



# RESTORE FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAMS

## Status

The reductions in force (RIFs) at NIOSH have eliminated or made virtually impossible the work of the National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer, the Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP), and the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL). The World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP) has reportedly retained some staff, but the RIFs are expected to harm its ability to operate efficiently.

### National Firefighter Registry (NFR)

The NFR represents a landmark initiative to understand and address the increased cancer risks faced by firefighters. The NFR plays a crucial role in collecting data, identifying trends, and helping to shape policies that enhance firefighter health and safety. Reauthorized just last year by Congress, and annually funded by both Appropriations Committees, this program is critical to addressing firefighter cancer.

**We request \$5.5 million for FY2026 and sufficient personnel to carry out the work of the registry.**

### National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL)

The National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) ensures the effectiveness of personal protective equipment (PPE), particularly respirators, which are vital for firefighters and EMS personnel responding to fires, hazardous material emergencies, and medical calls. Consistently funded by the Appropriations Committees, the work of the NPPTL is important for firefighter safety.

**We request appropriate funding and staff to ensure that NPPTL can continue to protect first responders.**

### Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP)

The Firefighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP) investigates firefighter line-of-duty deaths, providing recommendations that improve training, operational procedures, and safety protocols—directly reducing firefighter fatalities and injuries. This program has consistently received funding from the Appropriations Committees, including an increase in FY2024.

**We request \$2 million for FY2026 and that the program be restored with appropriate staff to carry out its life-saving mission.**

### World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP)

The World Trade Center Health Program (WTCHP) remains a vital lifeline for first responders and their families, providing essential health benefits for those affected by the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, and the associated cleanup efforts. This hugely bipartisan program has consistently been authorized and funded by Congress.

**We request that the program continue to employ all personnel necessary to function at full capacity.**