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They Said It: Obama Administration: "I Am Confident That We Are Monitoring This Money Closely."

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Thursday, January 30, 2014

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Transcript

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Shaun Donovan says he is confident in the oversight measures in place to monitor Superstorm Sandy recovery funds and highlights the fact that Sandy "money is moving faster than in any prior major disaster."

Secretary Donovan: Well, first of all, we just talked about the tragedy of homelessness. Sandy was a tragedy of a scale—I'm a New Yorker—that I have never seen. And, by definition, money can never get to families fast enough to repair that damage. And so, are there things that could move faster? Absolutely right. But, if you look at overall, this money is moving faster than in any prior major disaster, and also remember the CDBG money is really the last resort for families...Who haven't been able to get help...They get immediate money from FEMA...They get money from their insurance programs, and this is the last step. So, it's not unusual that we would have folks a year after the storm who are still rebuilding. Remember, these are the folks whose homes were devastated the worst and where we knew the rebuilding process would be a long one. So, what I will tell you is, could it be going faster? Yes. Are we doing everything we can to cut red tape? Absolutely. But I am confident that we are monitoring this money closely.

Watch the full clip here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3vUu8Qy5aAk

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