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**Heller Announces Over $1.5 Million in Grants Awarded to Nevada Fire Agencies**

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) announced that four Nevada Fire Agencies – the Central Lyon County Fire Protection District, the Elko County Fire Protection District, Nye County Emergency Management, and the Reno Fire Department – have been awarded competitive grants totaling over $1.5 million from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as part of the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program and the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program.

The SAFER Program, which was funded by legislation that Heller supported in the U.S. Senate, provides departments and volunteers with the support they need to continue protecting cities across the nation from fires as well as improve the overall response from fire agencies. The program takes into account volunteer, combination, and career fire departments, and ensures that all variations are provided the proper funding to maintain current hires, attract new hires and ultimately maximize employment. Similarly, the AGF Program allows first responders to better respond to emergencies by providing grants used to improve essential equipment, such as vehicles, protective gear, and response training.

“The firefighters throughout the state of Nevada work tirelessly to ensure the safety of all of our communities, and it’s essential that we continue to protect those who protect us,” said Heller. “The resources announced will go a long way toward providing critical support and additional opportunities to ultimately enable Nevada’s fire departments to hire highly trained individuals. I thank the Department of Homeland Security for recognizing the needs of our state, and I look forward to continue to push for policies that support our brave firefighters who work hard to keep our families and communities safe.”

The full breakdown of grants can be found below:

As awarded through the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Program:

Central Lyon County Fire Protection District will receive $491,291.

As awarded through the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program:

Elko County Fire Protection District will receive $612,546;

Nye County Emergency Management will receive $295,759;

Reno Fire Department will receive $109,091; and

Central Lyon County Fire Protection District will receive $75,079.

In total, the Department of Homeland Security is awarding approximately $345 million as part of the SAFER Program and $310 million through the AFG Program.

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