FFP Explained

Where does FFP property originate?
FFP property is housed on military bases throughout the US. The Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) has received property from bases in Texas, Louisiana, Kansas, Alabama, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Georgia.

What happens to FFP property when it leaves the military base?
All property is transported by TFS to the Hudson facility for in-processing and assessment. Before the property is released, it is inspected for mechanical defects, missing components or other details that may make the vehicle inoperable. Vehicles that do not pass inspection must be returned to a military base, they cannot be used for parts. Vehicles that pass inspection are released and assigned to departments.

How is property assigned?
Property assignment is based on the priority of a fire departments rating. A fire department’s rating is established using the following:

- How many years the department has been in business
- Size of the primary 911 response area in square miles
- Population of primary 911 response area
- Distance (miles) to nearest viable mutual aid

This criterion generates a rating of 0 to 25, for a maximum combined rating of 100. The rating is regarded as a mathematically calculated indicator of a department's need for assistance and can be applied to all departments across the state. The higher the rating indicates a greater priority for assistance. The system is used to allocate limited resources, to departments that are in greatest need.

When property becomes available, it is offered to the department that is rated highest on the request list. The second vehicle available is offered to the department with the second highest rating and so on until all of the available vehicles are issued.

A department will be notified by phone and email when a vehicle becomes available. The email will contain an Accept/Reject letter, photo and information about that specific vehicle. Offers are usually made on Fridays and a department will have 14 days to respond. If the department accepts the vehicle, a FFP Cooperative Agreement will be emailed to them. The Chief must sign two copies of the Cooperative Agreement and mail the original documents back to the Texas A&M Forest Service. Faxed or scanned documents cannot be accepted. When TFS receives the two signed Cooperative Agreements, the vehicle can be delivered or may be picked up by the department.