



441 G St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20548

May 6, 2019

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter, jointly signed by Senator Elizabeth Warren, requesting that the Government Accountability Office review federal disaster relief programs to determine the extent to which the structure and administration of those programs exacerbate racial and socioeconomic inequities in the U.S., and the extent to which they have a disparate impact on Native tribal nations.

GAO accepts your request as work that is within the scope of its authority. At the current time we anticipate that staff with the required skills will be available to initiate an engagement in about five months. Your request has been assigned to Mr. Charles M. Johnson, Jr., Managing Director, Homeland Security and Justice. Closer to the time GAO can start this engagement, Mr. Johnson or a member of his team will contact your office to confirm that this request continues to be your priority for us. As applicable, we will also be in contact with the cognizant Inspector General's office to ensure that we are not duplicating efforts. If an issue arises during this coordination, we will consult with you regarding its resolution.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Johnson at 202-512-7331 or johnsoncm@gao.gov, or Mr. Chuck Wilson, Assistant Director, Congressional Relations on my staff at 202-512-6891 or WilsonCE@gao.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Orice Williams Brown".

Orice Williams Brown
Managing Director
Congressional Relations

cc: Lauren McClain

Ref: CCAR 19-0722



441 G St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20548

May 6, 2019

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter, jointly signed by Chairman Bennie G. Thompson, House Committee on Homeland Security, requesting that the Government Accountability Office review federal disaster relief programs to determine the extent to which the structure and administration of those programs exacerbate racial and socioeconomic inequities in the U.S., and the extent to which they have a disparate impact on Native tribal nations.

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Orice Williams Brown
Managing Director
Congressional Relations

cc: Susannah Savage

Ref: CCAR 19-0722