

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). <p style="text-align: center;">▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</p>	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">2020</div> This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2020 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2020</u> and ending <u>12/31/2020</u>	
A This return/report is for:	☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____
B This return/report is:	☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.	☐
D Check box if filing under:	☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)

Part II	Basic Plan Information —enter all requested information				
1a Name of plan <u>VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC SALARY SAVINGS PLAN</u>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center;"><u>001</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1989</u></td> </tr> </table>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>	1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1989</u>	
1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>				
1c Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1989</u>					
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC</u> <u>130 SPRINGSIDE DR STE 300</u> <u>AKRON, OH 44333-2431</u>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1924302</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>330-576-1234</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2d Business code (see instructions) <u>524210</u></td> </tr> </table>	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1924302</u>	2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>330-576-1234</u>	2d Business code (see instructions) <u>524210</u>	
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1924302</u>					
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>330-576-1234</u>					
2d Business code (see instructions) <u>524210</u>					

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	10/14/2021	ELIZABETH KOZENKO
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2020)
v. 200204

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor		3b Administrator's EIN	
		3c Administrator's telephone number	
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name		4b EIN 4d PN	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year		5	170
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d).			
a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year.....		6a(1)	133
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2)	121
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....		6b	0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits		6c	46
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d	167
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e	0
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f	167
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g	158
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested		6h	13
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....		7	
8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions: 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D			
b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:			
9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor		9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	
10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)			
a Pension Schedules (1) ☒ R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) ☐ MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) ☐ SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary		b General Schedules (1) ☒ H (Financial Information) (2) ☐ I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) ☐ <u>0</u> A (Insurance Information) (4) ☒ C (Service Provider Information) (5) ☒ D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) ☐ G (Financial Transaction Schedules)	

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2020 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2020 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2020
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2020 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2020 and ending 12/31/2020		
A Name of plan VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC SALARY SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 34-1924302	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a** Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. ☒ Yes ☐ No
- b** If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. INC. AND AFFIL
94-1737782

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

CHARLES SCHWAB & CO., INC.

94-1737782

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
59	NONE	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
CHARLES SCHWAB & CO. INC. AND AFFIL	59	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
SEE ATTACHMENT 42-1704580	SEE ATTACHMENT	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2020 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2020 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2020 and ending 12/31/2020

A Name of plan <u>VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC SALARY SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>001</u>
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1924302</u>	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MELLON STABLE VALUE FD CL M

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON

c EIN-PN <u>11-3152987-000</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1398140</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TOPS MODERATE GROWTH ETF PORTFOLIO

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): OHIO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO

c EIN-PN <u>27-5315893-006</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1277080</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TOPS GROWTH ETF PORTFOLIO

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): OHIO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO

c EIN-PN <u>27-5316053-006</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>2734507</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TOPS CONSERVATIVE ETF PORTFOLIO

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): OHIO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO

c EIN-PN <u>27-5315420-006</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>59883</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TOPS AGGRESSIVE GROWTH ETF PORTFOLI

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): OHIO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO

c EIN-PN <u>27-5316212-006</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>2385826</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TOPS BALANCED ETF PORTFOLIO

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): OHIO NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE CO

c EIN-PN <u>27-5315702-006</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>1764174</u>
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans)

a Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2020 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
For calendar plan year 2020 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2020</u> and ending <u>12/31/2020</u>		
A Name of plan <u>VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC SALARY SAVINGS PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>34-1924302</u>	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash.....	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	43751	83888
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	87502	307591
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	118127	419442
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	108182	165569
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	9656529	8221470
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	4317008	7367768
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)		
(15) Other.....	1c(15)	188128	587219

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	14519227	17152947

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	14519227	17152947
---	-----------	----------	----------

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	588091	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	980648	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	135725	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		1704464
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B), (C), and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	6664	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		6664
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		142621
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	142621	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B), and (C)	2b(2)(D)		142621
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		0
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		0
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		756087
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		907839
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		3517675

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	883580	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other.....	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		883580
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)		
(4) Other.....	2i(4)	375	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		375
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		883955

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		2633720
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) ☐ Unmodified (2) ☐ Qualified (3) ☒ Disclaimer (4) ☐ Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) ☒ DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) ☐ neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **APPLE GROWTH PARTNERS**

(2) EIN: **81-4504770**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l.

