



April 24, 2024

Jackie Thu-Huong Wong

First 5 CA, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Response to delayed F5CA Annual Report and Audit

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to address the matter of our delayed annual report and audit submission.

We deeply regret the delay in providing the required documentation and acknowledge the importance of adhering to deadlines set forth by First 5 California. As commissioners we understand the significance of timely reporting and recognize the impact it may have on the overall objectives of our partnership. The commissioner's mindset is to "get it right," "provide services to our vulnerable populations," and be the best partner we can be.

To ensure transparency, I want to provide insight into the circumstances contributing to this delay. Due to the lack of action from the First 5 Glenn employees who are no longer with the agency we find ourselves in the spot we are in today. In January 2024, the First 5 Glenn Executive Director, Commission chair, the only management staffer, and the only support staffer separated themselves from the agency effective immediately. This was a line share of the employees of First 5 Glenn.

Please be assured we are taking diligent steps to rectify this situation. Our commissioners are actively working to finalize the necessary reports and audit, with a renewed excited commitment to meeting all deadlines moving forward. We are busy working on an "annual work plan" to chart all obligations. We have felt the devoted support and assistance from other rural First 5 Director's and staff. I would also like to commend and thank First 5 California, especially Jackie and her team. As a commission we are gaining more understanding of First 5 California guidelines and the importance of accountability and compliance.

We have a draft audit and management letter completed on behalf of our agency that will be heard publicly at our next commission meeting on April 30, 2024. Once that is heard and ratified by the commission we will provide official documents to the applicable parties. Once that is complete we will work with First 5 California to complete our Annual report.

Thank you for your understanding and patience as we work together to resolve this matter and create a path forward for First 5 Glenn County. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 530-934-1468 or [bwathen@countyofglenn.net](mailto:bwathen@countyofglenn.net).

Bill Wathen