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**DHS-OIG's Fiscal Year 2014 Disaster-Related Reports Represent
\$1 Billion in Potential Monetary Savings**

In Fiscal Year 2014, Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General (OIG) disaster-related audits revealed significant issues representing approximately \$1 billion of Federal funds allocated for disaster assistance and recovery efforts. These findings are summarized in the OIG's sixth annual "capping" report, released today.

In FY 2014, the OIG issued 61 audits of grants, programs, and operations funded from FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund. The grant audit reports issued in FY 2014 included \$971.7 million in potential monetary benefits, representing 28 percent of the \$3.44 billion of grant funds DHS OIG audited last fiscal year. The OIG continues to find problems with grant management, ineligible and unsupported costs, and noncompliance with Federal contracting requirements. A significant issue for FY 2014 grant audits was unused funding that could be put to better use.

Twelve of the OIG's disaster-related reports issued in FY 2014 did not relate to specific grants. These 12 audits contained 19 recommendations for improving FEMA programs or operations and for recouping a \$29.3 million debt a state owed to FEMA. The OIG's program-related audit reports illustrated that, overall, FEMA responded proactively and overcame a variety of challenges while it effectively coordinated activities with other Federal agencies and state and local governments. However, the OIG identified issues and areas for FEMA to improve.

"This summary report provides a starting point for FEMA officials to examine policies and procedures, spot trends, and assess the need for changes based on the recurring nature of our findings," said DHS Inspector General John Roth. "Although, by necessity, our reports focus on problems, we also recognize the exceptional work that FEMA and state and local emergency management officials continue to perform in responding to and recovering from disasters."