Phone: 315-867-1650 Fax: 315-867-1651

Email: hclb@herkimercountyny.gov

March 10, 2025

D'Arcangelo & Co., LLP:

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial statements of the Herkimer County Land Bank, which comprise the statements of financial position as of December 31, 2024 and the related statements of activities for the years then ended, and the disclosures (collectively "the financial statements"), for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement. An omission or misstatement that is monetarily small in amount could be considered material as a result of qualitative factors.

We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, as of March 10, 2025, the following representations made to you during your audit.

## **Financial Statements**

- We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated August 10, 2025, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP and for preparation of the supplementary information in accordance with the applicable criteria.
- The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP and include all properly classified funds and other financial information of the primary government required by generally accepted accounting principles to be included in the financial reporting Corporation.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
- Significant assumptions we used in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
- Related party relationships and transactions, including revenues, expenditures/expenses, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from or payable to related

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- parties have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP.
- Adjustments or disclosures have been made for all events, including instances of noncompliance, subsequent to the date of the financial statements that would require adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements or in the schedule of findings and questioned costs.
- There were no journal entries proposed to us for consideration.
- The effects of all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- Material concentrations have been appropriately disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
- Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Corporation is contingently liable, if any, have been properly recorded or disclosed.

## Information Provided

- We have provided you with:
  - a) Access to all information, of which we are aware, that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as records, (including information obtained from outside of the general and subsidiary ledgers) documentation, and other matters and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
  - b) Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit.
  - c) Unrestricted access to persons within the Corporation from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
  - d) All minutes of the meetings of the Corporation Board or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
- All material transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
- We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.

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- We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Corporation and involves:
  - a) Management;
  - b) Employees who have significant roles in internal control, or
  - c) Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
- We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the Corporation's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, regulators, or others.
- We have no knowledge of instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, or grant agreements, waste or abuse, whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
- We have disclosed to you all known actual or possible litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
- We have disclosed to you the names of the Corporation's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions including any side agreements.

## Government—specific

- We have made available to you all financial records and related data and all audit or relevant monitoring reports, if any, received from funding sources.
- There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices.
- We have a process to track the status of audit findings and recommendations.
- We have identified to you any previous audits, attestation engagements, and other studies related to the audit objectives and whether related recommendations have been implemented.
- The Corporation has no plans or intentions that may materially affect the carrying value or classification of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance or net position.
- We are responsible for compliance with the laws, regulations, and provisions of contracts and grant agreements applicable to us, including tax or debt limits and debt contracts; and legal and contractual provisions for reporting specific activities in separate funds.

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- We have identified and disclosed to you any instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of fraud and noncompliance with provisions of laws and regulations that we believe have a material effect on the financial statements or other financial data significant to the audit objectives, and any other instances that warrant the attention of those charged with governance.
- We have identified and disclosed to you any instances, which have occurred or are likely to have occurred, of noncompliance with provisions of contracts and grant agreements that we believe have a material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts or other financial data significant to the audit objectives.
- There are no violations or possible violations of budget ordinances, laws and regulations (including those pertaining to adopting, approving, and amending budgets), provisions of contracts and grant agreements, tax or debt limits, and any related debt covenants whose effects should be considered for disclosure in the financial statements, or as a basis for recording a loss contingency, or for reporting on noncompliance.
- As part of your audit, you assisted with preparation of the financial statements and disclosures as well as the annual report. We acknowledge our responsibility as it relates to those non-audit services, including that we assume all management responsibilities; oversee the services by designating an individual, preferably within senior management, who possesses suitable skill, knowledge, or experience; evaluate the adequacy and results of the services performed; and accept responsibility for the results of the services. We have reviewed, approved, and accepted responsibility for those financial statements and disclosures as well as the annual report.
- The Corporation has satisfactory title to all owned assets, and there are no liens or encumbrances on such assets nor has any asset been pledged as collateral.
- The Corporation has complied with all aspects of contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
- We have followed all applicable laws and regulations in adopting, approving, and amending budgets.
- The financial statements include all component units, appropriately present equity interests in legally separate organizations and joint ventures with an equity interest, and properly disclose all other joint ventures and other related organizations.
- The financial statements properly classify all funds and activities, in accordance with GASB Statement No. 34.
- All funds that meet the quantitative criteria in GASB Statement Nos. 34 and 37 for presentation as major are identified and presented as such and all other funds that are presented as major are particularly important to financial statement users.

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- Components of net position (net investment in capital assets; restricted; and unrestricted) and components of fund balance (non-spendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned) are properly classified and, if applicable, approved.
- Expenses have been appropriately classified in or allocated to functions and programs in the statement of activities, and allocations have been made on a reasonable basis.
- Revenues are appropriately classified in the statement of activities within program revenues, general revenues, contributions to term or permanent endowments, or contributions to permanent fund principal.
- Deposits and investment securities and derivative instruments are properly classified as to risk and are properly disclosed.
- We have appropriately disclosed the Corporation's policy regarding whether to first apply restricted or unrestricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available and have determined that net position is properly recognized under the policy.
- We are following our established accounting policy regarding which resources (that is, restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned) are considered to be spent first for expenditures for which more than one resource classification is available. That policy determines the fund balance classifications for financial reporting purposes.
- We acknowledge our responsibility for the required supplementary information (RSI). The RSI is measured and presented within prescribed guidelines and the methods of measurement and presentation have not changed from those used in the prior period. We have disclosed to you any significant assumptions and interpretations underlying the measurement and presentation of the RSI.
- Herkimer County Land Bank is an exempt organization per the Internal Revenue Code. Any activities of which we are aware that would jeopardize the Organization's tax-exempt status, and all activities subject to tax on unrelated business income or excise or other tax, have been disclosed to you.

Title
Board Treasurer