

# HOME DAY 2008

In 2006 the FAMA/FEMSA Governmental Affairs Committee launched a new initiative, Home Day, to encourage its member companies to hold local events that would educate elected officials and the general public on the importance of the fire and emergency services industry. Over a dozen such events were held in 2007 including those in Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland and Massachusetts. Congressional representatives or their staff participated in all the Home Day events, often giving major speeches, touring facilities, and meeting employees. The Home Day events emphasize the importance of the AFG and SAFER grant programs to communities and local economies.

Home Day events can fall into three categories:

- 1 FAMA/FEMSA members invite a member of Congress or staff person to their offices for a “meet and greet,” a briefing on the role the company plays in providing equipment or apparatus to first responders, and the importance of the company to the local business and civic community.
- 2 FAMA/FEMSA members sponsor or support local fire departments and jurisdictions to hold an event that highlights the importance of the AFG and SAFER programs-- displaying equipment purchased through the programs and their role in improving public safety. Often this type of event is an opportunity to thank the congressional offices for their support of the AFG and SAFER programs and to demonstrate their concrete benefits to specific communities. (Often the sponsoring companies are not located in the congressional district or state where the event is being held.)
- 3 FAMA/FEMSA members team together to organize a half-day event and program that features a key-note address or remarks from their congressional members before a regional or state-wide audience of fire and emergency services organizations. This event is principally focused on the important role the industry plays in serving the public sector.

This year the FAMA/FEMSA GAC would like to invite its Alliance partners voluntarily to participate in some or all of its Home Day events. An alliance partner can participate in several ways by: providing valuable local contacts who can help organize events; cosponsoring an event; agreeing to be on the program for an event; agreeing to publicize the event to your respective memberships, or some other form of non-monetary support.

For 2008, the GAC has preliminarily targeted the following areas where we would like to hold events.

<b>House of Representatives</b>				<b>Senate</b>	
STATE & DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE	STATE & DISTRICT	REPRESENTATIVE	STATE	SENATOR
NC 4	David Price	TX 31	John Carter	WV	Robert Byrd
NY 18	Nita Lowey	AL 4	Robert Aderholt	VT	Patrick Leahy
TX 17	Chet Edwards	PA 5	John Peterson	MS	Thad Cochran
CA 17	Sam Farr				

If you would like to participate with us in organizing or sponsoring such an event for Home Day 2008, please contact:

<i>GAC Co-chairs</i>	Robert Kreps	<a href="mailto:rkreps@idexcorp.com">rkreps@idexcorp.com</a>
	John Granby	<a href="mailto:jgranby@lionapparel.com">jgranby@lionapparel.com</a>
	Steve Lawrence	<a href="mailto:stvelaw@mac.com">stvelaw@mac.com</a>
<i>GAC Advisor</i>	Dave Gatton	<a href="mailto:dgatton@dinitiatives.com">dgatton@dinitiatives.com</a>