During the plan year:

a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)

	Yes	No	Amount
4a		X	

	Yes	No	Amount
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)			
4b		X	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)			
4c		X	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)			
4d		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		3000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
4f		X	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?			
4g		X	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?			
4h		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
4i	X		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)			
4j		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?			
4k		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?			
4l		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)			
4m		X	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			
4n			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined
If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

<div>SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</div>	<div>Retirement Plan Information</div> <div>This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).</div> <div>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</div>	<div>OMB No. 1210-0110</div> <div>2020</div> <div>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</div>
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For calendar plan year 2020 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2020 and ending 12/31/2020

<div>A Name of plan VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC SALARY SAVINGS PLAN</div>	<div>B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001</div>
<div>C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 VALMARK FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC</div>	<div>D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 34-1924302</div>

Part I	Distributions
--------	---------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1	Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	0
2	Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 82-3967259		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.			
3	Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3	

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
---------	--

4	Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.				
5	If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
6	a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a		
	b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b		
	c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	6c		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.				
7	Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
8	If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
----------	------------

9	If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
---	---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
---------	--

10	Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11	a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
	b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12	Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Schedule R (Form 5500) 2020
v. 200204

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

- 14** Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....

b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....

c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....

14a	
14b	
14c	

- 15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year.....

b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year.....

15a	
15b	

- 16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year.....

b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers.....

16a	
16b	

- 17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment. ☐

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

- 18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐

- 19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) through (c)

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
 Stock: _____% Investment-Grade Debt: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Estate: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the combined investment-grade and high-yield debt:
☐ 0-3 years ☐ 3-6 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 9-12 years ☐ 12-15 years ☐ 15-18 years ☐ 18-21 years ☐ 21 years or more

c What duration measure was used to calculate line 19(b)?
☐ Effective duration ☐ Macaulay duration ☐ Modified duration ☐ Other (specify): _____

- 20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:
☐ Yes.
☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.
☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.
☐ No. Other. Provide explanation _____

Valmark Financial Group, LLC
Salary Savings Plan

Financial Statements and
Independent Auditor's Report

December 31, 2020 and 2019

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan

Financial Statements December 31, 2020 and 2019

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator of the
Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Akron, Ohio

Report on the Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements of the Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan (the "Plan"), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on conducting our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Because of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, however, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion.

Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion

As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Plan Administrator instructed us not to perform, and we did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the information summarized in Note C, which was certified by Charles Schwab Trust Bank ("Charles Schwab"), the custodian of the Plan, except for comparing the information with the related information included in the financial statements. We have been informed by the Plan Administrator that Charles Schwab holds the Plan's investment assets and executes investment transactions. The Plan Administrator has obtained a certification from the custodian as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and for the year ended December 31, 2020, that the information provided to the Plan Administrator by Charles Schwab is complete and accurate.

Disclaimer of Opinion

Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we have not been able to obtain sufficient, appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on these financial statements.

Akron

1540 West Market St.
Akron, OH 44313
P 330.867.7350
F 330.867.8866

Canton

4740 Belpar St. NW, Ste. B
Canton, OH 44718
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Chicago

111 W. Jackson, Ste. 1700
Chicago, IL 60604
P 866.67.APPLE

Cleveland

25550 Chagrin Blvd., Ste. 401
Beachwood, OH 44122
P 216.674.3800
F 216.674.3801

Other Matter

The supplemental Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2020, is required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion paragraph, we do not express an opinion on the supplemental schedule referred to above.

Report on Form and Content in Compliance with DOL Rules and Regulations

The form and content of the information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule, other than that derived from the information certified by the custodian, have been audited by us in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and, in our opinion, are presented in compliance with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Apple Growth Partners

Akron, Ohio
September 24, 2021



Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31,	
	2020	2019
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value (see Note D)	\$ 16,987,378	14,411,045
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	165,569	108,182
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 17,152,947	\$ 14,519,227

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

	For the year ended December 31,	2020
Additions to net assets attributable to:		
Investment income		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$	1,631,053
Interest and dividends		175,494
		<u>1,806,547</u>
Interest income on notes receivable from participants		6,664
Contributions		
Participants' salary deferrals		728,452
Participants' Roth deferrals		252,196
Participants' rollovers		135,725
Employer matching		588,091
		<u>1,704,464</u>
Total additions		<u>3,517,675</u>
Deductions from net assets attributable to:		
Benefits paid to participants		883,580
Administrative expenses		375
Total deductions		<u>883,955</u>
Net increase in net assets available for benefits		2,633,720
Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year		<u>14,519,227</u>
Net assets available for benefits, end of year	\$	<u><u>17,152,947</u></u>

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2020 and 2019

A. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of the Valmark Financial Group, LLC (the “Company” or “Plan Sponsor”) Salary Savings Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General - The Plan is a defined contribution plan which covers substantially all full-time employees of the Company as defined in the Plan agreement. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). The Company is the Plan’s administrator.

