

Spotlight

Department of Homeland Security



Office of Inspector General

November 2013 OIG-14-06

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' and Territories' management of State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) and Urban Areas Security Initiative (UASI) grants. This report responds to the reporting requirement for the Territory of Guam (Territory).

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded the Territory more than \$4 million in SHSP funds during fiscal years 2009 through 2011.

DHS Response

FEMA concurred with all 10 recommendations, and is taking or planning to take corrective actions to implement the recommendations.

For Further Information:

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

Guam's Management of Homeland Security Grant Program Awards for Fiscal Years 2009 Through 2011

What We Determined

In most instances, the Territory spent grant funds in accordance with applicable Federal laws and regulations. However, we identified several areas in which FEMA and the Territory can improve its management of State Homeland Security Program grants. Specifically, the Territory needs to revise its State Homeland Security Strategy to include measurable objectives with realistic target dates for completion, perform periodic assessments of improved preparedness, retain documentation for its vulnerability assessments, and improve its subgrant management. As a result, the Territory could not fully assess whether State Homeland Security Program funding enhanced its preparedness and security.

What We Recommend

FEMA Assistant Administrator, Grant Programs Directorate, require the Homeland Security and Emergency Management office to:

- Develop and implement procedures to regularly evaluate, assess, and update the State Homeland Security Strategy, to include current goals and objectives that are specific, measurable, and time-limited to serve as the baseline to measure improved preparedness.
- Routinely gather quantitative and qualitative performance data to determine if it has accomplished its domestic preparedness goals and objectives.
- Retain sources of information and documentation used to develop and compile threat and hazard information.
- Develop policies, procedures, and controls to ensure timely submission of all required financial and progress reports, and obtain training on the reporting and submission process and deadlines.
- Assess the administrative subgrantee obligation approval process to determine areas for increased efficiencies.
- Develop, document, and implement a system for monitoring and assessing subgrantee performance, including regular site visits of subgrantees that address programmatic and financial performance.