

Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

April 2012 DS-12-09

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 said they require further analysis to clarify the costs in question. The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, Northern Region, Fairbanks, AK (Department) believe the costs in question were justified and reasonable, but did not provide sufficient documentation to satisfy the OIG concern.

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 (PA) grant funds awarded to the Department for FEMA Disaster Number 1669-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. However, we identified \$124,092 in ineligible engineering services that were not sufficiently documented.

What We Recommend

We recommend that the FEMA Region X Administrator, in coordination with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (Grantee), disallow \$124,092 (federal share \$93,069) in ineligible engineering services.

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 recommendation.