

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). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2021</u> and ending <u>12/31/2021</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)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here.	☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information										
1a Name of plan <u>HOT TOPIC 401(K) PLAN</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>HOT TOPIC, INC.</u> <u>18305 E. SAN JOSE AVENUE</u> <u>CITY OF INDUSTRY, CA 91748-1237</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>08/01/1995</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>77-0198182</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>626-839-4681</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">2d Business code (see instructions) <u>448150</u></td> </tr> </table>	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>	1c Effective date of plan <u>08/01/1995</u>		2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>77-0198182</u>		2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>626-839-4681</u>		2d Business code (see instructions) <u>448150</u>	
1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>										
1c Effective date of plan <u>08/01/1995</u>											
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>77-0198182</u>											
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>626-839-4681</u>											
2d Business code (see instructions) <u>448150</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.	11/11/2022	ERIC UENO
	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 (2021)
v. 210624

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	5400
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)	5187
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2)	5104
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....		6b	0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits		6c	241
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d	5345
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e	1
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f	5346
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g	976
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested		6h	21
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>1</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 2021 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2021 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 A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance 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. ▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	OMB No. 1210-0110 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021	
A Name of plan HOT TOPIC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOT TOPIC, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 77-0198182

Part I	Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.
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1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
13-5582869	66915	GA28242	976	01/01/2021	12/31/2021

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
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(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	
5	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	
6	Contracts With Allocated Funds:		
a	State the basis of premium rates ▶		
b	Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c	Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. Specify nature of costs ▶	6d	
e	Type of contract: (1) ☐ individual policies (2) ☐ group deferred annuity (3) ☐ other (specify) ▶		
f	If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐		
7	Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)		
a	Type of contract: (1) ☐ deposit administration (2) ☐ immediate participation guarantee (3) ☒ guaranteed investment (4) ☐ other ▶		
b	Balance at the end of the previous year	7b	729524
c	Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year (2) Dividends and credits..... (3) Interest credited during the year..... (4) Transferred from separate account..... (5) Other (specify below) ▶ 7c(1) 189446 7c(2) 7c(3) 11600 7c(4) 7c(5)	7c(6)	201046
d	(6) Total additions	7d	930570
e	Deductions: (1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year (2) Administration charge made by carrier..... (3) Transferred to separate account..... (4) Other (specify below) ▶ 7e(1) 327565 7e(2) 7e(3) 7e(4)	7e(5)	327565
f	(5) Total deductions	7f	603005
	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line 7e(5) from line 7d)		603005

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** ☐ Health (other than dental or vision)
b ☐ Dental
c ☐ Vision
d ☐ Life insurance
e ☐ Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
f ☐ Long-term disability
g ☐ Supplemental unemployment
h ☐ Prescription drug
i ☐ Stop loss (large deductible)
j ☐ HMO contract
k ☐ PPO contract
l ☐ Indemnity contract
m ☐ Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))		9a(4)	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))		9b(3)	0
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were ☐ paid in cash, or ☐ credited.)		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount. Specify nature of costs.	10b	

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A? ☐ Yes ☒ No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

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
		2021
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021		
A Name of plan HOT TOPIC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOT TOPIC, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 77-0198182	

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
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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)

JOHN HANCOCK

01-0233346

(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?
15 37 62 64	RETAINED BY CLIENT	130182	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

GLOBAL RETIREMENT PARTNERS, LLC

4340 REDWOOD HIGHWAY
SUITE B60
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

(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?
27	RETAINED BY CLIENT	25000	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

WRIGHT FORD YOUNG & CO.

95-3288054

(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?
10	RETAINED BY CLIENT	12795	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
(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.	
(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
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(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:	WRIGHT FORD YOUNG & CO.	b EIN:	95-3288054
c Position:	AUDITOR		
d Address:	16140 SAND CANYON AVENUE IRVINE, CA 92618	e Telephone:	949-910-2727

Explanation: CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING FIRMS

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 H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021		
A Name of plan HOT TOPIC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOT TOPIC, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 77-0198182	

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)		
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(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)	706322	599295
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(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)	23264854	29456304
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)	729521	603006
(15) Other.....	1c(15)		

		(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	24700697 30658605
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	24700697 30658605

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.

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
Income			
a	Contributions:		
(1)	Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	774147
	(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2787708
	(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	1190784
(2)	Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)	
(3)	Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)	4752639
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)	41767
	(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	
	(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)	41767
(2)	Dividends: (A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)	
	(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	
	(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	195575
	(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)	195575
(3)	Rents	2b(3)	
(4)	Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	
	(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)	0
(5)	Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)	
	(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	
	(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)	0

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		
(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)		3829872
c Other income.....	2c		11603
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		8831456
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	2046774	
(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)		2046774
f Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	2f		218576
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)	128646	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees.....	2i(3)	39331	
(4) Other.....	2i(4)		
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		167977
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		2433327
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		6398129
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		440221

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: **HOLTHOUSE CARLIN & VAN TRIGT LLP**

(2) EIN: **95-4345526**

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		12269

	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		1000000
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)	
TORRID 401(K) PLAN	47-3648005	001	
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 _____.			

