

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
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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) HURRICANE IDALIA
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 MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP 401(K) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/1985
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) THE MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP, LLC 1310 UNION STREET SPARTANBURG, SC 29302-3342
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-2595304
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 864-583-3011
2d	Business code (see instructions) 424950

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.	02/14/2024	LAURIE ANDERSON
	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		5 909
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) 623
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2) 568
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits		6b 0
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits.....		6c 121
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d 689
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.		6e 0
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f 689
g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item).....		6g 609
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....		6h 108
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 2S 2T 3D 3H		
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 MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-2595304	

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
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
42-0127290

(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)

PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

42-0127290

(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?
13 37 50 64	CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR	121184	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

CREATIVE PLANNING, INC.

43-1270780

(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 99	INVESTMENT ADVISORY	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	23624	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

LOCKTON INVESTMENT ADVISORS

PO BOX 219153
444 W 47TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, MO 64121-9153

20-8874282

(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 99	INVESTMENT ADVISORY	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	13121	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
LOCKTON INVESTMENT ADVISORS, LLC	27 99	13121
(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.	
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 42-0127290	INVESTMENT ADVISORY (PLAN)	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
CREATIVE PLANNING, INC.	27 99	23624
(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.	
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY 42-0127290	INVESTMENT ADVISORY (PLAN)	
(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:	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.
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2022 and ending 12/31/2022		
A Name of plan MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-2595304	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	PUTNAM STABLE VALUE FUND (15)
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	PUTNAM FIDUCIARY TRUST COMPANY
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c EIN-PN 04-3159710-202	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 3337101
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):		
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c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
---	--	--

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
code**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or
103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):**c** EIN-PN**d** Entity
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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
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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>MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP 401(K) PLAN</u>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%; padding: 5px;">B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►</td> <td style="width: 20%; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"><u>001</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="height: 20px;"></td> </tr> </table>		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>001</u>		
B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>001</u>					
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP, LLC</u>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%; padding: 5px;">D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>45-2595304</u></td> <td style="width: 20%;"></td> </tr> </table>		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>45-2595304</u>			
D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>45-2595304</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	
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions.....		1b(1)	4291846337
(2) Participant contributions.....		1b(2)	5600444337
(3) Other.....		1b(3)	
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....		1c(1)	45634500
(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)	281768322374
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....		1c(9)	03337101
(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)	2481862321528276
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....		1c(14)	
(15) Other		1c(15)	

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(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	29762763	25278425

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	29762763	25278425
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Part II Income and Expense Statement

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

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	773660	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2210359	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	795555	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		3779574
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)	13153	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	392	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		13545
(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)	450563	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		450563
(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)		-172864
(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)		-4787043
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		-716225
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	5424498	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)	1523	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		5426021
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses: (1) Professional fees	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	121184	
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)		
(4) Other	2i(4)		
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4)	2i(5)		121184
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		5547205
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		-6263430
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		1779092
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **ELLIOTT GROUP CPAS, PLLC**

(2) EIN: **45-4771754**

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		98573

	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		500000
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	X		

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 MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP 401(K) PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ► 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 THE MERIT DISTRIBUTION GROUP, LLC		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-2595304
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): 42-0127290		
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
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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 _____

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedules

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021 and
For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

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Independent Auditors' Report

To the Plan Administrator and Participants of the
Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan
Spartanburg, South Carolina

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

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of Merit Distribution Group 401(k) 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 the 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 audit 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 on the Financial Statements

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

- the amounts and disclosures in the 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.
- the information in the 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 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 Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Merit Distribution Group 401(k) 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 Merit Distribution Group 401(k) 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.

Auditors' 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 auditors' 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 Merit Distribution Group 401(k) 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 Merit Distribution Group 401(k) 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 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.

Other Matter—Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedules of (1) Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4a – Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions, and (2) Schedule H, Part IV, 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 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 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 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 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 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).

