Spotlight
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Inspector General
December 2013 OIG-14-24-D

The Town of San Anselmo, California, Generally Followed Regulations for Spending FEMA Public Assistance Funds

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 DHS. The OIG examines, evaluates and, where necessary, critiques these operations and activities, recommending ways for DHS to carry out its responsibilities in the most effective, efficient, and economical manner possible.

DHS Response

Within 90 days of the date of the grant audit 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 each recommendation.

What We Determined

The Town of San Anselmo, California (Town), generally followed regulations for spending Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) grant funds, PA Identification Number 041-64434-00.

Our audit objective was to determine whether the Town accounted for and expended FEMA's grant funds according to Federal regulations and FEMA guidelines. The Town generally followed regulations for spending FEMA Public Assistance funds for the six projects we reviewed in this phase of the audit (five large and one small), under disaster number 1628-DR-CA. Of the $1,431,486 the Town claimed for these projects, $26,100 was ineligible. Additionally, based on the results of both phases of this audit, the State should have performed a more thorough review of costs the Town claimed.

What We Recommend

We recommended that the FEMA Region IX Administrator (1) disallow $26,100 (Federal share $19,575) of ineligible charges to Projects 3627 and 3739, and (2) reemphasize to the State its grantee responsibilities and the need to provide FEMA better assurance on the eligibility of costs that subgrantees claim.

For Further Information:
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