

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 10, 2016

Mr. Brian Kamoie  
Assistant Administrator - Grant Programs Directorate  
Dept of Homeland Security  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)  
500 C Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Assistant Administrator Kamoie:

I am pleased to support the Viroqua Fire Department's 2016 Assistance to Firefighter's Grant application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Funding will assist the Viroqua Fire Department in their efforts to improve the safety of their emergency responders by replacing vital equipment that has become outdated.

The Viroqua Fire Department serves the City of Viroqua, Town of Franklin, Town of Jefferson, and Town of Viroqua. In order to better serve these Wisconsin communities, the Viroqua Fire Department requests funding to assist in purchasing new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). The current SCBA used by the Fire Department are 13 years old and will need to be replaced due to increased safety risks.

It is my understanding that the Viroqua Fire Department has been experiencing increased service concerns with their SCBA equipment resulting in fewer packs used in emergency response situations. In addition, the air bottles used in the current SCBA equipment will soon be outdated. With approved funding the Fire Department will be able to purchase SCBA equipment that stays in compliance with current National Fire Protection Association standards.

I strongly support efforts that aim to ensure the safety of our emergency responders and enables them to more effectively protect our Wisconsin communities. For this reason, I respectfully ask that you give full and fair consideration to the Viroqua Fire Department's application. Please keep Jessica Sielaff in my Madison office updated on the progress of this application and contact her should you have further questions or concerns. She may be reached at 30 West Mifflin Street, Suite 700, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, by phone at 608-264-5338, or by email at [projects\\_grants@baldwin.senate.gov](mailto:projects_grants@baldwin.senate.gov). Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator