## Gov. Wolf: \$50 Million in Grants Available to Support Fire and EMS Companies Negatively Affected by COVID-19

**Harrisburg, PA** – Governor Tom Wolf announced today that the Office of State Fire Commissioner will be working to enact recent legislation to provide \$50 million in direct financial relief to fire and emergency medical service (EMS) companies negatively impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

"Since we began taking action to curtail the spread of COVID-19, our state's fire and EMS companies have seen record-breaking call volume and fewer opportunities to raise funds," Gov. Wolf said. "These grants will go a long way to support their heroic efforts amid a very difficult public health crisis that has created a financial burden for many of these companies."

"It has become a struggle just to keep the lights on for far too many of the companies that protect our communities," State Fire Commissioner Bruce Trego said. "I am pleased that our office can help get these funds out to the companies most in need."

Of the \$50 million in funding set aside for this new program, \$44 million will be made available to fire and rescue companies and the remaining \$6 million will go to EMS companies. Though the legislation took immediate effect, the Office of State Fire Commissioner must now establish the protocols for application, review and disbursement of grant funds.

In the coming weeks, detailed information about the program and instructions on how to apply will be available online at the Office of the State Fire Commissioner's <u>website</u>. Companies are advised to check back regularly for updated information.