

FM Global Fire Prevention Grant Application



19-175

Organization Name DeKalb County Fire Rescue

Title Battalion Chief

Prefix Mr. **First Name** Thomas

Last Name Burrell

Phone Number 6784067449

Type Phone Number

Phone Number

Type

Email Address tburrell@dekalbcountyga.gov

Physical Address:

Street Address 1950 West Exchange Place

Address Cont.

City Tucker

Province

State GA

Country United States

Postal Code 30084

Check here if Physical Address is same as Mailing Address

Mailing Address:

Street Address

Address Cont.

City

Province

State

Country

Postal Code

Has your organization ever applied for an FM Global Fire Prevention Grant? **NO**

Was your organization awarded funding?

Date of your award letter:

Amount Awarded

Date of your denial letter:

Type of Applicant

- Fire Department/Brigade
- Police Department
- Regional Task Force
- Non-profit Organization
- Public Agency
- Educational Institution
- Other

Type of Jurisdiction Served

- Town
- District
- County
- Regional
- State/Province
- Country
- Other

Staff Type

Full-Time

720 # of Full-Time Staff

Part-Time

of Part-Time Staff

Volunteer

of Volunteer Staff

Other

of Other Staff

Community Served

- Rural
- Suburban
- City
- State
- National
- Other



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Response Area Demographics:

What is the approximate physical size of the area you serve? **271 sq miles**

What percentage of your service area is used for commercial/industrial purposes? **29**

What percentage of your service area is used for residential purposes? **56**

What is your service area's population? **753,253**

What service(s) does your organization provide?

As DeKalb County has experienced growth over the years, the Department continually stands ready to serve the needs of the citizens from its 26 firehouses strategically located throughout the county. Each day DeKalb County Fire Rescue staffs and operates 22 engine companies, 11 truck companies, and several specialty team units in order to provide a high level of service to the community. In 2018 DeKalb County Fire Rescue handled over 87,000 calls for service from the community making us the second busiest department in the state of Georgia. We are a structure of 720 men and women who are well-trained and provide the following services: Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Services, Community Education, Fire Investigation, Hazardous Material mitigation, Technical Rescue, Dive/Swift water Rescue, Canine Search and Rescue, Fire Prevention, Plans Review and Building Inspections. We are also home to Explorer Post #901 which is available to teens between the ages of 14 and 18.

Number of Incidents

Please indicate the number of incidents your agency responded to in the last 12 months. If there are no responses for a specific category, enter zero.

401 Structure Fires
448 Vehicle Fires
402 Vegetation Fires
52675 EMS/Rescue Calls
985 Hazardous Material Calls
362 Service Calls
5465 Good Intent/False Alarms
26313 Other
87051 Total

Will this grant benefit more than one organization? **YES**

If Yes, please explain how this grant would benefit other organizations:

The DeKalb County Fire Rescue service area of 271 Square miles and a growing population of 753,253 (2017), includes eleven (11) incorporated municipalities. As part of Fire Rescue's Incorporated Fire Protection agreements, fire prevention inspection services are required to be maintained. Currently, the unincorporated DeKalb County existing business occupancies exceed > 12,000 alone, which require a systematic records management monitoring of all periodic maintenance fire prevention inspections. This grant would benefit the eleven (11) other Incorporated Municipal areas by allowing a more effective identification of commercial occupancies requiring periodic fire prevention inspections, as well as, an efficient records management system for Fire Rescue Operations strategy/tactics and Open Records fulfillments.



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Funding Request

What type of funding are you requesting? Fire Prevention Education/Training

Please indicate the exact amount of funding being requested (USD): 4680.00

Please indicate what items/programs are being requested:

APX CityScope mobile pre-incident planning and inspection software.

Is this a new program or an extension of an existing program? Existing

Why does your organization need the requested funding?

Currently, the DeKalb County Fire Rescue does not have an efficient and effective records management system specifically designed to assist with Community Risk Reduction evaluation, i.e. inspections, investigations, education, and short and long range planning/evaluation activities.

How will funding enhance your current/future fire prevention, prefire planning or investigation efforts?

