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April 27, 2010

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 Holdback Trust Financial Statement Review, December 2009

The Department of Finance, Office of State Audits and Evaluations, has completed its review of the ELIC Holdback Trust assigned to the Conservation & Liquidation Office (CLO) for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009.

The enclosed report is for your information and use. We appreciate the assistance and cooperation of the CLO staff and management. 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

Mr. Keith Nelson, Chief, Ethics and Operational Compliance Office, California Department of Insurance

Mr. Jesse Huff, Chair, Audit Committee, California Department of Insurance

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVIEW

ELIC Holdback Trust
Conservation & Liquidation Office
For the Period January 1, 2009
through December 31, 2009

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

100845096 SGR April 2010

#### **MEMBERS OF THE TEAM**

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## Executive Summary

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 has custodial responsibilities; and those for which the Commissioner is fully responsible, but are operated separately. As of December 31, 2009, 23 open estates and 3 trusts of liquidated insurers are subject to the oversight of the CLO. In 2009, the CLO made interim and final distributions totaling \$149 million and closed three estates.

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' Statement of Assets and Liabilities, Statement of Operations, and Statement of Cash Flows (Statements) as of December 31, 2009, in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. An individual report for each estate reviewed, including any applicable restrictions on its use, will be issued.

Our review included those estates assigned to the CLO's Special Deputy Insurance Commissioner and considered open by the Superior Court; and did not include estates assigned to other Special Deputy Insurance Commissioners. Financial reports for estates 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, 2009 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, the 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 Holdback Trust for the year ended December 31, 2009. 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 Holdback Trust for the year ended December 31, 2009 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 20, 2010

# Statement of Assets and Liabilities

# ELIC Holdback Trust Statement of Assets and Liabilities As of December 31, 2009

Assets Participation in Pooled Investments, at Market Accrued Investment Income	<b>Balance</b> \$ 342,491
Total Assets	2,184 \$ 344.675
Total / total	<u> </u>
Liabilities	
Reserve for Administrative Expenses	\$ 344,675
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 344,675</u>

The notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

## Statement of Operations

#### ELIC Holdback Trust Statement of Operations For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Investments	
Investment Income	\$ 16,399
Investment Expenses	172
Gain (Loss) on Securities	 29,235
Net Investment Income	45,806
Expenses	
Legal Expenses	2,692
Consultants and Temps	112,694
Office Expenses	2,079
Allocated Overhead Expenses	 226,093
Total Expenses	343,558
Net Income (Loss)	\$ (297.752)

#### ELIC Holdback Trust Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2009

Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net Income (Loss)	\$	(297,752)
Increase (Decrease) in Secured Claim Liabilities		(1,147,873)
Adjustments to Net Assets	_	13,504
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		(1,432,121)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities Decrease (Increase) in Accrued Investment Income		655
Cash Flows from Financing Activities	_	0
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash		(1,431,466)
Cash at Beginning of Period		1,773,957
Cash at End of Period	\$	342.491

#### 1. Organization

The California Insurance Commissioner (Commissioner), an elected official of the State of California, is a trustee of the ELIC Holdback Trust (Trust) which was established in 1994 to hold certain assets of the Executive Life Insurance Company while litigation challenges were pending an appeal. In 1996, the Trust was amended with court approval, and in 1998, with the litigation issues resolved, all funds in the Trust were disbursed except for funds that were due to policyholders that could not be located.

#### 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 and 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, 2009.

#### **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:**

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

Reserve for Administrative Expenses represents the current balance of cash for future administrative expenses through 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 noncash 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

There are no pending legal proceedings involving the Trust as of December 31, 2009.

#### 5. Subsequent Events

There are no reportable subsequent events for this Trust.