

## **2010-116 AUDIT SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES—Department of Mental Health, Sex Offender Commitment Program**

The audit by the Bureau of State Audits will provide independently developed and verified information related to sexually violent predator (SVP) laws and Department of Mental Health's (Mental Health) Sex Offender Commitment Program and would include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Review and evaluate the laws, rules, and regulations significant to the audit objectives.
2. Review the process the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the Board of Parole Hearings use in referring sex offenders to Mental Health for evaluation and recommendation for commitment into the Sex Offender Commitment Program.
3. Examine Mental Health's process of evaluating sex offenders for purposes of determining whether they qualify as SVPs. Determine whether Mental Health's process complies with laws and regulations and includes, at a minimum, the following:
  - (a) A review of all sex offenders CDCR and Board of Parole Hearings find likely to be an SVP.
  - (b) Face-to-face screenings of every sex offender CDCR and Board of Parole Hearings find likely to be an SVP.
4. Determine whether Mental Health staff conducts all the evaluations of SVPs or whether the evaluations are conducted by contractors. Examine the qualifications of staff or contractors who conduct the evaluations and determine if they are consistent with professional standards and laws and regulations.
5. If contractors conduct evaluations, determine when the practice began and whether it is allowable under state law.
6. Determine whether Mental Health complies with state law in reporting to the Legislature.
7. To determine the impact of Jessica's Law on the program, for each year since 2006, identify the number of inmates that CDCR and Board of Parole Hearings have referred to Mental Health for screening into the program. At a minimum, calculate the following:
  - (a) The number of inmates who received an in-person screening by Mental Health.
  - (b) The number of inmates who were screened by Mental Health by reviewing the inmate's file rather than receiving an in-person screening.
  - (c) The number of inmates that ultimately received a civil commitment into the program.
  - (d) The number of inmates who were released and re-offended.