



Homeland Security

NOV 10 2005

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Pursuant to Public Law 109-62 and Public Law 109-90, attached is a report, prepared by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which details obligations and allocations for the Disaster Relief Fund (DRF) and provides additional information on contracting, status of housing of disaster victims, and claims for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). FEMA is responsible for administering the Federal Government's disaster assistance programs. Through the DRF, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) provides a significant portion of the total Federal response to victims in Presidentially-declared major disasters and emergencies.

The attached report includes data through November 9, 2005. This week, our report does not include the following information that was required by the Congress: (1) credit card obligations by agencies other than FEMA; and (2) obligations, allocations, and expenditures for New Orleans by purpose and mission assignment. The Department is resolute in providing all required documents, however, due to limits in current system configuration and data collection, we are not able to provide this data in this report. We are pursuing options to accurately collect and transmit all information requested by Congress in a timely manner. With respect to item (1), Federal agencies have been directed to submit this data to FEMA on a weekly basis. The information will be contained in future weekly reports.

In response to the Congressional reporting requirement on waivers, FEMA reports that they have not granted any to date.

Further, with respect to contracting actions, the Department publishes extensive contracting information weekly on its website related to Hurricane Katrina. This report also satisfies the reporting requirements on contracting outlined in Public Law 109-90. This information may be found at:

http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/interapp/editorial/editorial_0729.xml.

The Department appreciates your interest in DHS programs and your support of assistance for victims of Hurricane Katrina and other disasters. If I can be of assistance on this or other matters, please contact me on (202) 205-4613.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Hale".

Janet Hale
Under Secretary for Management

Enclosures