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House of Representatives

May 23, 2025

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE AND SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY PERSONNEL

HOUSE DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND **POLICY COMMITTEE**

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman House Appropriations Committee H-307 The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro Ranking Member House Appropriations Committee 1036 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the San Miguel Aerial Apparatus in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the San Miguel Consolidated Fire Protection District, located at 2850 Via Orange Way, Spring Valley, CA 91978. The funding would be used for one aerial apparatus – a specialized fire service vehicle equipped with a hydraulically operated, extendable boom or ladder designed to provide elevated access, water stream delivery, and rescue capabilities at height. Aerial apparatuses are essential in urban, commercial, and multi-story structure responses. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because fires have grown more frequent and more deadly, and advanced life support equipment and personnel that respond on an aerial apparatus are the frontline for medical care and fire protection. In 2025, according to the Office of the California State Fire Marshal, San Diego County experienced a 26% increase in "very high" fire hazard severity zones, with more urban areas designated as "very high" for the first time.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,