



Why This Matters

Each year, issues related to information technology (IT) control deficiencies are identified at the component level during the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) annual financial statement audit. Although Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) took corrective action to address its prior year IT control deficiencies, issues continued to be identified that impact financial data. Collectively these deficiencies negatively impact the internal controls over financial reporting and its operation, and are considered to contribute to a material weakness at the Department level.

IT Management Letter for the FEMA component of the FY 2013 DHS Financial Statement Audit

What We Determined

The Office of Inspector General contracted with the independent public accounting firm KPMG LLP (KPMG) to audit the DHS fiscal year (FY) 2013 consolidated financial statement. During FY 2013, FEMA took corrective action to address certain prior year IT control deficiencies. For example, FEMA made improvement over designing and implementing certain configuration management and security authorization controls over FEMA information systems, as well as strengthening and improving controls around vulnerability management and logical access controls. However, during FY 2013, KPMG continued to identify general IT control deficiencies related to controls over security management, access controls, configuration management, segregation of duties, and contingency planning for FEMA core financial and feeder systems and associated General Support System. Collectively, the IT control deficiencies limited FEMA's ability to ensure that critical financial and operational data were maintained in such a manner to ensure confidentiality, integrity, and availability.

For Further Information:

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