

**August 24, 2011**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04) today announced five grant awards from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS), totaling more than \$6.3 million. The awards will be used for counter-terrorism, major disaster preparedness and improved communications and coordination between communities and the federal government. More information on each award can be found below or by visiting [www.fema.gov/grants](http://www.fema.gov/grants).

"It is important that we ensure our local communities are able to respond to any threat, whether it is a terrorist attack or another major disaster," Congressman Altmire said. "Coordination between communities and the federal government is one of the best ways to protect our citizens in times of chaos, and these awards help to tighten that invaluable link between first responders."

### Western Pennsylvania Awards

- Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program provides \$4,479,093 for southwestern Pennsylvania to address the unique planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density urban areas, and assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.
- Freight Rail Security Grant Program (FRSGP) provides a \$1,199,814 award to PPG Industries to allow freight railroad carriers, owners and offerors of railroad cars to protect critical surface transportation infrastructure from acts of terrorism, major disasters, and other emergencies.
- Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) provides \$563,386 for Allegheny County and Philadelphia to support the integration of emergency management, health, and medical systems into a coordinated response to mass casualty incidents caused by any hazard. Successful MMRS grantees reduce the consequences of a mass casualty incident during the initial period of a response by having augmented existing local operational response systems before an incident occurs.

- Urban Area Security Initiative Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) provides \$81,100 in funding support for southwestern Pennsylvania for target hardening activities to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of terrorist attack and located within one of the specific UASI-eligible Urban Areas. While this funding is provided specifically to high-risk nonprofit organizations, the program seeks to integrate nonprofit preparedness activities with broader State and local preparedness efforts. It is also designed to promote coordination and collaboration in emergency preparedness activities among public and private community representatives, State and local government agencies, and Citizen Corps Councils.

- Intercity Bus Security Grant Program (IBSGP) provides \$10,418 for Myers Coach Lines Inc. to create a sustainable program for the protection of intercity bus systems and the traveling public from terrorism.

To sign up for Congressman Altmire's monthly grants e-newsletter, please e-mail [altmire.grants@mail.house.gov](mailto:altmire.grants@mail.house.gov).