



**BROWN ARMSTRONG PAULDEN**  
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**Certified Public Accountants**

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**REQUIRED COMMUNICATION TO THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

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To the Board of Retirement of  
Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association

We have audited the financial statements of the Fresno County Employees' Retirement Association (FCERA) for the year ended June 30, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated December 8, 2006. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

**Our Responsibility under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards**

Our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by us.

As part of our audit, we considered the internal controls of FCERA. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal controls.

**Significant Accounting Policies**

Management has the responsibility for selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by FCERA are described in the notes to the financial statements.

We noted no transactions entered into by FCERA during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, we are required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

**Accounting Estimates**

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 financial statements was the fair market value of investments.

Management's estimate of the fair market value of investments is derived by various methods as detailed in the notes to the financial statements. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the fair market value of investments in determining that they are reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

**Significant Audit Adjustments**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in our judgment, may not have been detected except through our auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on FCERA's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated). We did not propose audit adjustments that could in our judgment, either individually or in the aggregate, have a significant effect on FCERA's financial reporting process.

**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 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.

**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 FCERA'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.

**Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors**

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

**Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit**

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

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This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Retirement and management of FCERA and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited.

BROWN ARMSTRONG PAULDEN  
McCOWN STARBUCK THORNBURGH & KEETER  
ACCOUNTANCY CORPORATION



By: Andrew J. Paulden

Bakersfield, California  
December 8, 2006