

Department of Homeland Security **Office of Inspector General**

Delaware's Management of State Homeland Security Program Grants Awarded During Fiscal Years 2010 Through 2012






OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
Department of Homeland Security

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Brian E. Kamoie
Assistant Administrator
Grant Programs Directorate
Federal Emergency Management Agency

FROM: Mark Bell 
Acting Assistant Inspector General for Audits

SUBJECT: *Delaware's Management of State Homeland Security
Program Grants Awarded During Fiscal Years 2010
Through 2012*

Attached for your information is our final letter report, *Delaware's Management of State Homeland Security Program Grants Awarded During Fiscal Years 2010 Through 2012*. The report contains no recommendations.

Consistent with our responsibility under the *Inspector General Act*, we will provide copies of our report to appropriate congressional committees with oversight and appropriation responsibility over the Department of Homeland Security. We will post the report on our website for public dissemination.

Major contributors to this report are Brooke Bebow, Director; Lisa Vonder Haar, Audit Manager; Duane Albert, Program Analyst; Elizabeth Kelleher, Program Analyst; Andre Marseille, Program Analyst; and John Kohler, Independent Referencer.

Please call me with any questions, or your staff may contact John E. McCoy II, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits, at (202) 254-4100.

Attachment



Background

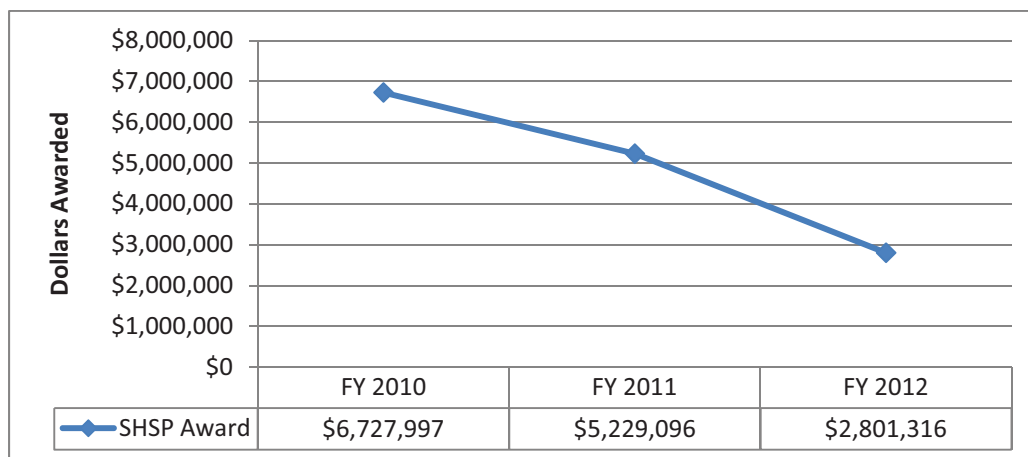
The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provides Federal funding through the Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) to help State and local agencies enhance capabilities to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks and other disasters. Within DHS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is responsible for administering the HSGP. The HSGP includes the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP), which funds preparedness needs such as planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercises. Appendix B contains more information about the HSGP.

Public Law 110-53, *Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007*, as amended, requires the DHS Office of Inspector General (OIG) to audit individual States' management of SHSP and Urban Areas Security Initiative grants. This report responds to the reporting requirement for the State of Delaware. Appendix A contains details on the objective, scope, and methodology of this audit.

HSGP guidance requires a State Administrative Agency to administer and manage grant funding awarded under the HSGP. The State Administrative Agency also allocates funds to local, regional, and other government entities. The Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA) serves as Delaware's State Administrative Agency. Delaware is identified as one jurisdiction for security and emergency management purposes.

During fiscal years (FY) 2010 through 2012, FEMA awarded the State of Delaware approximately \$14.8 million in SHSP funds as shown in figure 1.

Figure 1. Delaware SHSP Funding Levels, FYs 2010 Through 2012



Source: DHS OIG analysis based on FEMA data



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The objectives of this audit were to determine whether Delaware distributed, administered, and spent SHSP grant funds strategically, effectively, and in compliance with laws, regulations, and guidance. We also addressed the extent to which grant funds enhanced Delaware's ability to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other manmade disasters.

