

Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

May 2012 DS-12-10

Why This Matters

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) serves as an independent body to deter, identify, and address fraud, abuse, mismanagement, and waste in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) programs and operations. To this end, the OIG is responsible for conducting and supervising audits, investigations, and inspections relating to the programs and operations of the DHS. The OIG examines, evaluates and, where necessary, critiques these operations and activities, recommending ways for the DHS to carry out its responsibilities in the most effective, efficient, and economical manner possible.

DHS Response

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials have not provided a full response to the findings. FEMA's written response is due within 90 days. The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Northern Region, Fairbanks, AK (Department) believe most of the costs in question were justified and reasonable but did not provide sufficient documentation to satisfy the OIG concerns.

For Further Information:

Contact our Office of Public Affairs at (202)254-4100, or email us at DHS-OIG.OfficePublicAffairs@dhs.gov

FEMA PA Grant Funds Awarded to the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Northern Region, Fairbanks, AK

What We Determined

We audited public assistance grant funds awarded to the Department for FEMA Disaster Number 1440-DR-AK.

Our audit objective was to determine whether the Department accounted for and expended FEMA grant funds according to Federal regulations and FEMA guidelines.

The Department generally expended and accounted for FEMA funds according to Federal regulations and FEMA guidelines, except for \$304,554 in ineligible costs.

What We Recommend

Our report contained five recommendations to the FEMA Region X Administrator, in coordination with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (Grantee), for disallowance of the \$304,554 (Federal share \$228,416) in ineligible costs.

Within 90 days of the date of the grant report, Management should provide our office with a written response that includes their (1) agreement or disagreement, (2) corrective action plan, and (3) target completion date for the recommendations.