The requested funding of \$4,680 will enhance DeKalb County Fire Rescue's "SafeDeKalb- Community Risk Reduction Initiative" by improving the department's ability to:

Identification of Real Statistical Risks

Development/Design of Community Risk Reduction Strategies to solve real risks

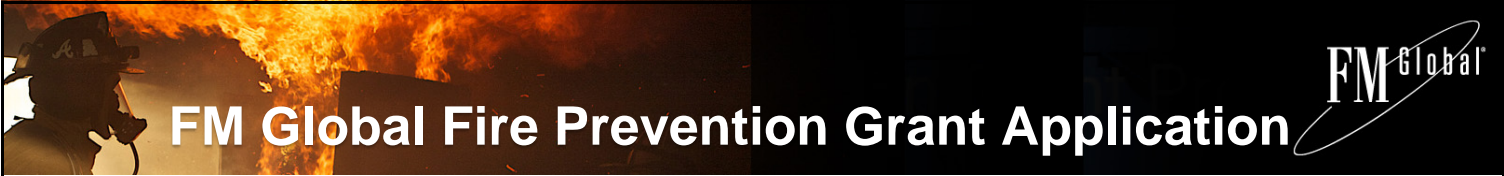
Document/Preplan risks for on-scene Firefighter Strategy and Tactics. Benefiting firefighter safety

Enhance re-inspection/follow up for non-compliant occupancies

Provide real data for adoption of local new and existing fire codes

Evaluation of Community Risk Reduction measures success and re-development if improvements are needed.

Provide justification for future budget requests to maintain and improve DeKalb County Fire Rescue Department's "SafeDeKalb- Community Risk Reduction Initiative"



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What is the expected impact funding will have within your community, both immediate and long-term?

DeKalb County Fire Rescue currently serves the fastest growing immigrant/refugee populations in the United States. Furthermore, the majority of this high-risk population also is low income and resides in rapidly deteriorating multi-family housing. The immigrant/refugee community also presents challenges for community risk reduction activities due to cultural, language, and social behaviors. The DeKalb County Fire Rescue anticipates this critical funding will reduce and/or remove both short-term and long-term risks that the immigrant/refugee community faces on a daily basis. Additionally, this funding will impact and benefit DeKalb County economically, due to the reduction of "blight conditions" in the County, i.e. unsafe/abandoned structures, vacant buildings, etc.

What other relevant information do you believe will support the need for funding?

Currently, fire incident data concludes that DeKalb County Fire Rescue responds to one (1) significant Multi-Family occupancy fire every two-and-a-half (2.5) days. This poses an extreme risk to firefighters managing and fighting a fire. It is typical before DeKalb Fire Rescue even arrive on-scene, firefighters expect a multi-family building will have a high-risk immigrant/refugee population present (evacuation and rescue), fire protection systems that have not been maintained/inoperable (no early detection/suppression), and a large, aged-deteriorated building whose inherent fire-rated construction is supporting rapid fire growth rather than containing/confining. This funding will allow community risk reduction measures (education, inspection, investigation, pre-planning, and incident evaluation/analysis) to immediately remove/reduce firefighter risks for injury and/or death during commercial multi-family fire incidents.

Signature

I declare, certify and verify, as a representative and agent of the organization, the following under penalty of perjury:

- All funds received from a FM Global Fire Prevention Grant will be used solely to benefit the organization's fire prevention activities as a tax-exempt or charitable organization; and*
- In no event shall any of the funds be used for private uses or private organizations; and*
- Should a fire prevention grant be awarded I hereby give permission for FM Global to publicize my award using my organization's name, amount of the award, purpose by which the funding will be used for and presentation photo (if applicable). I understand that such publicity can be gained through, but is not limited to print, television and Internet media outlets; and*
- The information provided above (as well as any related attachments), to the best of my knowledge, is true, correct and complete.*

Full Name Thomas Blake Burrell
 Title Battalion Chief
 Organization Name DeKalb County Fire Rescue

I certify that I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of this organization and I have included the appropriate documentation to support my request.