

October 15, 2025

To the Board of Commissioners First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission Riverside, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the First 5 Riverside County Children and Families Commission (Commission), a component unit of the County of Riverside, California as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated October 15, 2025. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards and our Compliance Audit under the State of California's Standards and Procedures for Audits of California Counties Participating in the California Children and Families Programs

As communicated in our letter dated June 11, 2025 our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and to express an opinion on whether the Commission complied with the compliance requirements described in the State of California's *Standards and Procedures for Audits of California Counties Participating in the California Children and Families Programs*. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of the system of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the system of internal control of the Commission solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards as it relates to the audit of the Commission's compliance with the State of California's *Standards and Procedures for Audits of California Counties Participating in the California Children and Families Programs*, is to express an opinion on compliance based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. An audit of compliance includes consideration of internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the State of California's *Standards and Procedures for Audits of California Counties Participating in the California Children and Families Programs*, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, as a part of our compliance audit, we considered internal control over compliance for these purposes and not to provide any assurance on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over compliance.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

We have provided our comments regarding internal controls during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* dated October 15, 2025. We have also provided our comments regarding compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above and internal controls over compliance during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on State Compliance and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance dated October 15, 2025.

# **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

# **Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence**

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and other firms utilized in the engagement, if applicable, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

# **Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices**

# Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Commission are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As discussed in Note 13 to the financial statements, the Commission has changed accounting policies related to accounting for compensated absences to adopt the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 101, Compensated Absences. Accordingly, the accounting change has been retrospectively applied to the financial statements beginning July 1, 2024. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

### Accounting Estimates and Related Disclosures

Accounting estimates and related disclosures are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are amounts related to the net pension liability, related deferred inflows of resources and deferred outflows of resources, pension expense, and disclosures, which are based on actuarial valuations and a proportionate share of the collective net pension liability of the County of Riverside's miscellaneous agent employer plan. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimates and determined that they are reasonable in relation of the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

#### Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the Commission's financial statements relate to:

The disclosure of the Commission's defined benefit pension plan, net pension liability and related deferred inflows of resources and deferred outflows of resources in Note 10 to the financial statements. The valuation of the net pension liability and related deferred outflows (inflows) of resources are sensitive to the underlying actuarial assumptions used including, but not limited to, the discount rate, and the Commission's proportionate share of the Plan's collective net pension liability. As disclosed in Note 10, a 1% increase or decrease in the discount rate has a significant effect on the Commission's net pension liability.

# Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

### **Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements**

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. Uncorrected misstatements or matters underlying those uncorrected misstatements could potentially cause future-period financial statements to be materially misstated, even though the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements currently under audit. There were no uncorrected or corrected missstatements identified as a result of our audit procedures.

#### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the Commission financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

## Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report

For purposes of this letter, professional standards require that we communicate any circumstances that affect the form and content of our auditor's report. As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, due to the adoption of GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*, the Commission restated opening balances as of July 1, 2024. The purpose of the paragraph is to draw attention to the disclosures for the adoption of the standards update. We have included an emphasis of matter in our report regarding this restatement. We did not modify our opinion related to this matter.

# **Representations Requested from Management**

We have requested certain written representations from management which are included in the management representation letter dated October 15, 2025.

# **Management's Consultations with Other Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

# Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with the Commission, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating and regulatory conditions affecting the entity, and operational plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Commission's auditors.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Commissioners, and management of the Commission and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Rancho Cucamonga, California

Esde Saelly LLP