Results of Audit

Delaware distributed, administered, and spent SHSP grant funds strategically, effectively, and in compliance with laws, regulations, and guidance. SHSP funds appeared to enhance Delaware's ability to prevent, prepare for, protect against, and respond to natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other manmade disasters. Delaware developed a *State Homeland Security Strategy*, which incorporated the five mission areas from the DHS *National Preparedness Guidelines*. As required by FEMA, it conducted a Threat Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment in 2012 and used the results to inform its State Preparedness Report. DEMA has sufficient internal controls over grant funds.

Local government officials have demonstrated a willingness to work together to improve the ability of various agencies to respond during an emergency. Delaware's agencies have prioritized interoperability in communications for efficiency and enhanced response capabilities. They have also consolidated program needs to leverage SHSP funds and share resources obtained through the grant program. These efforts demonstrate Delaware's effective use of grant funding and overall successful program administration.



Appendix A

Objectives, Scope, and Methodology

The DHS OIG was established by the *Homeland Security Act of 2002* (Public Law 107-296) by amendment to the *Inspector General Act of 1978*. This is one of a series of audit, inspection, and special reports prepared as part of our oversight responsibilities to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness within the Department.

The HSGP encompasses several interrelated Federal grant programs as described in appendix B. However, we only reviewed the SHSP funding of equipment and programs for compliance during this audit. Our scope included \$14,758,409 in SHSP grants awarded for FYs 2010 through 2012. Delaware does not have a FEMA-designated Urban Area; therefore, it did not receive any Urban Areas Security Initiative grant funds during this period. Our audit methodology included work at DEMA. We also visited four State agencies that received equipment purchased with SHSP funding.

To achieve our audit objectives, we analyzed data, reviewed documentation, verified equipment (onsite and remotely), and interviewed State officials involved in the management and administration of the SHSP grant. We reviewed the plans developed by the State to improve preparedness and respond to hazards.

We judgmentally selected and reviewed grant expenditure files representing \$3.6 million (48 percent) of FYs 2010 through 2012 SHSP funds that had been spent at the time of our audit. The sample represents 39 of the 159 agencies that received SHSP funding through DEMA in FYs 2010 through 2012 at the time of our audit.

We relied on computer-processed data provided by FEMA and DEMA for information on grant funds awarded and draw downs from FYs 2010 through 2012. We conducted limited tests on this data and compared it with source documentation to ensure that the data were sufficiently reliable to be used in meeting our audit objective.

We conducted this performance audit between February and November 2013 pursuant to the *Inspector General Act of 1978*, as amended, and according to generally accepted government auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain sufficient, appropriate evidence to provide a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based upon our audit objectives. We believe that the evidence obtained provides a reasonable basis for our findings and conclusions based upon our audit objectives.



Appendix B

Homeland Security Grant Program Overview

State Homeland Security Program

SHSP supports the implementation of State Homeland Security Strategies to address the identified planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism and other catastrophic events.

Urban Areas Security Initiative Program

Urban Areas Security Initiative program funds address the unique planning, organization, equipment, training, and exercise needs of high-threat, high-density Urban Areas, and assists them in building an enhanced and sustainable capacity to prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from acts of terrorism.

Operation Stonegarden

Operation Stonegarden funds are intended to enhance cooperation and coordination among local, tribal, territorial, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies in a joint mission to secure the United States borders along routes of ingress from international borders to include travel corridors in States bordering Mexico and Canada, as well as States and territories with international water borders.

Metropolitan Medical Response System Program

The Metropolitan Medical Response System program supports the integration of emergency management, health, and medical systems into a coordinated response to mass casualty incidents caused by any hazard. Successful Metropolitan Medical Response System grantees reduce the consequences of a mass casualty incident during the initial period of a response by having augmented existing local operational response systems before an incident occurs.

Citizen Corps Program

The Citizen Corps mission is to bring community and government leaders together to coordinate the involvement of community members and organizations in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery.

Note: The Metropolitan Medical Response System and Citizen Corps Programs are no longer funded as discrete grant programs beginning with the FY 2012 HSGP.



Appendix C

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The OIG seeks to protect the identity of each writer and caller.