



**New Jersey State Legislature
Office of Legislative Services
Office of the State Auditor**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS
July 1, 2013 to October 30, 2015**

We found that the financial transactions included in our testing were related to the office's programs, were reasonable, and were recorded properly in the accounting systems. We also found effective compliance of sub-grantee monitoring and adequate information technology general controls pertaining to the office's significant IT systems. In making these determinations, we noted certain control weaknesses regarding a professional service contract, sub-grantee compliance with grant agreements, and information technology general controls meriting management's attention. We also made an observation concerning the Critical Infrastructure Protection Bureau.

AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2012, New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP) management determined the need for a new system to replace their old Grant Tracking System which was created in 2005. The state's Office of Information Technology approved the one-year project for June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013 for \$396,000 or 3,650 hours. However, the agreement did not clearly define the scope of the project, associated costs, and delivery dates. After multiple extensions on the original purchase order, to finish the project by June 30, 2016, total costs and hours would be \$1,161,000 and 9,781, respectively.
- Operation Management System (OMS) is a web-based application that was created in 2007. The system is utilized by the Division of Intelligence. The four main modules in the application are for storing information relating to: intelligence, informant contacts, employee background checks, and information on sector specific businesses. Currently, there are 126 users of this system comprised of OHSP investigators and analysts, and 92 external users (guests) from the FBI, Coast Guard, State Police, and Port Authority, as well as OHSP's interns. Our review disclosed that the 92 guests erroneously had access to the intelligence module. Our review also disclosed that an OHSP intern that separated from OHSP in 2010 did not have their access privilege removed. Those access privileges were immediately removed upon our notification to OHSP management.
- The mission of the Critical Infrastructure Protection Bureau is to ensure the protection, preparedness, and resiliency of New Jersey Critical Infrastructure Key Resources (CIKR). One of its functions is to assess the physical security of qualified CIKR through site visits. Identified security gaps and recommendations are provided to the owners or operators of the facilities. However, since 2006, of the 773 CIKR only 101 Site Assessment Visits were performed. In addition, we were informed by OHSP that the office does not have the enforcing authority to require improvements or corrections on identified security gaps. However, New Jersey Statutes Annotated C.App.A:9-73 allows the Attorney General to institute action to preserve or protect the public safety or well-being. Sharing security gap issues may protect the CIKR.

AUDITEE RESPONSE

The OHSP generally concurs with our findings and recommendations.

For the complete audit report, click [here](#).