In response to a congressional request, GAO addressed allegations by a Department of the Interior employee regarding the restoration of the Statue of Liberty, specifically:

1. whether the project is meeting its goals for fundraising and restoration
2. how the project operates
3. federal oversight of the project.

GAO found that:

1. as of March 1986, the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation was short of its fundraising goal by only $18 million
2. restoration of the statue is nearing completion and the main building on Ellis Island should be completed in 1988
3. contrary to Interior's original plans, the Foundation took over the actual fundraising and contracting for the restoration
4. Interior failed to properly manage the project in the first few years but had no significant problems
5. Interior reviewed promotional materials used in fundraising and conducted periodic reviews of financial and operational reports.