

*"Taken from House Report 107-298
FY 2002 Defense Appropriations - FEMA Emergency Supplemental section..."*

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DISASTER RELIEF

The Committee recommends \$4,900,000,000 in Disaster relief to fund additional disaster relief efforts in New Jersey, New York and Virginia in response to the September 11, 2001 attacks. Funds are to help individual victims, remove debris from the World Trade Center site, and assist with rebuilding critical infrastructure. The amount provided includes funding for expenses related to traffic control and detours in New York City and for the repair and reconstruction of non-Federal-aid-eligible highways destroyed or damaged by the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings.

The Committee recognizes that many ambulance service providers, at the request of local, state and Federal officials, responded to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Many ambulance providers traveled long distances to respond. Due to the sudden, horrific and enormous nature of the events of September 11, 2001 many of these providers did not have contracts

or other formal arrangements in place for services, but responded based on the direct verbal requests of local, state or Federal government officials. These ambulance providers incurred many costs, including personnel and overtime costs, fuel and travel expenses, and damaged and destroyed emergency vehicles and life saving equipment. Ambulance providers are critical local health and safety community resources. These additional costs and the potential loss of revenue diminish the providers' ability to serve their communities, hospitals and other health care facilities and patients. The Committee urges FEMA and state and local governments receiving Federal emergency assistance to reimburse fully and expeditiously these ambulance service providers.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE

The Committee recommends \$35,000,000 for Emergency management planning and assistance, of which not less than \$10,000,000 is to be used for enhancement of FEMA's ability to support the 2002 Winter Olympics. The Committee has not included the budget request of \$550,000,000 for a grant program for first responder training and equipment within FEMA. The Committee notes that a grant

program for first responders already exists within the Department of Justice and does not feel it is appropriate to duplicate that effort with a new FEMA program.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The Committee recommends \$30,000,000 for Salaries and expenses, of which not less than \$10,000,000 is to be used to enhance the capabilities of the National Security Division. The Committee remains concerned that neither FEMA nor the Office of Management and Budget has been able or willing to provide information regarding FEMA's role in Homeland Security or the status of the Office of National Preparedness and how this office will work with the established National Domestic Preparedness Office. Until the Committee is fully informed, it will continue to deny funding requests for the Office of National Preparedness.