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information 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). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2021 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2021 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021

A Name of plan HOT TOPIC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOT TOPIC, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 77-0198182

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): 80-0708115		
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
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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) 2021
v. 201209

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).....

14a

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).....

14b

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).....

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.....

15a

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

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.....

16a

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.....

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 _____

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES,
AND
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2021



HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Hot Topic, Inc. Retirement Plan Committee of the
Hot Topic 401(k) Plan:

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of the Hot Topic 401(k) Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of the Plan's 2021 financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's ("DOL") Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not to extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan ("investment information") by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency ("qualified institution"), provided that the investment information is prepared and certified to by the qualified institution in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 4 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the 2021 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and the procedures performed as described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements* section of our report

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 2021 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"); and
- the information in the accompanying 2021 financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion on the 2021 Financial Statements

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and 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. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate to raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date the financial statements are issued or available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current Plan instrument, including all Plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining that the Plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the Plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements

Except as described in the *Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements* section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the 2021 financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the 2021 financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information and to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of GAAP.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the 2021 financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with GAAP.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that were identified during the audit.

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedules of Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2021 and the Schedule H, Line 4a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions for the year ended December 31, 2021 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the 2021 financial statements but are supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 2021 financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 2021 financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the 2021 financial statements or to the 2021 financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is

derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion

- the form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedules related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Other Matter – Report on the 2020 Financial Statements

The statement of net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2020, was audited by predecessor auditors. As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the Plan administrator instructed the predecessor auditors not to perform, and they did not perform, any auditing procedures with respect to the information certified by the qualified institution. Their audit report dated October 12, 2021, indicated that (a) because of the significance of the information that they did not audit, they were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an opinion and accordingly, they did not express an opinion on the 2020 financial statements, and (b) the form and content of the information included in the 2020 financial statements other than derived from the information certified by the qualified institution was presented in compliance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.



Camarillo, California
November 3, 2022

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

AS OF DECEMBER 31,	2021	2020
Assets		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 29,456,304	\$ 23,264,854
Investments, at contract value	603,006	729,521
Receivable:		
Notes receivable from participants	599,295	706,322
Total assets	30,658,605	24,700,697
Liabilities		
Corrective distributions	226,570	210,645
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 30,432,035	\$ 24,490,052

See notes to financial statements.

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

2021

Additions

Company contributions	\$	727,441
Participants' contributions		2,607,844
Participants' rollover contributions		1,190,784
Interest income on notes receivable from participants		41,767
Dividend income on investments		195,575
Interest income on investments		11,603
Net appreciation of investments		3,829,872
Total additions		8,604,886

Deductions

Benefits paid to participants		2,054,705
Administrative expenses		167,977
Total deductions		2,222,682

Net increase 6,382,204

Transfer of assets to the Torrid 401(k) Plan (Note 1) (440,221)

Net assets available for benefits

Beginning of year		24,490,052
End of year	\$	30,432,035

See notes to financial statements.

1. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following description of the Hot Topic 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants and other interested parties should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General - The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering eligible employees who are employed by Hot Topic, Inc. (the "Plan Sponsor") or related employers (collectively the "Company") and have completed 200 hours of service in a 12 month period and are at least 21 years of age. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as amended.

During the year ended December 31, 2021, certain assets of the Plan were transferred out of the Plan to the Torrid 401(k) Plan. The transfers totaled \$440,221 and are reflected in the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2021.

Contributions - Participants may contribute pre-tax and Roth deferrals up to 80 percent of annual compensation, as defined in the Plan and subject to certain limitations under the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"). Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other eligible retirement plans, as defined. Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan.

The Plan provides for a discretionary matching contribution and for the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company matched each eligible participant's deferral at the rate of 50 percent of the first four percent of the participant's deferred compensation. During the year ended December 31, 2021, the Company made discretionary matching contributions of \$727,441. The Plan also provides for a discretionary nonelective contribution for eligible employees employed on the last day of the year, of which none was made for the year ended December 31, 2021. Highly compensated employees who are making deferrals to the Hot Topic, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan are not eligible to receive matching contributions to this Plan.

