



South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

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V-SAFE Peer Review Panel Members

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John Reich
State Fire Marshal

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Jimmy Walters
Region 2

Dixon Odom
Region 3

Sam Brockington
Region 4

Barry McRoy
Region 5

Tony Dicks
Region 6

Greg Lindley
Region 7

Mason Speer, Jr.
Member-at-Large

November 1, 2007

South Carolina Firefighters:

It is our pleasure to present the Volunteer Strategic Assistance and Fire Equipment Pilot Act Application Site to the firefighters of South Carolina. This process culminates months of work by the SC Firefighters Association, legislators, concerned citizens and SC LLR staff. The Act provides a mechanism for volunteer and combination fire departments to request grants for the purpose of protecting local communities and regional response areas from incidents of fire, hazardous materials, terrorism, and to provide safety of volunteer firefighters.

Applications will be accepted during a 30 day period beginning on a date yet to be determined (watch for Web site announcement). Applications will be accepted via the on-line application only, utilizing the contracted services of surveymonkey.com. This process will provide the required security, accountability and data collection method necessary to administer the program.

At the close of the application period, the appointed nine-person Peer Review Panel will review the requests. Applications that best address the grant funding priorities shall score higher than the applicants that are inconsistent with the priorities. Panelists will provide a subjective, but qualitative judgment on the merits of each request. Successful grant applicants will be notified 30 days after the close of the application period.

The application process is designed to be user friendly; however, it is imperative that you be knowledgeable with the act and follow the appropriate work sheet to successfully complete and submit the application. If you encounter problems or require assistance in the grant process, contact the Office of the State Fire Marshal at 800-896-1070 and request to speak with a V-Safe Grant Administrator.

It is our sincere desire that this program will enhance the quality of life in South Carolina and protect the safety of our state's volunteer firefighters. We trust that with your support and successful legislation, this pilot program will continue in the years ahead. Thank you for the service you provide, making South Carolina a safer place to live, work and play.

Respectfully,

Huey P. Womack, Jr.
Committee Chairman

Respectfully,

John G. Reich
Grants Administrator