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**PAUL D. TONKO**

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
20<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

February 27, 2023

Pamela Williams  
Assistant Administrator for Grant Programs  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
500 C Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Assistant Administrator Williams,

I write in support of the application from the Watervliet Fire Department located in Watervliet, New York to the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFG). The Department seeks federal support to purchase three Airway Portable Ventilator Systems and to provide paramedic training for two of its members.

The Watervliet Fire Department serves approximately 10,000 residents over 1.48 square miles in New York's Capital Region. The City of Watervliet is also home to the Watervliet Arsenal, the oldest, continuously active arsenal in the United States and sole manufacturer of long-range cannon gun tubes for the military. One of the Watervliet Fire Department's most significant responsibilities is serving as an initial response to the Watervliet Arsenal Fire Department.

If selected for funding, the Watervliet Fire Department will replace its aging Airway Portable Ventilator Systems and restore its paramedic crew to full capacity, addressing the two most critical needs identified during the Department's most recent risk assessment.

Like you, I am committed to providing the tools and resources necessary to more effectively protect the health and safety of the public and their emergency response personnel. Your full and fair consideration of this request, consistent with current laws, rules, regulations, and agency policy, is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul D. Tonko".

PAUL D. TONKO  
Member of Congress