## COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

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## OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

## **ACCOUNTANTS' REVIEW REPORT**

To the Honorable Board of Supervisors and the County of Santa Barbara, California:

Pursuant to California Government Code §26920, we have reviewed the accompanying Statement of Assets (the Statement) of the Santa Barbara County Treasurer as of March 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of the management of the Santa Barbara County Treasurer. Our review also included the following procedures:

- (1) Counting the cash in the County Treasury and cash and investments held on behalf of the Treasurer's Office.
- (2) Verifying that the records of the County Treasury and Auditor-Controller are reconciled for cash and investment accounts.

A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The management of the Santa Barbara County Treasurer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the California Government Code §26920 as discussed in Note 1, and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

The accompanying Statement was prepared for the purpose of complying with the California Government Code §26920 as discussed in Note 1, and is not intended to be a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

As required by various statutes within the California Government Code, county auditor-controllers are mandated to perform certain accounting, auditing, and financial reporting functions. These activities, in themselves, impair independence standards. We believe that the following safeguards and division of responsibility exist to retain the audit organization's independence. The Santa Barbara County Auditor-Controller is directly elected by the voters of the jurisdiction. Also, the staff, having the responsibility to perform reviews, resides in a stand-alone

division of the Auditor-Controller's Office and has no other responsibility of the accounts and records being reviewed.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying Statement in order for it to be in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Robert W. Geis, CPA

April 25, 2012