

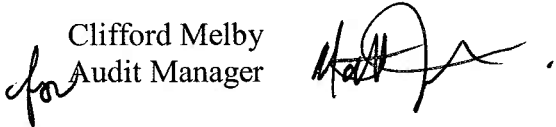
U.S. Department of Homeland
Security
3003 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30341



**Homeland
Security**

February 22, 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR: Nick Russo
Federal Coordinating Officer
Joint Field Office, Jackson, Mississippi

FROM: Clifford Melby 
Audit Manager

SUBJECT: Review of FEMA Contracts Awarded by Contracting Officers
at the Biloxi, MS Area Field Office
Report Number GC-MS-06-15

The purpose of this memorandum is to inform you of the results of our review of contracts awarded by FEMA contracting officials at the Biloxi, MS Area Field Office (AFO). The objective of our review was to determine whether the FEMA Contracting Officers complied with Title 48 of the Federal Code of Regulations, also known as the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), in the selection of contractors for government services and products.

As of October 20, 2005, FEMA Contracting Officers at the AFO awarded 50 contracts totaling \$4.7 million. We reviewed nine contracts, totaling \$4 million (see Exhibit). Our efforts included a review of information in the official contract files, interview of FEMA contracting officials, and other review procedures deemed necessary.

We determined that FEMA officials at the AFO complied with the FAR. Since this report contains no recommendations, a response is not required. Auditor Mary Stoneham performed this review.

The nature and brevity of this assignment precluded the use of our normal audit protocols. Therefore, this review was not conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. Had we followed such standards, other matters may have come to our attention.

We conducted this review in conjunction with the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) as part of its examination of relief efforts provided by the Federal Government in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. As such, we have forwarded a copy of the

report to the PCIE Homeland Security Working Group, which is coordinating Inspectors General review of this important subject.

Should you have questions concerning this report, please call Gary Barard, Gulf Coast Audit Coordinator, at (770) 220-5228.

Cc: Director, FEMA Region IV
Mississippi State Coordinating Officer

List of Biloxi, MS AFO Contracts Reviewed

<u>Contract Number</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
HSFE04-05-P-5095	Bi-lingual--English/Vietnamese translators for processing request for assistance	\$ 195,000
HSFE 04-05-P-5098	GIS Custom Maps, personnel/equipment, IT support	\$ 192,000
HSFE 04-05-P-5099	Rental of trailer pads	\$ 115,200
HSFE04-05-F-5030	Temporary employees for AFO	\$ 1,828,345
HSFE04-05-P-5031	Shirts/Jackets/Caps	\$ 159,000
HSFE04-05-P-5043	Service Pump & Compressor	\$139,030
HSFE04-05-P-5045	Shirts/Jackets/Caps	\$267,493
HSFE04-05-F-5177	500 Privacy Tents, 360 Porta Quick Emergency Pack, 900 900 Brief relief daily restroom kits	\$ 406,000
HSFE04-05-P-5180	Temporary employees for AFO	\$ 300,000
Total Reviewed		\$ 3,979,015