Elliott Gray CFPs, PLLC

Charlotte, North Carolina
February 14, 2024

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

<i>December 31,</i>	2022	2021
Assets		
Investments , at fair value	\$ 24,865,377	\$ 24,818,623
Cash equivalents	-	4,563,450
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	322,374	279,884
Employer contributions receivable	46,337	42,918
Employee contributions receivable	44,337	56,004
Total receivables	413,048	378,806
Total assets	25,278,425	29,760,879
Liabilities		
Excess contributions refundable	-	-
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 25,278,425	\$ 29,760,879

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

<i>Year Ended December 31,</i>	2022
Changes to net assets attributable to:	
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	\$ 15,037
Net investment income (loss):	
Interest and dividends	450,563
Net depreciation in fair value of investments	(4,959,515)
Total net investment loss	(4,508,952)
Contributions:	
Employee contributions	2,210,359
Employer matching contributions	773,660
Rollover contributions	795,555
Total contributions	3,779,574
Distributions:	
Benefits paid to participants	(5,426,021)
Administrative fees	(121,184)
Total distributions	(5,547,205)
Net decrease	(6,261,546)
Transfer from another Plan	1,779,092
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	29,760,879
End of year	\$ 25,278,425

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

1. Description of Plan

The following description of Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan ("the Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan Document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code substantially covering all employees of The Merit Distribution Group, LLC and participating employers, ("the Company") who have attained 2 months of service, except for leased employees, non-resident aliens with no U.S. income, and employees covered by any collective bargaining agreement. The Plan Administrator of the Company determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings, monitors investment performance and reports to the Investment Committee of the Board of Directors. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

The Company acquired T&L Distributing, LP in a stock acquisition on April 1, 2021. The T&L Distributing, LP 401k Profit Sharing Plan was merged into this Plan in January 2022 with a transfer totaling \$1,779,092. Certain protected benefits were grandfathered into the Plan for T&L Distributing, LP participants. The Company also acquired Vrooman Carpet LLC and Cheney Carpet LLC on January 1, 2022 in stock acquisitions and Gilford-Johnson Flooring LLC on January 12, 2022 in an asset acquisition.

The Company made a decision to change their contract holder and recordkeeper to Principal Life Insurance Company ("Principal") effective January 1, 2022. All plan assets were transferred over to Principal by January 7, 2022.

On March 11, 2022, the Plan was restated for regulatory provisions. At this time the following changes were also made to the plan:

- Vesting in all Company contributions were changed from a 6 year graded schedule to a custom schedule where employees become 33 percent vested after 1 year of service, 66 percent vested after 2 years of service, and fully vested after 3 years of service.
- The auto-escalation maximum was reduced from 10 percent to 7 percent.
- Participants will qualify to receive early retirement benefits upon attaining age 60 with 3 years of vesting service.
- Reclassified employees, independent contractors who are later determined to be employees, are now excluded.
- Certain predecessor employers that did not maintain this Plan are deemed to be the Employer for purpose of determining entry service.

On December 23, 2022, Congress passed the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 which included SECURE Act 2.0. SECURE Act 2.0 contains approximately 90 new retirement provisions, with varying effective dates through 2027. Since SECURE Act 2.0 provisions include both required and optional elements, the plan administrator will determine the optional provisions to elect and amend the Plan document accordingly. Most of the significant provisions will become effective in 2024 and thereafter. Accordingly, there is no material impact to the Plan's 2022 financial statements.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute compensation, as defined in the Plan document, subject to certain limitations of 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. The Plan has a 6% auto-enrollment feature that escalates by 1% on the first day of each Plan year following enrollment up to 7%, unless changed by the participant. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans. The Company may provide a discretionary match to all eligible employees each payroll period. In 2022, the Company matched 50% of the first 6% of base compensation that a participant contributed to the Plan. Additional discretionary nonelective contributions may be made at the option of the Company's Board of Directors. No discretionary nonelective contributions were made during 2022. Contributions are subject to certain limitations.

Investment options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant may direct all contributions to selected investments as made available and determined by the Plan Administrator. Participants may change their investment options daily.

Participant Accounts

All participant and employer contributions are participant-directed. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and the Company's matching contribution and allocations of any discretionary nonelective contributions and Plan earnings (losses) and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions, 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 immediately vested in their voluntary contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Participants become fully vested in the Company's contributions upon death, disability or upon attaining age 60 with 3 years of service. Vesting in the Company's contributions plus actual earnings thereon is based on years of continuous service as follows:

<i>Years of Service</i>	Percentage
1	33%
2	66%
3 or more	100%

Payment of Benefits

On termination of service including death, disability or retirement, a participant may elect to receive an amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account in either a lump-sum, partial payments, or installments as provided by the Plan. In-service distributions are permitted after participants reach the age of 59 1/2. The Plan also permits distributions for reasons of hardship, as defined by the Plan.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

