



Transmitted via e-mail

April 24, 2012

Mr. David E. Wilson, Chief Executive Officer  
Conservation & Liquidation Office  
425 Market Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Mr. Wilson:

**Final Report—ELIC Opt-Out Trust Financial Statement Review, December 2011**

The Department of Finance, Office of State Audits and Evaluations, has completed its review of the ELIC Opt-Out Trust assigned to the Conservation & Liquidation Office (CLO) for the period January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011.

The enclosed report is for your information and use. We appreciate the assistance and cooperation of the CLO. If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Kimberly Tarvin, Manager, or Rick Cervantes, Supervisor, at (916) 322-2985.

Sincerely,

David Botelho, CPA  
Chief, Office of State Audits and Evaluations

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Ray Minehan, Chief Financial Officer, Conservation & Liquidation Office  
Mr. Ed Hahn, Vice President, Estate Finance Group, Conservation & Liquidation Office  
Ms. Nettie Hoge, Chief Deputy Insurance Commissioner, California Department of Insurance  
Mr. Keith Nelson, Chief, Organization Accountability Office, California Department of Insurance

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVIEW

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ELIC Opt-Out Trust  
Conservation & Liquidation Office  
For the Period January 1, 2011  
through December 31, 2011

Prepared By:  
Office of State Audits and Evaluations  
Department of Finance

**MEMBERS OF THE TEAM**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The California Department of Insurance (Department) takes a leading role to conserve, rehabilitate, or liquidate licensed California financially distressed and insolvent insurance enterprises under appointment by the Superior Courts. The Department's involvement helps secure consumer interests and provide for a stable, consistent insurance market.

The Conservation & Liquidation Office (CLO), created in 1994 to be the successor of the Conservation & Liquidation Division of the Department, is appointed by the California Insurance Commissioner (Commissioner) to oversee the affairs of financially impaired insurance enterprises domiciled in California. Financially impaired insurance enterprises are usually subject to a period of court supervised conservation under CLO administration. During this time, the CLO, along with the regulators, explore opportunities for rehabilitation. Financially distressed life insurance enterprises are frequently conserved, with policyholder liabilities and related invested assets transferred to a third party acquirer. However, for the vast majority of financially distressed property and casualty insurance enterprises, the enterprises will not be conserved, but liquidated.

For enterprises liquidated, the Commissioner, acting through the CLO, assumes title of the enterprise's assets. The insurance enterprise offices are closed, all outstanding policies are cancelled, and the process of obtaining and liquidating the enterprise's remaining assets begins. The books and records of the enterprise are acquired by the CLO for use during this process. The goal of liquidation is to apply the money acquired from liquidating the enterprise's assets toward the enterprise's debts and outstanding insurance claims. Upon issuance of a liquidation order, the CLO issues a notice to all interested parties, including the enterprise's policyholders, creditors, and shareholders. The notice requests proofs of claim be filed with the CLO in order to participate in a distribution of assets. An enterprise subject to a conservation or liquidation order is referred to as an estate. The costs of the CLO administration are borne by the estate of the insolvent entity. For estates with no assets, the California Insurance Fund supplements the costs. The process of conservation and subsequent liquidation can take several years.

The Commissioner, under California Insurance Code section 1060, is required to transmit an annual report of information on the estates under his supervision to the Governor. These estates include those for which the Commissioner is fully responsible; those for which the Commissioner is partially responsible; those for which the Commissioner has custodial responsibilities; and those for which the Commissioner is fully responsible, but are operated separately. As of December 31, 2011, 22 open estates and 1 trust of liquidated insurers are subject to the oversight of the CLO. In 2011, the CLO made distributions totaling \$385 million.

The California Insurance Code sections 1060 and 1061 authorize and require the Department of Finance to conduct biennial examinations of the Commissioner's books and accounts in support of the annual report transmitted to the Governor.

Specifically, the objectives of the engagement were to perform a review of the open estates' and trusts' Statement of Assets and Liabilities, Statement of Operations, and Statement of Cash Flows (Statements) as of December 31, 2011, in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. An individual report for each estate and trust reviewed, including any applicable restrictions on their use, will be issued.

Our review included those estates and trusts assigned to the CLO's Special Deputy Insurance Commissioner and considered open by the Superior Court; and did not include estates and trusts assigned to other Special Deputy Insurance Commissioners. Financial reports for estates and trusts assigned to other Special Deputy Insurance Commissioners are issued under separate cover by separate entities.

