Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

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Why This Matters

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides public assistance to state, tribal, and local governments, and certain types of private nonprofit organizations so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. We perform audits of FEMA grantees and subgrantees to determine whether costs claimed under the awards are eligible and allowable under federal regulations and FEMA guidelines. The City of Orlando, Florida, (City) received an award of \$17.1 million for damages resulting from Hurricane Charley that occurred in August 2004.

DHS Response

FEMA's written response is due within 90 days.

FEMA Public Assistance Grant Funds Awarded to City of Orlando, Florida - Hurricane Charley

What We Determined

The City accounted for project expenditures on a project-by-project basis as required by federal regulation. However, the City's claim included \$809,052 of costs that were covered by insurance.

What We Recommend

We recommend that the Regional Administrator, FEMA Region IV, disallow the \$809,052 (federal share \$728,147) of ineligible costs for losses covered by insurance.

For Further Information:

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