

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 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
--	---	---

Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022	
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 FIRST FOUNDATION INC. RETIREMENT PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/1996
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) FIRST FOUNDATION INC. 18101 VON KARMAN AVE 7TH FLOOR IRVINE, CA 92612
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-8639702
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 949-202-4100
2d	Business code (see instructions) 522120

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.	07/03/2023	JOHN HAKOPIAN
	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

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		5 653
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) 536
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2) 688
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits		6b 4
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....		6c 150
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d 842
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e 0
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f 842
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....		6g 817
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....		6h 47
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: 3H 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2S 2T 3D 2R		
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) ☐ 0 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 2022 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2022 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
		2022
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022		
A Name of plan FIRST FOUNDATION INC. RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 FIRST FOUNDATION INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-8639702	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
--------	---

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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL
04-2647786

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(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?
37 60 64 65 71	RECORDKEEPER	42865	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 ☐

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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	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.
COL BALANCED ADV - COLUMBIA MGT IN	PO BOX 219104 KANSAS CITY, MO 64121-9104	0.25%
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	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.
COL DIVIDEND INC ADV - COLUMBIA MG	PO BOX 219104 KANSAS CITY, MO 64121-9104	0.25%
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	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.
COL TOT RTN BOND ADV - COLUMBIA MG	14785 PRESTON ROAD SUITE 1000 DALLAS, TX 75254	0.25%

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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	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.
INVS MAIN STREET Y - INVESCO INVES 11 GREENWAY PLAZA, SUITE 100 HOUSTON, TX 77046	0.25%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	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.
TRP BLUE CHIP GRTH - T. ROWE PRICE 52-2269240	0.15%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	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.
FIRST FOUNDATION TOTAL RETURN FUND 1 FREEDOM VALLEY DR OAKS, PA 19456	0.12%

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) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	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.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
---	---	---

For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022		
A Name of plan FIRST FOUNDATION INC. RETIREMENT PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 FIRST FOUNDATION INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-8639702	

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)
--------	---

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: TRP STABLE VALUE A		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T. ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 52-1309931-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 189311
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 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
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
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
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) 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 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2022</u> and ending <u>12/31/2022</u>		
A Name of plan <u>FIRST FOUNDATION INC. RETIREMENT 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>FIRST FOUNDATION INC.</u>		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>20-8639702</u>

Part I Asset and Liability Statement			
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	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions.....	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other.....	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	1c(1)	2958705	3619185
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common.....	1c(4)(B)	0	0
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants).....	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans.....	1c(8)	1044273	1384837
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	1c(9)	189601	189311
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts.....	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	1c(13)	67855143	63248005
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)	0	0
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	72047722	68441338

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
h Operating payables	1h	0	0
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
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	72047722	68441338
---	-----------	----------	----------

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 Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	2805524	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	7171320	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	7060624	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)	0	17037468
(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)	60171	
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	63224	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		123395
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)	1	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	1759357	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1759358
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)	35944	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)	37169	
(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)	0	
(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)		3940
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		-15697560
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		3225376
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	6789556	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		6789556
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		0
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	0	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)	0	
(4) Other	2i(4)	42204	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		42204
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		6831760
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		-3606384
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

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: **NGP & ASSOCIATES**

(2) EIN: **84-3868636**

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 _____.

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 2022 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022		
A Name of plan FIRST FOUNDATION INC. RETIREMENT PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ► 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 FIRST FOUNDATION INC.		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 20-8639702
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
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): 04-6568107		
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) 2022 v. 220413		

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (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 _____

**Physical Address:**

17785 Center Court Dr. N.
Suite 680, Cerritos, CA 90703

NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

Off: 562-474-1242 • Dir: 714-624-5086 • Fax: 562-402-5227

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1178
Brea, CA 92822

June 15, 2023

The Trustees and Administrators
First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan
18201 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 750
Irvine, CA 92612

We have audited the financial statements of First Foundation Inc. Retirement 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) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit] for the year ended December 31, 2022 and we will issue our report thereon dated June 15, 2023. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by Fidelity Management Trust Company, the trustee, which is a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, that prepared and certified the statements or information regarding assets so held in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5. 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 financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information 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 financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with GAAP. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards, as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated March 27, 2023. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters***Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices***

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan are described in Note 2 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2022. We noted no transactions entered into by the Plan during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate(s) affecting the financial statements was Management's estimate of the fair value of the investments.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Form 5500 Procedures

We are required to obtain and read a substantially complete draft of Form 5500 prior to dating our auditor's report. The purpose of this procedure is to identify any material inconsistencies between the draft Form 5500 and the Plan's financial statements. We identified no material inconsistencies in performing and completing our audit.



NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements, if identified. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a disagreement on a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated June 15, 2023.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Plan's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Plan's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

Our responsibility for the ERISA-required supplemental schedules accompanying the financial statements is to perform adequate procedures to evaluate whether the form and content of the ERISA-required supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, is presented in compliance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, and whether 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).



NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

This information is intended solely for the use of the Trustees and management of First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

NGP & Associates

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Financial Statements
For the Years Ended
December 31, 2022 and 2021

Table of Contents

Page

Independent Auditors' Report.....	1
-----------------------------------	---

Financial Statements:

Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits.....	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits	6
Notes to Financial Statements	7

Supplemental Schedules:

Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year) – Year Ended December 31, 2022	14
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year) – Year Ended December 31, 2021	15



Physical Address:

17785 Center Court Dr. N.
Suite 680, Cerritos, CA 90703

NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

Off: 562-474-1242 • Dir: 714-624-5086 • Fax: 562-402-5227

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1178
Brea, CA 92822

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Administrative Committee and Participants of the
First Foundation, Inc. Retirement Plan:

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

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of First Foundation Inc. Retirement 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) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan's 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 Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not 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, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and for the year ended December 31, 2022, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section—

- the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, 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.
- the information in the financial statements referred to above 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).



NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. 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 these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; 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, that raise substantial doubt about First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are 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 Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the 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 generally accepted auditing standards 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.



NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, 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 First Foundation Inc. Retirement 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 First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits 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 financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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 we identified during the audit.

Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule (Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets Held (At End of Year)) are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. 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 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 audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted



NGP & Associates

Certified Public Accountants
(An Accountancy Corporation)

auditing standards. 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 Department of Labor'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 Department of Labor'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).

June 15, 2023

NGP & Associates

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Statements of Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
Assets:		
Investments at fair value	\$ 66,867,190	\$ 70,813,848
Investments at contract value	189,311	189,601
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	1,384,837	1,044,273
Total receivables	1,384,837	1,044,273
Total assets	68,441,338	72,047,722
Liabilities:		
Accruals	\$ -	\$ -
Total liabilities	-	-
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 68,441,338	\$ 72,047,722

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

	2022
Additions:	
Investment income:	
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investment	\$ (15,694,844)
Interest, dividends and capital gains received on investments	1,819,529
	(13,875,315)
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	63,224
Contributions:	
Contributions by participants	7,171,320
Contributions by employer	2,805,524
Rollover contributions	7,060,624
Total contributions	17,037,468
Total additions in net assets	3,225,377
Deductions:	
Benefits paid to participants	6,789,556
Administrative expenses	42,205
Total deduction in net assets	6,831,761
Net increase (decrease) in net assets available for plan benefits	(3,606,384)
Net assets available for plan benefits:	
Beginning of year	72,047,722
End of year	\$ 68,441,338

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

1. Description of Plan

The following description of the First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement and amendments for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

(a) General

First Foundation Inc. (the "Company") established and adopted the First Foundation Inc. Retirement Plan (the "Plan") effective January 1, 1996. The Plan was subsequently amended on January 6, 2015. The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering substantially all employees of the Company. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

(b) Contributions

Participants who are employees of the Company for three months may elect to have the Company contribute on their behalf to the Plan a portion of their compensation for the Plan year. Such salary reduction contributions ("elective deferrals") on a pre-tax basis shall not exceed each participant's annual compensation, as defined, to a maximum of \$20,500 and \$19,500 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Participants aged 50 years and over may make catch-up contributions of up to \$6,500 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. Additionally, participants may elect to transfer funds into the Plan from other qualified retirement plans.

The Company also makes contributions to the Plan. Company matching contributions are allocated to participants based on their elective deferrals. The Company makes a matching contribution to an amount equal to 100% of each participant's elective deferrals up to the first 3% of the participant's eligible compensation and then 50% to the next 2% of the participant's eligible compensation, with a maximum of \$12,200 and \$11,600 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively.

During the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, the Company made matching contributions in the amount of \$2,805,524 and \$2,147,005, respectively. The Company may also make contributions at the discretion of the Company's board of directors. No discretionary contributions were made to the Plan in 2022.

(c) Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and an allocation of (a) the Company's contributions, (b) Plan earnings and losses and (c) forfeitures of terminated participants' non-vested accounts and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. 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.

(d) Vesting and Forfeiture

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Participants become vested in Company matching contributions, including earnings thereon, and based on years of service to the Company. It is Company practice in cases of acquisitions of other companies to give credit to employee's prior service earned at the acquired company. After completing three years of service, a participant is 100% vested in Company matching contributions and earnings thereon.

