



Officers Section

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO NOVEMBER 30 FOR
\$1.5 MILLION IN GRANT FUNDING FOR U.S. VOLUNTEER AND COMBINATION
FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

FAIRFAX, VA – November 24, 2008 – TargetSafety, the U.S. leader in online enterprise risk management solutions for public entities, and the Volunteer & Combination Officers Section (VCOS) of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) today announced that U.S. volunteer and combination fire departments can still apply for their \$1.5 million online training grant. Grant funds remain available and [applications](#) will be accepted through November 30, 2008.

The two organizations have already received hundreds of applications from departments located in 45 different states. Among the states with the highest number of grant submissions are Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, North Carolina and Texas followed closely by Iowa, Illinois, Massachusetts and Montana.

“Last year, TargetSafety and the VCOS awarded \$1 million in grant funding to volunteer and combination departments across the U.S.,” said Chief Timothy S. Wall, VCOS chair. “With an additional \$.5 million in funding this year, we hope to reach even more departments—providing a greater number of firefighters with the training necessary to do their jobs safely and efficiently.”

Those awarded the grant will receive six months of free access to TargetSafety's PreventionLink™ online training and records management platform. The platform includes 15 hours of essential firefighter training from a choice of NFPA-approved fire curriculum, EMS continuing education, OSHA, human resources and general safety courses. Grant winners will also receive web-based tools for assigning, tracking and recording all online and instructor-led training as well as documenting inspections, policy reviews and other compliance-related tasks.

Volunteer and combination fire departments interested in applying for the grant can go to www.targetsafety.com/grant. Online applications must be submitted no later than November 30, 2008. TargetSafety and the VCOS will review all applications and notify grant winners by December 31. The program runs through June 30, 2009.

“As a partner of the VCOS and IAFC, and a provider of online firefighter training since 1999, TargetSafety is absolutely committed to the men and women of the fire service,” said Kyle Kaechele, Managing Director, PreventionLink Services. “Through this program, we can help firefighters receive the instruction they need. We can also help training officers and fire chiefs easily document this training and other required compliance tasks.”

For more information about the grant, please contact TargetSafety directly at 877.944.6372 or firegrant@targetsafety.com. You can also visit www.targetsafety.com/grant.

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About TargetSafety

Founded in 1999, TargetSafety is a pioneer and leader in the development of online solutions that simplify and standardize risk management. These solutions are used by more than 2,500 public entities nationwide, including fire and emergency medical service departments. TargetSafety is the only online provider that the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has partnered with to deliver online safety training to the fire service. As a result, it leads the industry in the creation of a complete risk management solution, PreventionLink™, that enables these organizations to maintain compliance, promote safety, reduce losses, stay current with EMS CE hours, and assist management with the documentation of all firefighter training. TargetSafety is headquartered in San Diego, California and has a regional office in Boston, Massachusetts. For more information, please visit: www.targetsafety.com.

About VCOS of the IAFC

The mission of the IAFC Volunteer & Combination Officers Section is to provide Chief Officers who manage volunteers within the Fire/Rescue/EMS delivery system with information, education, services, and representation to enhance their professionalism and capabilities. The VCOS vision is to be the leading international organization with a sustained performance in representing the interests of the Professional Volunteer and Combination Fire Service. VCOS will be a dynamic organization, characterized by our integrity, customer focus, membership growth, the value placed on people and superior application of technology. We will be the best at generating and applying new ideas and learning faster than other organizations. For more information, please visit: www.vcos.org.