



Demolition Companies & Insurance Firms Join to Support

Gulf Coast Fire Department Hit by Katrina



Nancy Taylor & Waveland Chief Dave Garcia in front of current Firehouse



FREE?

In support of the First Responder community, the National Demolition Association joined in with the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and Apollo General Insurance Agency to present funds for much needed fire department equipment to the Waveland (MS) Fire Department, which was devastated by Hurricane Katrina. The \$36,000 grant was made recently at the National Demolition Association Convention in Las Vegas.

"Just as we show our solidarity with First Responders every day by providing skilled support to them when disasters strike, we are happy to see that we are also making a financial difference to a fire department that was struck so hard by the hurricane," said Michael R. Taylor, CAE, Executive Director of the Association.

Following the hurricane, the Waveland Fire Department found that all of its equipment and fire engines were ruined and both fire stations were destroyed. Because tax revenue coming into Waveland was so dramatically reduced after the disaster with the loss of so many homes, it was nearly impossible for the department to purchase much needed equipment, according to its Fire Chief David Garcia. Waveland is a resort town located on the Mississippi coast.

Upon being notified of the grant it was to receive, the department decided on purchasing piston-rod hydraulic rescue tools known as cutters, spreaders, and rams that are used to pry open vehicles involved in accidents when a victim may be trapped inside.

The grant package is part of a nationwide program called Fireman's Fund HeritageSM, which is funded by Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. The program is designed to provide needed equipment, training, and educational tools to local fire departments. Apollo General Insurance, an independent insurance agency that supplies Fireman's Fund products, is one of the leading providers of insurance coverage to the demolition industry. Apollo chose to direct a portion of the proceeds from demolition-related policies to this worthy cause.

"The National Demolition Association hopes to continue this grant presentation every year to fire departments in need," noted Taylor. "We are proud of our role as supporters of First Responders."

The National Demolition Association is a non-profit trade organization representing more than 1,100 U.S. and



Former Waveland Firehouse

Grant Presented at
National Demolition
Association Convention



Chief Dave Garcia of Waveland, MS



**Jeff Luciano
of Fireman's Fund**



**Nancy L. Taylor, Esq. recommended
Waveland Fire Dept.**

Canadian companies and many international firms that are involved in the demolition process. Membership includes demolition contractors, general contractors, civil engineering firms, and recycling, land-fill, and salvage operations.

The Association's efforts help members stay abreast of regulatory and safety matters, keep regulators informed about issues facing the industry, increase public and industry awareness, and provide members with networking opportunities and information on the latest technical advances in equipment and services. The website is www.demolitionassociation.com and phone is 800-541-2412.



Katrina followed Camille

For a high-res photo of the grant presentation to Chief Garcia, contact elva@alvare.com or go to www.demolitionassociation.com and visit Public Relations page.



**Bob Elster of Apollo General
Insurance Agency, Inc.**