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

1. Description of Plan (continued)

In the event a participant withdraws from the Plan before fully vesting, the unvested portion of Company matching contributions, including earnings thereon, is forfeited. Forfeitures may reduce the amount of future Company matching contributions or may be used to pay for administrative expenses of the Plan, at the discretion of the Administrator. There were forfeitures amounting to \$78,580 and \$63,379 during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively which were used to reduce matching contributions.

(e) Participant Loans

A participant employed by the Company may borrow from the Plan the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of the value of their vested account balance. Loans are repaid in level installments of principal and interest not to exceed 60 months (120 months for principal residence loans) and bear interest at fixed interest rates set by the Administrator.

(f) Payment of Benefits

On termination of service due to death, disability, or retirement, a participant will receive the amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account. The payment can be made in a lump sum, or if elected by the participant, under a systematic withdrawal plan. A participant (or participant's beneficiary, if applicable) who is receiving a distribution under the systematic withdrawal plan may elect to accelerate installment payments, or any portion thereof, or to receive a lump sum distribution of the remainder of his or her account balance.

(g) Termination of the Plan

The Company has the right under the Plan to suspend or discontinue contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event the Plan is terminated, all participants will become 100% vested in their accounts.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

(b) 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 statement of net assets available for benefits.

(c) Use of 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. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(d) Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid for financial statement purposes.

(e) Investment Valuation and Recognition of Income

Investments are recorded at fair value (except for the fully benefit-responsive investment contract, which is reported at contract value, where applicable). 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. The Plan's Investment Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisers, custodians and insurance company. See note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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.

(f) 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, 2022 and 2021.

(g) Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of note receivable from participants are charged directly to the participants account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation of fair value of investments.

(h) Trustees' evaluation of Subsequent Events

The trustees have evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through June 15, 2023, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

3. Fair Value Measurements

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) *Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, provides the framework for measuring fair value. That framework 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 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are 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 | <p>Inputs to the valuation methodology include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 <p>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.</p> |
| Level 3 | Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. |

The assets 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 need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2022 and 2021.

Mutual Funds: Valued at the daily closing prices as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. 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.

Money Market Funds: Valued using pricing models maximizing the use of observable inputs of similar securities.

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

3. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2022 and 2021.

Assets at Fair Value as of
December 31, 2022

	<i>Level 1</i>	<i>Level 2</i>	<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mutual funds	\$ 63,248,005	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,248,005
Money Market Funds	-	3,619,185	-	3,619,185
Total assets at fair value	\$ 63,248,005	\$ 3,619,185	\$ -	\$ 66,867,190

Assets at Fair Value as of
December 31, 2021

	<i>Level 1</i>	<i>Level 2</i>	<i>Level 3</i>	<i>Total</i>
Mutual funds	\$ 67,855,143	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 67,855,143
Money Market Funds	-	2,958,705	-	2,958,705
Total assets at fair value	\$ 67,855,143	\$ 2,958,705	\$ -	\$ 70,813,848

4. Guaranteed Investment Contract

The Plan has a traditional fully benefit-responsive guarantee investment contract as part of its portfolio of investments. As of December 31, 2022, the investment balance totaled \$189,311. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The guaranteed investment contract issuer is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specific interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan. The crediting rate is based on a formula established by the contract issuer. The crediting rate is reviewed on a quarterly basis for resetting. The guaranteed investment contract does not permit the company to terminate the agreement prior to the scheduled maturity date.

This contract 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 values are reported to the Plan 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 investments at contract value.

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

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

4. Guaranteed Investment Contract (continued)

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan sponsor or other Plan sponsor events that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, or (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption under ERISA (5) premature termination of the contract. No events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that also would limit the ability of the plan to transact at contract value with the participants.

In addition, certain events allow the issuer to terminate the contract with the Plan and settle at an amount different from contract value. Such events include (1) an uncured violation of the Plan's investment guidelines, (2) a breach of material obligations under the contract, (3) a material misrepresentation, (4) a material amendment to the agreement without the consent of the issuer.

5. Allocation of Plan Assets

Employee contributions are allocated to various funds based on the elections made by each participant. Net income or loss of each fund is allocated on the basis of the proportionate asset balance of each participant as of the previous valuation date after adjustment for withdrawals, distributions, and other additions or subtractions that may be appropriate. Earnings are allocated on the basis of current shares held in each participant's account and the accounts are valued daily.

6. Loans to Participants

Participant loans bear interest ranging from 4.25% to 7.25%. Interest charged on outstanding loans amounted to \$63,224 and 48,208 for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, respectively. As of December 31, 2022 and 2021, the principal balance outstanding on participant loans was \$1,384,837 and \$1,044,273, respectively.

7. Federal Income Taxes

The Internal Revenue Service has determined and informed the Plan, by a letter dated June 30, 2020 that the Plan is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The plan administrator believes that the plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements.

United States of America Generally Accepted Accounting Principles require Plan Management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or assets) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdiction; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan Administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for the years prior to December 31, 2018.