Participant Accounts - Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and Company matching contributions, as well as allocations of the Company's nonelective contribution, if any, and Plan earnings, and charged with any withdrawals or distributions requested by the participant, investment losses and allocation of administrative expenses, if applicable. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting - Participants are vested immediately in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's contribution portion of their accounts is based on years of service. Participants are vested in Company contributions over a three-year period, as defined.

Forfeitures - Forfeitures of Company contributions may be used to pay Plan administrative expenses or to reduce future Company contributions. During the year ended December 31, 2021, forfeitures of \$61,652 were used to pay Plan administrative expenses. As of December 31, 2021 forfeitures of \$769 are available for future use.

Corrective Distributions - Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions. The Plan distributed the 2021 excess contributions to the applicable participants during October 2022.

Payment of Benefits - On termination of service for any reason, a participant may elect to receive either a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, substantially equal installment payments or partial withdrawals as permitted under the Plan. The Plan provides for a mandatory cash-out following severance of employment where all vested account balances not exceeding \$1,000 may be immediately distributed in a lump sum payment. All vested account balances exceeding \$1,000, but not exceeding \$5,000, will be rolled into an Individual Retirement Account.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting - The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, primarily from information provided by John Hancock Trust Company (the "Trustee").

Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the plan administrator 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 - The Plan's investments are reported at fair value (except for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, which are reported at contract 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.

Investments are valued daily. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on an 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 but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2021 and 2020.

Administrative Expenses - Certain administrative expenses incidental to the administration of the Plan, including fees of the Trustee and independent public accountants, may be paid by the Plan. Administrative expenses not paid by the Company are paid by the Plan.

Most investment options have fees which reduce the overall return on assets. The net appreciation of investments is reflected net of these fees.

Benefits Payable to Participants - Benefits are recorded when paid.

3. FAIR VALUE

The Plan accounts for its financial instruments using a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The fair value measurement hierarchy is based on three levels of inputs, of which the first two are considered observable and the last unobservable.

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2021

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are the following:

- Level 1 – Inputs to the valuation methodology that are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access.
- Level 2 – Inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are inactive; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities.
- Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation that are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

A financial instrument's categorization within the valuation hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2021 and 2020.

Mutual Funds – This category consists of publicly traded funds of registered investment companies. The net asset value of the mutual fund's shares is quoted on the exchange where the fund is traded and therefore classified as Level 1 within the valuation hierarchy.

All of the Plan's investments at fair value are Level 1 and the following table sets forth the Plan's investments at fair value:

As of December 31,	2021	2020
Mutual funds	\$ 29,456,304	\$ 23,264,854
Total investments at fair value	\$ 29,456,304	\$ 23,264,854

4. FINANCIAL DATA CERTIFIED BY THE TRUSTEE

The plan administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the following information was certified as complete and accurate by the Trustee and was not subjected to any auditing procedures performed by the independent public accountants:

- a. Investments, at fair value and contract value, and notes receivable from participants as shown in the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021 and 2020.
- b. Net appreciation of investments, interest and dividend income on investments, and interest income on notes receivable from participants as shown in the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2021.

- c. Investments, fully benefit-responsive investment contract, and participant loans as listed in the accompanying Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2021.

5. NOTES RECEIVABLE FROM PARTICIPANTS

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 less the highest outstanding loan balance during the prior 12 months or 50 percent of their vested account balance. Loans are generally issued with a maturity of up to five years. The term of any loan for the purpose of purchasing a primary residence shall not exceed 20 years. The loan interest rate is set at one and one half percent above the prime rate, as defined. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

6. FULLY BENEFIT-RESPONSIVE INVESTMENT CONTRACT

The Plan entered into a traditional fully benefit-responsive guaranteed investment contract with New York Life Insurance Company ("NYL") totaling \$603,006 for 2021 and \$729,521 for 2020. NYL maintains the contributions in a general account. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. NYL is contractually obligated to repay the principal and specified interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan. The crediting interest rate is based on a formula agreed upon with NYL. Such interest rates are reset on a quarterly basis.

The New York Life Guaranteed Interest Account meets the fully benefit-responsive investment contract criteria and therefore is reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measure for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because this is the amount received by participants if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. Contract value, as reported to the Plan by NYL, represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

The Plan's ability to receive amounts due is dependent on NYL's ability to meet its financial obligations. NYL's ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with NYL. The plan administrator believes that no events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with NYL and that would also limit the Plan's ability to transact at contract value with participants. The investment contract does not permit NYL to terminate the agreement prior to the scheduled maturity date.

7. 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. Market risks include global events which could impact the value of investment securities, such as a pandemic or international conflict. 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.

8. PLAN TERMINATION

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 percent vested in their Company contributions.

