SUBMISSION FORM

All submission forms must include the following information. Separate submission forms must be turned in for each eligible program. **Deadline: July 1, 2024.** Please include this submission form with the electronic entry. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your entry within 3 days of submission, please contact <u>Gage Harter</u>.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

NOGRAM IN CHIMATION
County: Amherst County
Program Title: Amherst County Burn Building
Program Category: Criminal Justice & Public Safety
CONTACT INFORMATION
Name: Bradley Beam
Title: Director
Department: Public Safety
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SIGNATURE OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OR DEPUTY/ASSISTANT COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR Name: Jeremy Bryant
Title: County Administrator
Signature:

Summary of Amherst County Fire Training Facility

The story of the Amherst County's new training facility for live fire training is a testament to the community's dedication and collaboration for enhancing fire safety and preparedness. Here's a summary of the key points:

- 1. **Need for Local Training Facility**: Before the new facility was built, fire departments in Amherst County had to travel outside the county for live fire training, which took nearly twenty minutes. This posed challenges for interdepartmental training and left the county vulnerable during emergencies.
- 2. **Community Initiative**: Recognizing the need, volunteer firefighters and county Public Safety staff collaborated to design a new, state-of-the-art training facility within Amherst County itself. This initiative aimed to improve local training capabilities and response readiness.
- 3. **Support from County Authorities**: The Amherst County Board of Supervisors unanimously supported the project by allocating \$325,000 in county funds. Additionally, the county provided an 85-acre parcel of land for the facility, demonstrating strong institutional support.
- 4. **Community Contribution**: Beyond financial support, the community rallied together in a remarkable display of solidarity. Volunteers, career staff, and community members donated their time, services, and products, significantly reducing the overall project costs.
- 5. **Impact and Benefits**: The completion of the new facility marks a historic milestone for Amherst County. It allows all three volunteer fire departments and career staff to train together locally for the first time, fostering greater coordination and preparedness during emergencies. The project exemplifies community-driven efforts for the collective well-being and safety.

Overall, the Amherst County training facility stands as a shining example of community collaboration and proactive investment in public safety infrastructure.