



JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Jackson County Fire Rescue Receives FEMA AFG Grants

Jackson County Fire Rescue (JCFR) is delighted to announce the receipt of two Assistance to Firefighter's Grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), totaling \$902,260.00. These federal grants, distributed through the Department of Homeland Security, represent a significant investment in our community's safety.

The first grant, amounting to \$500,000.00 with a required 10% match of local funds (\$50,000.00), will fund the acquisition of a state-of-the-art fire engine. To be designated as Engine-1, the new fire engine will operate from Station 1, situated on Commercial Park Drive in Marianna. Engine-1 will serve the diverse north, east, south, and greater Marianna area of Jackson County, bolstering our emergency response capabilities.

The second FEMA grant, totaling \$320,236.36, supplemented by a 10% local funds match (\$32,023.64), is allocated for the purchase of 38 new self-contained breathing apparatuses (SCBAs), also known as air packs. This grant enables JCFR to upgrade its entire SCBA inventory, replacing equipment more than 15 years old with the latest technology available. Interoperability with volunteer fire departments throughout Jackson County will be ensured, courtesy of the FEMA AFG Grant received in 2021. The upgraded SCBAs are a crucial resource, providing our firefighters with maximum airway protection against toxic gas and harmful particulates on today's complex fire grounds.

Upon formal acceptance of the grants by the Board of Commissioners, JCFR will embark on the procurement process for this cutting-edge apparatus and equipment. Before field deployment, employees will receive comprehensive training on the use of both the new fire engine and SCBAs.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program's chief aim is to fulfill the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations. Since 2001, AFG has been instrumental in equipping firefighters and other first responders with essential equipment, protective gear, emergency vehicles, training, and other resources, ensuring public safety from fire and related hazards.

Chief Brunner expresses his deepest gratitude to his staff for their unwavering dedication in emergency response and assistance with the grant process. Special thanks are extended to the Jackson County Administration Team and the Board of County Commissioners for their continued support of public safety and fire rescue. Together, we are steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that Jackson County remains one of the safest places to live, work, and play.

“FOR Jackson. FOR Future. FOR You.”

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About Jackson County, FL Board of County Commissioners:

The Jackson County Board of County Commissioners is the governing body of Jackson County, Florida consisting of 5 elected officials representing the County’s 5 Districts. It is committed to serving the community through effective governance, economic development, public safety, and environmental sustainability.

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