The Plan was restated, effective September 3, 2019, as part of the change in trustee and custodian from Ohio National to Charles Schwab.

Contributions - Participants may contribute a minimum of 1% to a maximum of 100%, subject to the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) 402(g) limit, of their compensation on a pre-tax or post-tax (“Roth”) basis. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. The Plan Sponsor, however, may be required to limit contributions of certain employees to comply with the IRC.

The Plan Sponsor may, at its option, match a portion of participants’ voluntary contributions. In 2020 and 2019, the Plan Sponsor elected to match 100% of the first 4% plus 50% of the second 4% of participants’ compensation for each dollar of contributions.

The Plan Sponsor may make an additional discretionary profit sharing contribution. All eligible employees, as defined, may receive this discretionary contribution. Participants must be employed at year end to receive the contribution, except for reasons of disability, retirement or death.

The Plan also permits rollover contributions from other qualified retirement plans.

Participant Accounts - Each participant’s account is credited with the participant’s deferral contribution, employer matching contribution, allocation of the discretionary profit sharing contribution, investment earnings, and charged an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations of administrative expenses are based on participant earnings, account balances or specific participant transactions, as defined. The benefit to which the participant is entitled is the participant’s vested account balance.

Participants may direct their contributions to any or all of the various investment funds provided. Participants may change their allocation of contributions or transfer money between investment options any time during the year.

Vesting - Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company’s contribution portion of their accounts is based on years of continuous service. A participant is 100% vested after six years of credited service.

Notes Receivable from Participants - Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. Loan terms range from one to five years unless used for the purchase of a primary residence. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant’s account and bear interest at a rate determined at the time the loan is taken based on prime (3.25% and 4.75% at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively). Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Payment of Benefits - Upon termination of service, the participant may elect to receive his or her account balance as a lump-sum payment or in periodic installments. The Plan Administrator may automatically make a lump-sum distribution for account balances less than \$5,000. Participants terminated are entitled to receive their benefits as soon as administratively feasible. Distributions of a participant’s 401(k) account balance may be authorized at any time by the Plan Administrator under certain hardship conditions.

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2020 and 2019

Forfeited Accounts - Unvested amounts forfeited by terminated participants may be used by the Plan to reduce employer matching contributions, for the payment of Plan expenses, or may be reallocated to participants as an additional employer contribution. There were \$89,334 and \$82,041 of forfeited nonvested accounts at December 31, 2020 and 2019, respectively. The Company used \$82,041 of the forfeited funds to reduce employer matching contributions during 2020.

B. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting - The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Use of Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition - Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Plan management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisor, custodian, and trustee. See Note D for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Notes Receivable from Participants - Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses when incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

Payment of Benefits - Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses - Administrative expenses, including third party administrative expenses, investment management fees, audit fees, and other expenses of maintaining the Plan, are paid by the Company. Fees attributable to loans, distributions and deferred payouts are paid by the participants. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

C. INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY THE CUSTODIAN

The Plan Administrator has elected to restrict the scope of the auditor's examination with regard to statements or information prepared and certified by Charles Schwab, the custodian of the Plan.

Charles Schwab has certified as to the completeness and accuracy of the investments it holds and changes in net assets arising from said investment activity as of December 31, 2020 and 2019, and for the year ended December 31, 2020.

Charles Schwab as has certified as to the completeness and accuracy of the schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2020.

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2020 and 2019

D. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The levels of the fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board guidance in these financial statements is described as follows:

Level 1 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodology used for assets measured at fair value.

Mutual funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-ended mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value ("NAV") and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Common collective trusts ("CCTs"): The fair value of the CCTs are estimated based on the NAV derived from the fair value of the underlying investments. The use of NAV as fair value is deemed appropriate as the collective trust funds do not have finite lives, unfunded commitments relating to these types of investments, or significant restrictions on redemptions.

