September 18, 2025

## BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Robert F. Mujica, Jr. Executive Director Financial Oversight and Management Board San Juan, Puerto Rico

Dear Mr. Mujica:

RE: Request for Approval of the Distribution of Municipal Funds for the *Tercer Turno de Paramédicos* Program – Fiscal Year 2026

The Fiscal Year 2026 Commonwealth Budget Resolution (FY2026 Budget) allocated \$9 million to support municipalities in hiring additional paramedics for a new third shift, subject to review and approval of a distribution plan by the Financial Oversight and Management Board's (FOMB).

Pursuant to the FY2026 Budget, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) respectfully submits to the FOMB for its review and approval the proposed distribution of the \$9 million allocated to the *Tercer Turno de Paramédicos* Program. This initiative aims to support municipalities in providing essential social services to the citizens of Puerto Rico.

For Fiscal Year 2026, the OMB used the same distribution formula established by the FOMB for Fiscal Year 2025, duly updated with the most recent demographic and fiscal capacity information available for each municipality. This distribution has been discussed and developed jointly with the FOMB team responsible for municipal matters. The purpose of working on this collaboratively is to ensure consistency, transparency, and adherence to the criteria previously validated by the FOMB. We understand that we can improve the FOMB's methodology for establishing these distributions; however, the immediate need is to release the funds as soon as possible. In this regard, we are working on developing a new methodology to be used in the future. The OMB remains firmly committed to facilitating the prompt and effective distribution of these funds to guarantee the continuity of essential social services provided by the municipalities, particularly those that benefit the most vulnerable sectors of our population.

Accordingly, we respectfully request the FOMB's approval of the proposed fund distribution, as detailed in the attached Exhibit A. All participating municipalities must comply with special memorandum issued by OMB, which requires that the funds to be used exclusively for specific allowable purposes, requires participation in other initiatives aimed at enhancing efficiency,

achieving savings, and generating revenues, and requires the submission of quarterly reports to the OMB indicating the amounts available, disbursed and obligated.

The OMB remains firmly committed to ensuring that any distribution of General Fund resources to support critical municipal services is carried out fairly, transparently, and in a fiscally responsible manner.

We trust FOMB will evaluate this request with the urgency it requires, and we remain available to provide any additional information or documentation necessary to facilitate the approval of these funds.

Sincerely,

Orlando C. Rivera Berríos

Director

Office of Management and Budget

cc:

Hon. Jennifer A. González Colón

Hon. Francisco J. Domenech Fernández

Mr. Germán Ojeda Ms. Leonor De Jesús