EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT OF LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF STATE POLICE

We found that the financial transactions included in our testing were related to the division’s programs, were reasonable, and were recorded properly in the accounting systems, although we found capital assets that were not properly recorded in the Department of the Treasury’s Land and Building Asset Management system. In making this determination, we noted several internal control weaknesses and inefficiencies. We also found noncompliance with firearms qualification and requalification standards. Additionally, we found the division has not resolved significant issues noted in our prior report. We also made observations concerning organizational inefficiencies and confidential vehicles.

AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS

• Every enlisted member must qualify with their issued firearms twice annually or relinquish their firearms. Our review found that 23 members did not complete a Fall 2013 qualification session and 56 members did not complete a Spring 2014 qualification session, yet retained possession of their issued firearms.

• The division could reduce payroll costs $500,000 annually by paying only cash for civilian employee overtime and not offering them compensatory time. The use of compensatory time results in less time at work for employees and additional overtime costs to cover the absences.

• Although the division has a Centralized Purchasing Unit (CPU) responsible for overseeing the procurement process, more than 200 division employees outside the CPU are ordering products and services directly from vendors. It would be more efficient to forward purchase requests to the CPU to procure all goods and services and reduce the number of transactions occurring that are not in compliance with state purchasing regulations.

• Our review of enlisted members that have overseen organizational units at various levels observed that almost half of the completed assignments (2,352 of 4,804) ended in less than one year. Short-term assignments make it difficult for enlisted personnel to gain the knowledge necessary to become proficient in the area they supervise. The lack of continuity in management also affects the productivity of employees when they must take a leadership role during the supervisor’s initial adjustment period, which takes time away from their regular duties.

AUDITEE RESPONSE

The division generally concurs with our findings, recommendations, and observations.

For the complete audit report or to print this Executive Summary, click here.