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

8. Related Party Transactions

At December 31, 2022 and 2021, certain Plan investments were shares of mutual funds and money market funds managed by Fidelity Management Trust Company ("Fidelity"). Fidelity is the custodian of the Plan, as defined by the Plan agreement; therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

9. Merger

In December 2021, First Florida Integrity Bank ("FFIB") was merged with First Foundation Inc. Approximately 124 employees transferred over. FFIB's 401K Savings Plan was terminated, and the transferring employees had to option to roll over their balances into First Foundation Inc, Retirement Plan.

10. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements at December 31, 2022 and 2021, to Form 5500:

	2022	2021
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 68,441,338	\$ 72,047,722
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	\$ 68,441,338	\$ 72,047,722

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)
(Part IV 4i of IRS Form 5500 Schedule H)
(EIN: 20-8639702 and PN: 96311-001)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

(a)	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party (b)	Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity values	Cost (d)	Current Value (e)
	COL Balanced Adv	Mutual Fund	n/a	\$ 710,145
	COL Dividend Inc Adv	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,579,856
	COL Total Returns Bond Adv	Mutual Fund	n/a	254,371
	Dodge & Cox Int	Mutual Fund	n/a	322,946
*	FID 500 Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	8,566,442
*	FID Balanced Fund	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,885,341
*	FID Emerging Market Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,054,694
*	FID Freedom Fund 2015	Mutual Fund	n/a	303,329
*	FID Freedom Fund 2020	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,604,862
*	FID Freedom Fund 2025	Mutual Fund	n/a	6,593,936
*	FID Freedom Fund 2030	Mutual Fund	n/a	5,343,925
*	FID Freedom Fund 2035	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,200,137
*	FID Freedom Fund 2040	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,447,747
*	FID Freedom Fund 2045	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,744,182
*	FID Freedom Fund 2050	Mutual Fund	n/a	3,250,131
*	FID Freedom Fund 2055	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,883,167
*	FID Freedom Idx Inc Inv	Mutual Fund	n/a	492,994
*	FID Global EX US IDX	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,214,822
*	FID Mid Cap Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,449,937
*	FID Small Cap Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,096,611
*	FID US Bond Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,209,335
	Invs Main Street Y	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,258,473
	PGIM High Yield R6	Mutual Fund	n/a	763,688
	TRP BlueChip Growth	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,424,477
	TRP Stable Value A	Interest in common trust	n/a	189,311
*	VANG VMMR-FED Money Market	Mutual Fund	n/a	3,547,322
	Brokerage Linked	Mutual Fund	n/a	664,320
		Interest rates ranging from		
*	Participant Loans	4.25% to 7.25%	n/a	1,384,837
		Total		68,441,338
*	Party in interest			

FIRST FOUNDATION INC.
RETIREMENT PLAN
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)
(Part IV 4i of IRS Form 5500 Schedule H)
(EIN: 20-8639702 and PN: 96311-001)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2021

(a)	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party (b)	Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity values	Cost (d)	Current Value (e)
	COL Balanced Adv	Mutual Fund	n/a	\$ 895,082
	COL Dividend Inc Adv	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,780,896
	COL Total Returns Bond Adv	Mutual Fund	n/a	290,513
*	FID 500 Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	9,099,392
*	FID Balanced Fund	Mutual Fund	n/a	3,615,639
*	FID Emerging Market Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,388,303
*	FID Freedom Fund 2015	Mutual Fund	n/a	258,463
*	FID Freedom Fund 2020	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,080,663
*	FID Freedom Fund 2025	Mutual Fund	n/a	7,742,941
*	FID Freedom Fund 2030	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,303,241
*	FID Freedom Fund 2035	Mutual Fund	n/a	3,052,995
*	FID Freedom Fund 2040	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,024,783
*	FID Freedom Fund 2045	Mutual Fund	n/a	4,642,694
*	FID Freedom Fund 2050	Mutual Fund	n/a	3,732,852
*	FID Freedom Fund 2055	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,951,217
*	FID Freedom Idx Inc Inv	Mutual Fund	n/a	619,391
*	FID Global EX US IDX	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,606,896
*	FID Mid Cap Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,526,983
*	FID Small Cap Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,374,487
*	FID US Bond Index	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,203,094
	Invs Main Street Y	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,561,426
	PGIM High Yield R6	Mutual Fund	n/a	1,025,917
	TRP BlueChip Growth	Mutual Fund	n/a	7,077,275
	TRP Stable Value A	Interest in common trust	n/a	189,601
*	VANG VMMR-FED Money Market	Mutual Fund	n/a	2,958,705
*	Participant Loans	4.25% to 6.50%	n/a	1,044,273
		Total		<u>\$ 72,047,722</u>
*	Party in interest			