



County of San Bernardino



**Ensen Mason CPA, CFA • Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector**

NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

December 18, 2020

## **Mason Reports Historic High Balance of Over \$9.68 Billion in County Investment Pool**

**San Bernardino, CA** — San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector (ATC) Ensen Mason announced today, that the County Investment Pool reached a new record high cashbook balance of \$9,683,226,807 on Thursday, December 17, 2020.

As of November 30, 2020, the County Pool reported an unrealized gain in value of \$117,960,294 on a cashbook value of \$8,768,313,045. The Pool's yield-to-maturity was 1.04%.

Record property tax installment receipts from rising property values and the receipt of Federal CARES Act funds for the County and Schools Districts, have catapulted the County Investment Pool balances by over a billion dollars during 2020.

“These funds represent dollars that schools and local government agencies use for public safety, educational programs, and the local government safety net so critical in difficult times like these. A large percentage of the recent increase in the Pool's book value is from Cares Act funds received from the Federal Government to cover expenses related to the Covid-19 Pandemic,” noted Mason.

Mason also gave credit to his ATC Treasury Division. “Much of our continued success belongs to our outstanding Treasury Division team led by our talented Chief Deputy Treasurer John Johnson and Chief Investment Officer, Parth Bhatt. John has been a critical leader of the San Bernardino County Treasury team for over fifteen years and is responsible for much of our outstanding performance. Both of them are doing a great job during a very challenging investment environment. It's a pleasure to work with them in maximizing our return on investment dollars and keeping our dollars safe.”

The San Bernardino County Treasurer's Office is the official custodian of investments for the San Bernardino County Investment Pool. The Office provides banking services for the County, K-12 Schools, Community Colleges, and Special Districts. The Treasury adheres to conservative investment policies that have maintained an AAf/S1 rating from Fitch Ratings, the highest attainable ratings assigned by the agency for an investment pool of its type.

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