



**OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS  
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE GRANTS  
AWARDED TO  
RESEARCH TRIANGLE INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL  
RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK, NORTH CAROLINA**

U.S. Department of Justice  
Office of the Inspector General  
Audit Division

Audit Report GR-40-10-002  
January 2010

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Office of the Inspector General, Audit Division, has completed an audit of Grant Numbers 2003-RE-CX-K101 and 2004-RE-CX-0002 awarded by the Office of Justice Programs (OJP), National Institute of Justice (NIJ), to Research Triangle Institute International (RTI International). RTI International provides research and technical expertise to governments and businesses in the areas of economic and social policy, energy, and the environment. The purpose of the grants was to design and perform a multi-site evaluation (the project) of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI).

The SVORI evaluation consisted of two phases. For the first phase, which began in May 2003, OJP awarded \$1,872,232, under Grant Number 2003-RE-CX-K101 to conduct a 1-year implementation assessment and design. For the second phase, which began in September 2004, OJP awarded \$10,127,061, under Grant Number 2004-RE-CX-0002 to conduct a 4-year impact assessment that compared offenders who did and did not receive reentry services in 14 selected sites. The second phase of the project also included an analysis of the costs and benefits of operating a reentry program and a report on the success of the SVORI program.

The purpose of this audit was to determine whether reimbursements claimed for costs incurred under the grants were allowable, supported, and in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, guidelines, and terms and conditions of the grants; and the grantee accomplished the goals outlined in the grant applications. We tested compliance with essential grant conditions pertaining to drawdowns, budget management and control, expenditures, reporting, sub-contractor monitoring, and accomplishments.

We examined the RTI International's accounting records, financial and progress reports, operating policies and procedures and assessed its progress at meeting the objectives of the grants and found that RTI International:

- transferred \$529,658 between approved budget categories without advance written approval from OJP;
- did not adequately monitor its sub-grantee; and
- submitted late to the NIJ its draft reports on the evaluation of the SVORI.

These concerns are discussed in detail in the Findings and Recommendations section of the report. Our audit objectives, scope, and methodology appear in Appendix I.