



Why This Matters

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides public assistance to state, tribal, and local government, 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. Bibb County, Georgia, (County) received an award of \$3.0 million for emergency work resulting from severe thunder storms and strong tornado winds, which occurred in 2008.

DHS Response

FEMA's written response is due within 90 days.

FEMA Should Recover \$34,219 from a \$3.0 Million Public Assistance Grant Awarded to Bibb County, Georgia

What We Determined

Although the County accounted for FEMA projects on a project-by-project basis as required, we determined that the County claimed \$22,309 of costs for equipment use that was not adequately supported. In addition, the County's claim included \$11,910 of project income received from the sale of mulch that was not used to reduce project costs.

What We Recommend

We recommend that the Regional Administrator, FEMA Region IV:

1. Disallow \$22,309 (Federal share \$16,732) of unsupported project costs unless the County can provide additional evidence to support the costs.
2. Disallow \$11,910 of ineligible project income.

For Further Information:

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