



## Pittsfield Charter Township

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### Office of the Supervisor

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Pittsfield Township Fire Department Awarded \$167,228 FEMA Grant

Pittsfield Township (June 20, 2013) – Pittsfield Department of Public Safety proudly announces the acceptance of a \$167,228 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as part of its Assistance to Firefighters program.

The purpose of the Assistance to Firefighters Program is to protect the health and safety of the public and firefighting personnel against fire and fire-related hazards.

“This federal grant award is greatly appreciated because it allows our fire fighters to upgrade outdated Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) equipment, which is critically important when responding to fires emitting harmful fumes and chemicals, or necessitating fire fighters to conduct search operations in fire and smoke-filled environments to save lives,” explains Matthew Harshberger, Director of Public Safety for Pittsfield Township.

“Pittsfield Township’s persistence in applying for grant funds continues to pay dividends. Our reliance on available federal and state grants rather than local revenues to pay for improvements in our service provision is a policy decision that ensures fiscal stewardship,” noted Supervisor Mandy Grewal.

Pittsfield Township will receive funds to purchase twenty-eight (28) Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units/equipment that will bring the department up to full compliance and improve firefighter safety.

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