



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Department of Homeland Security

Washington, DC 20528 / www.oig.dhs.gov

September 20, 2018

Distinguished Members of Congress

(See enclosed list)

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Requesting Members of Congress:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting that we add a review of debris removal issues following Hurricane Irma to our ongoing audits of Hurricane Irma recovery issues. Specifically, your letter requests we review reported incidents in Monroe County, Florida, alleging that existing debris removal contracts were replaced with contracts that charged higher rates.

We currently have two ongoing reviews related to your request. The first is a review regarding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) oversight of debris removal operations for Hurricane Irma in Georgia and Florida. Second, we are reviewing FEMA's program implementation in response to Hurricane Irma, including pre-disaster debris removal contracts. We believe that this work will address many of the concerns raised in your letter. We also intend to initiate an audit regarding the specific issues you have raised with respect to the contracts in Monroe County.

We look forward to briefing you on the results of our reviews once they are complete. Should you have any questions, please contact me, or your staff may contact Faiza Mathon-Mathieu, Office of Legislative Affairs, at (202) 981-6000.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "John V. Kelly", is positioned above the typed name.

John V. Kelly

Senior Official Performing the Duties of the
Inspector General

Enclosure



OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
Department of Homeland Security

September 20, 2018

Letter to the Requesting Members of Congress:

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz
The Honorable Alcee L. Hastings
The Honorable Kathy Castor
The Honorable Ted Deutch
The Honorable Frederica S. Wilson
The Honorable Lois Frankel
The Honorable Charlie Crist
The Honorable Val Butler Demings
The Honorable Al Lawson, Jr.
The Honorable Stephanie Murphy
The Honorable Darren Soto