



Why This Matters

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended, appropriated \$150 million to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for public transportation security assistance. FEMA awarded the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) a Transit Security Grant for the creation of anti-terrorism teams. Specifically, the grant funded 20 Metropolitan Transit Police Department sworn officer positions, which were used to form five permanent anti-terrorism teams. We conducted this audit to ensure that the costs claimed were allowable and reasonable.

DHS Response

FEMA concurred with the three recommendations and is taking corrective actions to address the audit findings.

Costs Incurred by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority under Transit Security Grant No. 2009-RA-R1-0102

What We Determined

We determined that the reimbursed project costs of \$1,058,080 were allowable, allocable, and reasonable. In addition, we reviewed \$2,701,174 of the \$7,590,766 in reported project costs and determined that these costs were allowable, allocable, and reasonable. However, we identified three areas in which FEMA and WMATA can improve the management of the Recovery Act Transit Security Grant: 1) WMATA inaccurately reported \$194,284 in fringe benefit costs on its Federal Financial Report; 2) WMATA did not disclose more than \$4.7 million in grant-related expenditures in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 as required by Federal regulations; and 3) WMATA did not manage all grant-funded equipment inventory according to Federal regulations.

What We Recommend

We recommend that the Assistant Administrator, Grant Program Directorate:

1. Require WMATA to develop sufficient procedures to ensure that expenditures are accurately reported on its Federal Financial Report;
2. Verify the implementation of WMATA's corrective action in response to the material weakness identified in the 2012 single audit report; and
3. Require WMATA to develop procedures for safeguarding assets procured with Recovery Act grant funds.

For Further Information:

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