9. TAX STATUS

The Company adopted a non-standardized pre-approved profit sharing plan which is the subject of a favorable tax opinion letter from the IRS dated June 30, 2020. The Company routinely self-reviews the administration of the Plan and self-corrects any compliance issues in accordance with the Employee Plans Compliance Resolution System. The Company believes that the Plan currently is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes the Plan is tax-exempt. Accordingly, 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 uncertain tax positions taken by the Plan. The financial statement effects of a tax position are recognized when the position is more likely than not, based on the technical merits, to be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2021, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan has recognized no interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

10. RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

As of December 31,	2021	2020
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 30,432,035	\$ 24,490,052
Corrective distributions	226,570	210,645
Net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500	\$ 30,658,605	\$ 24,700,697

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2021

The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

For the year ended December 31,	2021
Net increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 6,382,204
Change in corrective distributions	15,925
Net increase in net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500	\$ 6,398,129

11. RELATED PARTY AND PARTY IN INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain Plan investments are managed by the Trustee. Transactions with the Trustee qualify as party in interest transactions for which exemptions exist. The Trustee received \$130,182 for administration fees, of which \$68,530 were paid by the participants through the Plan and \$61,652 was paid from the Plan's forfeiture account, and received indirect compensation based on a formula. In addition, the Plan's investment advisor received direct compensation of \$25,000 and the Plan's former independent public accountants received direct compensation of \$12,795.

12. DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS

Certain 2019 contributions were not remitted timely to the Trustee as required by the Department of Labor's regulations. These late remittances are detailed in the attached Schedule H, Line 4a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions.

13. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through November 3, 2022, which is the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, and determined that there were no subsequent events or transactions that required recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN

EIN 77-0198182 PLAN #001

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)**DECEMBER 31, 2021**

Identity of issue	Description of investment	Current value
Investments		
American Funds 2010 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	\$ 871,770
American Funds 2015 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	109,320
American Funds 2020 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	92,932
American Funds 2025 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	408,543
American Funds 2030 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	4,534,712
American Funds 2035 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	1,095,612
American Funds 2040 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	503,121
American Funds 2045 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	1,424,201
American Funds 2050 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	8,651,305
American Funds 2055 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	1,918,268
American Funds 2060 Target Date Retirement Fund	Asset Allocation Mutual Fund	232,406
American Century Mid Cap Value Fund	Mutual Fund	128,346
American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund	Mutual Fund	401,398
Carillon Eagle Mid Cap Growth Fund	Mutual Fund	144,065
Fidelity Advisor Small Cap Growth Fund	Mutual Fund	362,348
Fidelity Advisor Small Cap Value Fund	Mutual Fund	57,363
Fidelity Advisor Total Bond Fund	Mutual Fund	564,925
iShares MSCI EAFE International Index Fund	Mutual Fund	352,635
Lord Abbett Affiliated Fund	Mutual Fund	648,478
T. Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth Fund	Mutual Fund	1,789,960
Vanguard 500 Index Fund	Mutual Fund	3,410,320
Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Fund	Mutual Fund	586,469
Vanguard Small-Cap Index Fund	Mutual Fund	1,003,198
William Blair Emerging Markets Leaders Fund	Mutual Fund	164,609
		29,456,304
Fully benefit-responsive investment contract		
* New York Life Guaranteed Interest Account	Guaranteed Interest Account	603,006
* Participant loans		
	Interest rates from 4.25% to 7.00%, maturity dates from 2022 to 2040	599,295
		\$ 30,658,605

* Indicates a party in interest to the Plan.

See notes to financial statements and accompanying independent auditor's report.

HOT TOPIC 401(k) PLAN**EIN 77-0198182 PLAN #001****SCHEDULE H, LINE 4a - SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021**

Participant Contributions Transferred Late to Plan	Check here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are included	Total that Constitutes Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions:			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
		Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP*	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP*	
\$ 12,269 **		\$ -	\$ 12,269	\$ -	\$ -

* Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program

** 2019 contributions deposited to the Plan during 2020 and lost earnings were deposited during November 2021.

See notes to financial statements and accompanying independent auditor's report.

October 14, 2022

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Subject: Hot Topic Inc. 401(k) Auditor's Letter and Financial Statements for Play Year 2021

For Plan Year 2021, Hot Topic Inc. has been working with a new auditor for the Company's 401(k) Plan. This was due to our former auditor leaving the retirement plan audit business.

The new auditor is still completing our audit letter and financial statements. These should be completed by Thursday, October 20, 2022. When these documents are completed, we will amend our filing to complete our 5500 submission.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Eric Ueno
Senior Vice President, Human Resources
eueno@hottopic.com

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)*
DECEMBER 31, 2021

* See attached financial statements with independent auditor's report.