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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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REGISTERED with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board and MEMBER of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants

# BROWN ARMSTRONG

Certified Public Accountants

To the Board of Commissioners of the Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission Modesto, California

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and general fund of the Stanislaus County Children and Families Commission (the Commission) for the year ended June 30, 2013. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and *Government Auditing Standards*, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated July 9, 2013. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

## Significant Audit Findings

### Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Commission are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. As described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Commission adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 60, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Service Concession Arrangements; No. 61, The Financial Reporting Entity: Omnibus - An Amendment of GASB Statements No. 14 and No. 34; No. 62, Codification of Accounting and Financial Reporting Guidance Contained in Pre-November 30, 1989 FASB and AICPA; No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position; No. 64, Derivative Instruments: Application of Hedge Accounting Termination Provisions - An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 53; and No. 66, Technical Corrections - 2012 - An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 10 and No. 62, during fiscal year 2013. We noted no transactions entered into by the Commission during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's 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 significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the Commission's financial statements was:

Management's estimate of the fund balance commitments, including approved contracts not yet executed and the budget reserve, is based on future contracts and possible provisions and changes on contracts and their payment schedules. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the fund balance commitments in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Certain financial statement disclosures are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no sensitive disclosures affecting the financial statements.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated September 18, 2013.

#### Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Commission's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Commission's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

#### Other Matters

With respect to the supplementary information accompanying the financial statements, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

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

> BROWN ARMSTRONG ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION

Brown Armstrong Accountancy Corporation

Bakersfield, California September 18, 2013