EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
STATE LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM

Our audit found that the financial transactions included in our testing were recorded properly in the accounting systems; however, we were unable to determine reasonableness and whether the expenditures were related to the Legal Services program.

AUDIT HIGHLIGHTS

- The grant agreements between the Department of the Treasury and Legal Services of New Jersey and its affiliates are structured in a manner that protects the confidentiality of their client’s identifying information. Without this, the department cannot independently verify the client’s financial information and eligibility. We recommended the department seek legislation that would enable it to restructure the grant agreement in a manner that requires clients to consent to the release of their identifying information for eligibility monitoring purposes only.

AUDITEE RESPONSE

The department generally agrees that independent eligibility determination would be an additional tool for program monitoring; however, it believes there may be legal obstacles to implementing our recommendation.

For the complete audit report, click here.