

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Chris Raahauge Ends Campaign for Auditor-Controller and Endorses Ben Benoit

Riverside County, California (March 22, 2022) – Today, Chris Raahauge announced he is officially ending his campaign for Riverside County Auditor-Controller. Since Raahauge did not complete the candidate filing process, his name will not appear on the ballot for the seat. Raahauge issued the following statement:

"It's time for the people to audit the Auditor-Controller. It's clear that we must unite behind one candidate to defeat the incumbent. I am officially ending my campaign for Auditor-Controller because Mayor Ben Benoit is the candidate with the experience, endorsements, and fundraising ability to win this election. I am proud to endorse Ben for Auditor-Controller, and I urge others to join me in voting for him on June 7th."

"I'm deeply honored to have the support of fellow taxpayer advocate, Chris Raahauge," said Benoit. "I know this was not an easy decision for Chris. He truly cares about Riverside County and he believes the people deserve better from their Auditor-Controller. By forming a united front, we now have a great opportunity to win the election and bring real change to this position. I appreciate Chris's confidence and support, and I look forward to working closely with him to restore accountability and leadership in the office of the Auditor-Controller."

Ben J. Benoit is a mayor, businessman, and auditor. Ben was elected to the Wildomar City Council in 2010 and he is currently serving his fourth term as mayor. Ben was unanimously elected to serve as the representative for Riverside County on the South Coast Air Quality Management District. He is the Vice-President of Public Affairs for the California Apartment Association where he advocates for housing policies at the local and regional levels. He also serves as an auditor for the Inland Empire Taxpayers Association. Ben has been a resident of Riverside County for over 33 years. His passion for public service was inspired by his late father, former State Senator and Riverside County Supervisor John J. Benoit.

The Riverside County Auditor-Controller is an independent, nonpartisan elected office established to provide accounting, audit, payroll, and property tax administration services to County government, cities, K-12 schools and special districts. The Auditor-Controller is the chief accounting and disbursement officer of the County. The office oversees the County's payroll for over 20,000 employees and an annual budget of nearly \$7 billion. The Primary Election will take place on June 7, 2022.

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