



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of Inspector General

Washington, D.C. 20230

October 1, 2008

Ms. Tina Owens
Administration Division Leader
Arkansas Department of Emergency Management
Building # 9501
Camp Joseph T. Robinson
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72199-9600

Dear Ms. Owens:

The Department of Commerce Office of Inspector General is initiating an audit of the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant awarded to your agency by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. This audit is required by Public Law 110-53—Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007.

The objective of our audit is to determine whether your agency's use of these grant funds meets all federal requirements. In particular, we will assess whether (1) you have met the 20 percent match for acquiring and deploying interoperable communications equipment, and (2) claimed reasonable and allowable costs under the award. We will also examine whether your agency and its subgrantees have complied with applicable federal laws, regulations, and grant terms and conditions.

As a first step in our audit, we have scheduled a meeting with you for Wednesday, October 15, at which time we will discuss these objectives fully.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about the audit, please contact John S. Bunting, our Denver regional inspector general for audits, at (303) 312-7663 or me at (202) 482-5643.

Sincerely,

Judith J. Gordon
Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation

cc: Milton Brown, NTIA Audit Liaison
Kathy Smith, NTIA Chief Counsel
Laura M. Pettus, PSIC Program Manager
Richard L. Skinner, DHS Inspector General
Bradley A. Shefka, DHS Audit Liaison
Gina Norton, FEMA Audit Liaison
Joshua Burleigh, DHS Office of Inspector General, Office of Audits
Scott Kelberg, FEMA Division Director, Grants Management
Carolyn P. Dunn, FEMA Grant Development and Administration
Mildred Lloyd, Audit Liaison, Grant Programs Directorate, DHS/FEMA
Roger Norman, Arkansas State Auditor