



### 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 Commonwealth of Massachusetts \$122 million in SHSP and UASI funds during fiscal years 2008 through 2011.

### DHS Response

FEMA concurred with eight recommendations and nonconcurred with the remaining three recommendations. The Executive Office of Public Safety and Security for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (State Administrative Agency) officials also generally agreed with the same eight recommendations. FEMA proposed corrective actions for eight recommendations that meet the intent of the recommendations, and will use the report to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of how it executes and measures its programs.

### For Further Information:

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

## Massachusetts' Management of Homeland Security Grant Program Awards For Fiscal Years 2008 Through 2011

### What We Determined

In most instances, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts distributed and spent the awards in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. However, the Commonwealth needs to update and improve its Homeland Security Strategies, develop a performance measurement system to assess preparedness, obligate grant funds within required time limits, and strengthen onsite monitoring of subgrantees to ensure their compliance with Federal procurement and property management requirements. We identified more than \$4 million in questioned costs, primarily resulting from the Commonwealth exceeding the limitations on management and administration expenses in fiscal years 2008 through 2011.

### What We Recommend

Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate for FEMA, require the Director of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to:

- Along with the Urban Area Working Group, ensure that the Homeland Security Strategies are updated and include objectives that are in compliance with the Homeland Security Guidance.
- Ensure that the Commonwealth develops interim performance measures.
- Ensure that the Commonwealth assess and streamline the current process and procedures for obligating funds to subgrantees so that funds are obligated within a reasonable period.
- Require the Commonwealth to return funds that exceeded the statutory limits for management and administrative expenses.
- Require the Commonwealth to notify all entities awarded Homeland Security Grant Program funds of the requirement to use and follow Federal, State, and local procurement policies and standards as required for purchasing or acquiring equipment and services.
- Require the Commonwealth to revise and update the site visit protocol to ensure that it includes a review of subgrantee compliance with Federal procurement requirements.
- Require the Commonwealth to perform more equipment spot checks to ensure that subgrantees develop and sustain a property management system that meets Federal requirements.