The method described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2020:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ 7,367,768	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,367,768
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ 7,367,768	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,367,768
Investments measured at net asset value ^(a)	-	-	-	9,619,610
Investments at fair value	\$ 7,367,768	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 16,987,378

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2019:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ 4,317,008	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,317,008
Total assets in the fair value hierarchy	\$ 4,317,008	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,317,008
Investments measured at net asset value ^(a)	-	-	-	10,094,037
Investments at fair value	\$ 4,317,008	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,411,045

^(a) In accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification Subtopic 820-10, certain investments that were measured at net asset value per share (or its equivalent) have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in these tables are intended to permit reconciliations of the fair value hierarchy to the line items presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

The following table summarizes investments measured at fair value based on NAV per share as of December 31, 2020.

Investment	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period
Common collective trusts	\$ 9,619,610	\$ -	Daily	Up to 12 Months

The following table summarizes investments measured at fair value based on NAV per share as of December 31, 2019.

Investment	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period
Common collective trusts	\$ 10,094,037	\$ -	Daily	Up to 12 Months

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Notes to the Financial Statements
December 31, 2020 and 2019

E. RELATED-PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Charles Schwab provides certain administrative services to the Plan pursuant to a Service Agreement (SA) between the Company and Charles Schwab. Charles Schwab receives revenue from mutual fund service providers for services Charles Schwab provides to the funds. The revenue is used to offset certain amounts owed to Charles Schwab for its administrative services to the Plan.

If the revenue received by Charles Schwab from such mutual fund service providers exceeds the amount owed under the SA, Charles Schwab remits the excess to the Plan's trust on a quarterly basis. Such amounts may be applied to pay Plan administrative expenses or allocated to the accounts of the participants. During 2020, there were no excess amounts. The Plan or Plan Sponsor may make a payment to Charles Schwab for administrative expenses not covered by revenue sharing.

F. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in the Company's contributions.

G. FEDERAL INCOME TAX STATUS

The Company has chosen not to obtain a determination letter on its Plan document as it uses Charles Schwab's prototype plan volume submitter profit sharing plan document which received Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") approval on June 19, 2014. The Plan has been amended since receiving the approval. However, the Plan Administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and has no income subject to unrelated business income tax. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, require Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the company has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

H. RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

The COVID-19 pandemic during 2020 has significantly disrupted financial markets, economies, the workforce, healthcare, and other events subsequent to December 31, 2020. As noted above, investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities and the level of uncertainty related to changes in the value of investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risks in the near term would materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits and the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
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December 31, 2020 and 2019

I. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events have been evaluated through September 24, 2021, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

J. PLAN AMENDMENTS

Effective April 2020, the Plan adopted certain provisions of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act that was signed into law on March 27, 2020. The CARES Act increased the maximum loan amount to \$100,000 or 100% of a participant's vested balance, through September 22, 2020. The distribution provision allows the Plan's participants to take a COVID-19 related distribution up to \$100,000 from the Plan beginning on or after January 1, 2020 and before December 31, 2020.

Effective January 1, 2020, hardship distribution provisions were implemented to bring the Plan in compliance with the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018.

K. RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500

The Mellon Stable Value Fund is reported on the financial statements as a common collective trust, but the underlying assets are shown separately on the Form 5500. The following is a reconciliation of the underlying assets of the fund from the Form 5500 to the total value noted in the financial statements as of December 31, 2020 and 2019.

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Value as reported in the Form 5500:		
Interest bearing cash	\$ 83,888	\$ 43,751
US Government securities	307,591	87,502
Corporate debt instruments	419,442	118,127
Other assets	<u>587,219</u>	<u>188,128</u>
Value as reported in the financial statements as component of investments, at fair value	<u>\$ 1,398,140</u>	<u>\$ 437,508</u>

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Schedule H - Line 4i
Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
EIN: 81-4504770
Plan Number: 001
December 31, 2020
(Unaudited)

