rural communities. Appreciation is also extended to our Federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians."

Anyone interested in obtaining information regarding assistance available through USDA Rural Development may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Mary Lue Richard, Rural Development Manager, at the Rolla Local Office of USDA Rural Development at , 1050 Highway 72 East, Rolla, MO 65401-3962 or by calling (573) 364-1479.



Front Row: Bonnie Prigge, President; MaryLue Richard, Rural Development Manager; Ken Ramsey, Firefighter; Janie Dunning, Acting State Director; Juanita Butler, Board Member (holding Lauren Prigge)

Back Row: Jackie Kidd, Firefighter; Stephanie Field, Treasurer; Dave Allen, Board Member; Bill Field, Board Member; Terry Luetkemeyer, Area Director; Zach Skaggs, Firefighter

"Committed to the future of rural communities."

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.”

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).