

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Office of Inspector General Atlanta Field Office - Audit Division 3003 Chamblee Tucker Rd Atlanta, GA 30341

October 29, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Kenneth O. Burris, Jr. Regional Director, FEMA Region IV FROM: Gary J. Barard Field Office Director

SUBJECT: Tennessee Board of Regents FEMA Disaster No. 1262-DR-TN Audit Report No. DA-02-04

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) audited public assistance funds awarded to the Tennessee Board of Regents. The objective of the audit was to determine whether the Board accounted for and expended FEMA funds according to federal regulations and FEMA guidelines.

The Board received an award of \$7.6 million from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, a FEMA grantee, to remove debris, provide emergency protective measures, and repair facilities damaged as a result of severe storms, tornadoes, and high winds in January 1999. The award provided 75 percent funding for 11 large and 18 small projects¹. Audit work was limited to the \$7,280,541 awarded and claimed under the 11 large projects.

The audit covered the period January 1999 to April 2001. During this period, the Board received \$5,460,406 of FEMA funds under the 11 large projects.

The OIG performed the audit under the authority of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and according to generally accepted governmental auditing standards. The audit included tests of the Board's accounting records, a judgmental sample of expenditures, and other auditing procedures considered necessary under the circumstances.

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¹ According to FEMA regulations, a large project costs \$47,800 or more and small project costs less than \$47,800.

The OIG determined that the Board used and accounted for FEMA funds in accordance with federal regulations and FEMA guidelines. On October 1, 2003, Board officials were informed of the audit results. Since this report contains no recommendations, a response is not required.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, please contact George Peoples or me at (770) 220-5242.