### **Review Results**

Based on our review, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Statements for the year ended December 31, 2011 are not presented, in all material respects, in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

This report is intended for the information and use of the California Department of Insurance, the CLO, and the courts, and should not be used for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.



## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

Mr. David E. Wilson, Chief Executive Officer  
Conservation & Liquidation Office  
425 Market Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105

We have reviewed the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, Statement of Operations, and Statement of Cash Flows (Statements) for the ELIC Opt-Out Trust for the year ended December 31, 2011. The Conservation & Liquidation Office (CLO), as assigned conservator/liquidator, is responsible for the Statements.

Our review was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A review is substantially less in scope than an examination, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion on the Statements. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our review, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Statements of the ELIC Opt-Out Trust for the year ended December 31, 2011 are not presented, in all material respects, in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the California Department of Insurance, the CLO, and the courts, 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.

David Botelho, CPA  
Chief, Office of State Audits and Evaluations

April 17, 2012

STATEMENT OF ASSETS  
AND LIABILITIES

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**ELIC Opt-Out Trust**  
**Statement of Assets and Liabilities**  
**As of December 31, 2011**

	<b><u>Balance</u></b>
<b>Assets</b>	
Participation in Pooled Investments, at Market	\$ 9,084,106
Accrued Investment Income	<u>40,970</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 9,125,076</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Secured Claims	\$ 6,662,486
Unclaimed Funds Payable	2,357,237
Reserve for Administrative Expenses	<u>105,353</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 9,125,076</u>

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The notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



# STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

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**ELIC Opt-Out Trust  
Statement of Operations  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2011**

	<u>Balance</u>
<b>Investments</b>	
Investment Income	\$ 243,473
Investment Expenses	(8,134)
Gain (Loss) on Securities	<u>(87,206)</u>
Net Investment Income	148,133
<b>Expenses</b>	
Legal Expenses	61,145
Consultants and Temps	425,728
Office Expenses	3,864
Allocated Overhead Expenses	<u>220,376</u>
Total Expenses	711,113
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b><u>\$(562,980)</u></b>

The notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

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## ELIC Opt-Out Trust Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2011

<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (562,980)
Increase (Decrease) in Secured Claim Liabilities	(533,772)
Adjustments to Reserve for Administrative Expenses	<u>(12,216)</u>
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(1,108,968)
<b>Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	
Decrease (Increase) in Accrued Investment Income	7,433
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>	
	<u>0</u>
<b>Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash</b>	<b>(1,101,535)</b>
Cash at Beginning of Period	<u>10,185,641</u>
<b>Cash at End of Period</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,084,106</u></b>

The notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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# NOTES TO THE STATEMENTS

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## 1. Organization

The California Insurance Commissioner (Commissioner), an elected official of the State of California, acts under the supervision of the Superior Court (Court) when conserving and liquidating insurance enterprises. In this capacity, the Commissioner is responsible for taking possession (conservation) of the assets of financially troubled insurance enterprises domiciled or incorporated in California. An enterprise subject to a conservation or liquidation order is referred to as an estate.

Executive Life Insurance Company (ELIC) was placed in conservation by order of the Los Angeles County Superior Court on April 11, 1991. At the time, ELIC, which had more than 350,000 policyholders, was the largest life insurance insolvency in United States history. In the summer and fall of 1991, the Commissioner conducted an auction seeking bids to acquire the junk bond portfolio and insurance assets of ELIC. In December 1991, the Commissioner's selection of a group of French and European investors (the Altus/MAAF group) as the winning bidders was approved by the Superior Court.

In March 1992, ELIC's junk bond portfolio was transferred to Altus Finance S.A. for a total purchase price of approximately \$3 billion. In August 1993, the Superior Court approved a final Rehabilitation Plan under which the majority of ELIC's assets and its restructured insurance policies were transferred to a new California insurance company created by the European consortium that had won the 1991 bid. The Rehabilitation Plan became effective in September 1993. Under the terms of the Rehabilitation Plan, former ELIC policyholders were given a choice either to accept new coverage (opt in) from Aurora National Life Assurance Company (Aurora) or to terminate their ELIC policies (opt out) in return for a pro rata share of ELIC's assets. The Rehabilitation Plan also provided for the establishment of various trusts, collectively known as the Enhancement Trusts, to marshal and distribute assets for the benefit of former ELIC policyholders.

