



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 15, 2022

### **Austonio Volunteer Fire Department receives \$19,000 grant for fire and rescue equipment**

CROCKETT, Texas — Austonio Volunteer Fire Department in Houston County received a \$19,000 grant for new fire and rescue equipment. The department purchased three air packs and face masks, that will replace old equipment.

The department is making strides in protecting its firefighters. “The new equipment is safer and will make our firefighters lives easier. They can trust the equipment now, and move easier in emergency situations” said Billy Albright, Second Assistant Fire Chief.

“We would like to thank Texas A&M Forest Service for providing funding to small departments, that would not be able to afford the equipment otherwise,” said Albright.

The Austonio Volunteer Fire Department is always recruiting new members. Anyone interested in joining can email [austoniovfd@outlook.com](mailto:austoniovfd@outlook.com) for more information.

As a member agency of the Texas A&M University System, Texas A&M Forest Service administers the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program and is committed to protecting lives, property and natural resources. The Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program is funded by the Texas Legislature and provides cost-share funding to rural volunteer fire departments for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

For more information on programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, visit [texasfd.com](http://texasfd.com).

