

Edgewater receives grant for new rescue boat

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BY SVETLANA SHKOLNIKOVA

STAFF WRITER |

EDGEWATER VIEW

EDGEWATER - As part of its efforts to secure and strengthen the nation's infrastructure, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security awarded Edgewater a \$104,813 grant on July 28 for its marina operations.

The grant will be used to purchase a small rescue boat and cover the cost of training, equipment and maintenance for the borough's existing fireboat, said Borough Administrator Greg Franz.

A grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Port Security Grant Program, which annually provides \$100 million to port authorities, facility operators and state and local government agencies, also helped pay for the borough's current \$142,000 rescue boat in 2013.

The boat is frequently deployed to battle fires, recover bodies of possible suicide jumpers off the George Washington Bridge, rescue fishermen who fall into the Hudson River and more.

"This grant from FEMA allows Edgewater's emergency services to provide continued enhanced security and rescue services to Edgewater and the Hudson River," said Franz. "We are grateful for FEMA's recognition of the vital service we provide."

The Department of Homeland Security distributed more than \$1 billion in grants this year through various emergency management and security grant programs. New Jersey was the recipient of more than \$40 million.

"This critical federal funding will help secure our state's vital infrastructure and save lives," said U.S. Sen. Bob Menendez in a statement. "I am pleased the Department of Homeland Security has continued its investment in our state's emergency preparedness efforts."

Email: shkolnikova@northjersey.com