The ELIC Opt-Out Trust (Trust) was created in 1994 to hold assets to be disbursed to policyholders who opted out. It is also a cost center for charging expenses that apply only to opt-out policyholders. The Trust received funds from the Enhancement Trusts, and with those trusts being closed, it now receives funds from the ELIC estate. Specific processes for how ELIC funds are distributed to opt in and opt out policyholders are determined by the provisions of the ELIC Rehabilitation Plan and the ELIC Enhancement Agreement.

## 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the Trust have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. These financial statements reflect the financial position and activities of the Trust.

### **3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### **ASSETS:**

##### **Pooled Investments**

The invested assets of the Trust are combined for investment purposes into an investment pool, divided equally between two investment management firms. Each of the participating trusts owns a percentage of the pool based on its proportionate share of the fair value of the pool's net assets. The net assets are valued at fair value on a monthly basis and ownership is computed monthly based on contributions and withdrawals by participating trusts. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are allocated monthly based on the trust's ownership percentage in the pool at month end.

Pooled investments may be considered restricted. However, the Trust held no restricted pooled investments as of December 31, 2011.

##### **Accrued Investment Income**

Accrued Investment Income represents monthly estimates of interest and dividends earned on cash and investments held by the Trust. For pooled investments, interest accruals are allocated based on the Trust's percentage of ownership in the pool. Each month interest and dividends are accrued and posted to the Trust's account. Upon receipt of the earnings, the accruals are reversed and actual amounts received are posted.

#### **LIABILITIES:**

##### **Secured Claims**

Secured Claims represents amounts due to opt-out policyholders which have not yet been disbursed.

##### **Unclaimed Funds Payable**

Unclaimed Funds Payable are funds distributed to claimants that were returned as undeliverable and/or an accurate address could not be located. Unclaimed funds are eventually escheated to the California State Controller's Office or the state treasurer of the claimants' last known address.

##### **Reserve for Administrative Expenses**

Reserve for Administrative Expenses is the projected administrative expenses to be incurred in closing the Trust.

#### **INVESTMENTS:**

##### **Investment Income**

Investment Income is comprised of interest and dividends earned on cash and investments held by the Trust. For trusts with investments in the pool, income is allocated based on the trust's proportional share in the pool.

##### **Investment Expenses**

Investment Expenses is comprised of investment and interest expenses related to cash and investments held by the Trust. For trusts with investments in the pool, the expenses are allocated based on the trust's proportional share in the pool.

**Gain (Loss) on Securities**

Gain (Loss) on Securities consists of long and short-term gains and losses incurred as part of the investment pool, mark to market adjustments, gains and losses on non-pooled reappraisals of securities, and gains and losses incurred on the transfer of non-pooled securities into the pool. The long and short-term gains and losses and mark to market adjustments are allocated based on the trust's proportional share in the pool.

Unrealized and realized gains and losses are included as a component of net investment income. The cost of securities sold is based on specific identification and realized gains (losses) are computed based on the securities' original cost. Transfers of non-pooled investments to a pool are a sale resulting in non-pooled realized gains and losses and a non-cash transfer. Transfers from one pool to the other are a sale resulting in pooled realized gains and losses and a non-cash transfer.

**EXPENSES:****Administrative Expenses**

Administrative Expenses consists of both direct and indirect expenses.

Direct expenses are directly charged to the trust whenever individually attributable. These expenses consist of legal costs, consultants and contractors, and office expenses.

Administrative expenses not directly charged to an individual trust are allocated on a proportional basis. Allocated expenses include CLO employee compensation and benefits, payroll taxes, indirect legal expenses, rent, utilities, and other general overhead costs. These shared expenses are allocated to each trust based on factors derived from the direct CLO labor hours charged to each trust, and in some instances direct contractor hours charged.

**4. Litigation**

The Commissioner, on behalf of the ELIC estate, is party to certain legal proceedings. If the Commissioner is successful in collecting additional recoveries, the Trust will receive 33.9 percent of any net recoveries, which will increase funds available for distribution to its beneficiaries.

**5. Subsequent Events**

There are no reportable subsequent events for this Trust.