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USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES A \$1,595 GRANT TO THE MONROE CITY RURAL FIRE ASSOCIATION

On November 26th, 2007, USDA Rural Development presented the Monroe City Rural Fire Association with a mock check for \$1,595. The funds will be used towards the purchase of essential fire fighting turn out gear for the volunteer firefighters.

USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Grant program is funding a portion of the fire fighting gear. The Monroe City Rural Fire Association and City of Monroe City contributed \$4,805 towards the total project cost of \$6,400.

"The new fire equipment is crucial to the protection of Monroe City residents and the firefighters 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," said U.S. Senator Kit Bond.

"Having well-equipped firefighters will help protect and save lives. I'm so pleased this funding will benefit the Monroe City community," said U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill.

"First responders are asked to perform a wide variety of duties on our behalf, so it is important that they have the necessary tools to do their jobs safely and effectively," Congressman Kenny Hulshof said. "This investment will help protect the volunteer firefighters of the Monroe City Rural Fire Association. I am pleased that USDA has recognized the importance of this project."

"This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development's mission and President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities," said Acting State Director Anita Dunning. "Appreciation is extended to our federal elected officials for supporting USDA Rural



Pictured left to right: Scott Callicot of Congressman Kenny Hulshof's office; Gary McElroy, Fire Chief of the Monroe City Rural Fire Association; Llona Weiss of Senator Claire McCaskill's office; Tim Quinn, Monroe City Rural Fire Association Board President; Steven Gerrish; USDA Rural Development; and Janie Dunning, Acting State Director, USDA Rural Development.

Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians.”

USDA Rural Development’s mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA’s web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Steven Gerrish, at the Moberly Rural Development office, 2995 County Road 1325, Moberly, MO 65270 or call the office at 660-263-7400 ext. 4.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

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

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