Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

January 2013 OIG-13-33

Why This Matters

Public Law 110-53, Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007, requires the Department of Homeland Security, Office of Inspector General, to audit individual states' management of State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grants.

The Federal Emergency
Management Agency (FEMA)
awarded the State of Wisconsin \$43
million in SHSP and UASI grant
funds during fiscal years 2008
through 2010. It is paramount that
these funds are used in accordance
with Federal grant guidance and
regulations.

DHS Response

FEMA concurred with all five recommendations. The State of Wisconsin's State Administrative Agency (SAA) officials agreed with four recommendations and partially agreed with one.

FEMA will use the findings in the report to strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of how it executes and measures its programs. FEMA recognizes the need to continue to improve the process, including addressing the recommendations raised in the report.

For Further Information:

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

Wisconsin's Management of Homeland Security Program and Urban Areas Security Initiative Grants Awarded During FYs 08-10

What We Determined

In most cases, the SAA administered its grant programs in compliance with requirements in Federal grant guidance and regulations. However, we identified three areas for program improvement: the Urban Areas Security Initiative Homeland Security Strategy operational plan, subgrantee monitoring procedures, and review of grant adjustments.

What We Recommend

Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate for FEMA direct the SAA to:

- Update the 2010 UASI Homeland Security Strategy operational plan to include the goals and objectives of the FEMA-approved strategy and incorporate into it current plans for sustaining Milwaukee UASI operations.
- Perform timely and routine desk audits of Homeland Security Grant Program grants.
- Incorporate steps into the desk audits, in order to comply with 44 CFR 13.40, testing of grant financial controls and reporting requirements, procurement controls, and testing of grant expenditures, similar to the Office of Justice Assistance's supplemental audit guidance.
- Require the Milwaukee UASI accurately accounts for equipment in a Grant Adjustment Notice for grant ID 6497.
- Require the Milwaukee UASI to inventory and report the Southeastern Wisconsin Anti-Terrorism Center equipment to the OJA.