(a)	(b) IDENTITY OF ISSUE, BORROWER, LESSOR OR SIMILAR PARTY	(c) DESCRIPTION OF INVESTMENT ¹	(e) CURRENT VALUE
*	Mellon Stable Value FD CL M	Common collective trust	\$ 1,398,140
*	TOPS Aggressive Growth Portfolio II	Common collective trust	2,385,826
*	TOPS Balanced Portfolio II	Common collective trust	1,764,174
*	TOPS Conservative Portfolio II	Common collective trust	59,883
*	TOPS Growth Portfolio II	Common collective trust	2,734,507
*	TOPS Moderate Growth Portfolio II	Common collective trust	1,277,080
	American Conservative Growth and Income Portfolio	Mutual fund	64,144
	American Growth and Income Portfolio	Mutual fund	181,148
	American Moderate Growth and Income Portfolio	Mutual fund	89,759
	American Funds New Perspective Fund	Mutual fund	386,178
	Fidelity Emerging Markets Index Fund	Mutual fund	133,258
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2020 Investor	Mutual fund	90,495
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2025 Investor	Mutual fund	17,450
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2030 Investor	Mutual fund	233,037
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2035 Investor	Mutual fund	641,678
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2040 Investor	Mutual fund	62,468
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2045 Investor	Mutual fund	723,412
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2050 Investor	Mutual fund	163,003
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2055 Investor	Mutual fund	335,309
	Fidelity Freedom Index 2060 Investor	Mutual fund	242,697
	Fidelity Mid Cap Index Fund	Mutual fund	337,694
	Fidelity Small Cap Index Fund	Mutual fund	349,124
	Fidelity U.S. Bond Index Fund	Mutual fund	669,253
	iShares MSCI EAFE International Index Fund	Mutual fund	383,462
	iShares S&P 500 Index Fund Class K	Mutual fund	1,540,791
	State Street Active Core Bond Inv	Mutual fund	121,874
	T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth Fund	Mutual fund	199,014
	American Funds Washington Mutual Investors Fund	Mutual fund	402,520
			<u>16,987,378</u>
		Notes receivable from	
*	Participant Loans	participants (5.25% - 7.5%)	165,569
			<u><u>\$ 17,152,947</u></u>

* Party-In-Interest

¹ Including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value, where applicable.

Column D, Cost of Investments, has not been included since investments are participant directed.

Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
Schedule C, Part I, Line 3 - Service Provider Indirect Compensation Information
December 31, 2020

EIN: 34-1924302
Plan Number: 001

Received By Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. (EIN: 94-1737782)

Fund Family/Provider	EIN	Formula
State Street Global Advisors (Chicago)	42-1704580	Rate of 0.03% of average daily balance of asset(s)

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

NAME OF PLAN SPONSOR:	Valmark Financial Group, LLC
NAME OF PLAN:	Valmark Financial Group, LLC Salary Savings Plan
EIN:	34-1924302
PLAN NUMBER:	001

		(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party			
*	PARTICIPANT LOANS	Loans (5.25% - 7.5%)		165,569
	MELLON STABLE VALUE FD CL M	Common Collective Trust Fund		1,398,140
	TOPS AGGR GRTH PORTFOLIO CL II	Common Collective Trust Fund		2,385,826
	TOPS BALANCED PORTFOLIO CL II	Common Collective Trust Fund		1,764,174
	TOPS CONS PORTFOLIO CL II	Common Collective Trust Fund		59,883
	TOPS GROWTH PORTFOLIO CL II	Common Collective Trust Fund		2,734,507
	TOPS MOD GRTH PORTFOLIO CL II	Common Collective Trust Fund		1,277,080
	AMERICAN CONSERVE GRTH INC R6	Registered Investment Company		64,144
	AMERICAN GROWTH INCOME PORT R6	Registered Investment Company		181,148
	AMERICAN MOD GROWTH INCOME R6	Registered Investment Company		89,759
	AMERICAN NEW PERSPECTIVE R6	Registered Investment Company		386,178
	FIDELITY EMERG MARKETS IDX	Registered Investment Company		133,258
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2020 INV	Registered Investment Company		90,495
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2025 INV	Registered Investment Company		17,450
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2030 INV	Registered Investment Company		233,037
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2035 INV	Registered Investment Company		641,678
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2040 INV	Registered Investment Company		62,468
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2045 INV	Registered Investment Company		723,412
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2050 INV	Registered Investment Company		163,003
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2055 INV	Registered Investment Company		335,309
	FIDELITY FREEDOM IDX 2060 INV	Registered Investment Company		242,697
	FIDELITY MID CAP INDEX	Registered Investment Company		337,694
	FIDELITY SMALL CAP INDEX	Registered Investment Company		349,124
	FIDELITY US BOND INDEX	Registered Investment Company		669,253
	ISHARES MSCI EAFE INTL IDX K	Registered Investment Company		383,462
	ISHARES S&P 500 INDEX K	Registered Investment Company		1,540,791
	STATE STREET ACT CORE BOND INV	Registered Investment Company		121,874
	TROWE PRICE BLUE CHIP GRTH INS	Registered Investment Company		199,014
	WASHINGTON MUTUAL FUND R6	Registered Investment Company		402,520

* Party-in-interest