

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

July 16, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
300 7th St SW
Washington, DC 20024

The Honorable David Richardson
Senior Official Performing the Duties of
FEMA Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C St SW
Washington, DC 20024

RE: Frozen Public Safety Grants

Secretary Noem and Mr. Richardson:

We write to request further information regarding the ongoing delay on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) for critical public safety programs, including the Emergency Management Performance Grant program (EMPG), the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) and State Homeland Security Program (SHSP). These are significant public safety grants for cities and states across the country. Urban, suburban, and rural jurisdictions are greatly assisted every year by this grant funding.

The Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Continuing Resolution (P.L.119-4) includes a 60-day deadline for the release of NOFOs for the authorized and funded grant programs. To date, no FEMA programs have been noticed. Furthermore, we have heard from constituent public safety and emergency management agencies that they anticipate no NOFOs being released for FY25.

Programs like the Emergency Management Performance Grant program, Urban Area Security Initiative grant, and State Homeland Security Program grant address public safety and disaster preparedness initiatives in communities across the State of Ohio and every other state in the country. EMPG supports state and local level emergency management programs, UASI supports community emergency response and cybersecurity programs, while SHSP augments law enforcement and first responder capabilities during emergencies. For example, Ohio's fusion centers – particularly those that serve Cincinnati and surrounding, less populated counties – enhance cooperation and intelligence sharing among various law enforcement agencies and receive critical support from these FEMA programs that keep all Southwest Ohioans, and all Americans, safe.

These delays in the FY25 grant process will significantly delay the disbursement of these critical funds. Therefore, we request information and/or a response on the following:

- 1) Why have NOFOs for FY25 grants not been released despite the 60-day deadline?

- 2) Is there a specific executive order or OMB directive precluding disbursement of these funds? If so, what is being done to remedy the issue and when can applicants expect to receive funding again?

We appreciate all relevant context and information that the department can provide on this issue. Without these funds, urban, suburban, and rural communities in all 50 states may be significantly less prepared for natural disasters, preventing violent attacks, and responding to emergency situations in a timely manner. As such, we respectfully urge you to release FY25 NOFOs.

Sincerely,



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress



Warren Davidson
Member of Congress