Forfeited Accounts

Forfeitures will be used to reduce future employer contributions or pay Plan expenses. Forfeited non-vested accounts at December 31, 2022 and 2021 were \$16 and \$100,082, respectively. Forfeitures of \$77,105 and \$30,878 were used during the Plan year toward employer contributions and Plan expenses, respectively.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their accounts, other than Roth balances, a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of 50% of their vested account balance or \$50,000. Loan terms range up to five years or over a reasonable period of time for the purchase of a primary residence, as established by the Plan Administrator at the time of the loan. The loans are collateralized by the vested balance in the participant's account and bear interest at the prime rate plus 1%. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Company and are excluded from these financial statements. Administrative expenses include fees related to the administration of notes receivable that are charged directly to the participant's account, distribution fees, and certain advisory fees paid by the Plan. Investment related expenses are included in net depreciation of fair value of investments.

Excess Contributions Refundable

Amounts refundable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to employee or employer contributions. The Plan passed all non-discrimination testing for 2022, therefore there were no refunds in 2023.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

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

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, 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. The fair value of a financial instrument is the amount 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 exit price). See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

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. Delinquent participant loans are recorded as distributions based on the terms of the Plan agreement. Deemed defaulted loans amounted to \$75,079 during 2022.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

3. Unaudited Information

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-5(c) of the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, the following data included in the accompanying financial statements is complete and accurate as certified by , Delaware Charter Guarantee and Trust Company d/b/a Principal Trust Company as of December 31, 2022 and for the period from January 7, 2022 through December 31, 2022, and by Ascensus, LLC, as agent of Ascensus Trust Company ("Ascensus") as of December 31, 2021 and for the period from January 1, 2022 through January 7, 2022.

<i>December 31,</i>	2022	2021
Investments, at fair value	\$ 24,865,377	\$ 24,818,623
Cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 4,563,450
Notes receivable from participants	\$ 322,374	\$ 279,884

<i>Year Ended December 31,</i>	2022
Interest and dividends	\$ 450,563
Net depreciation on fair value of investments	\$ (4,959,515)
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	\$ 15,037

The Plan's independent accountants did not perform auditing procedures with respect to this information, except for comparing such information to related information in the financial statements and supplemental schedules.

4. Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 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.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

Level 2- Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

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

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

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

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

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes to the methodologies used at December 31, 2022 and 2021:

Mutual Funds: Mutual funds are valued at the net asset value (NAV) of shares held by the Plan, which is the daily closing price as reported by the fund.

Collective Investment Trust Funds: The Plan invests in a stable value fund. This fund invests in benefit responsive investment contracts, fixed income securities, and money market funds. It is valued at 4pm EST on the last calendar day of the period. The portfolio policy is to use its best efforts to maintain a stable net asset value, although there is no guarantee. The portfolio obtains prices from one or more third party pricing vendors to value its investments. The fund is valued using NAV as a practical expedient.

Cash Equivalents: This is an interest-bearing money market account and is valued at amortized cost.

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

To assess the appropriate classification of investments within the fair value hierarchy, the availability of market data is monitored. Changes in economic conditions or valuation techniques may require the transfer of investments from one fair value level to another. In such instances, the transfer is reported at the beginning of the reporting period. The Plan evaluates the significance of transfers between levels based upon the nature of the investment and size of the transfer relative to total net assets available for benefits. For the year ended December 31, 2022, there were no significant transfers in or out of Levels 1, 2 or 3.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

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					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	
Investments subject to the fair value hierarchy:					
Mutual funds	\$21,528,276	\$ -	\$ -	\$21,528,276	
Investments not subject to the fair value hierarchy:					
Collective investment trust funds				3,337,101	
Total investments, at fair value	\$24,865,377				

Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2021					
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	
Investments subject to the fair value hierarchy:					
Cash Equivalents	\$ 4,563,450	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,563,450	
Mutual funds	24,818,623	-	-	24,818,623	
Total investments, at fair value	\$ 29,382,073	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 29,382,073	

5. Investments that Trade at Net Asset Value Per Share as a Practical Expedient

The following table sets forth additional disclosures of the investments whose fair value is estimated using net asset value per share (or its equivalent) for the Plan as of December 31, 2022. There were no investments traded at net asset value per share as a practical expedient as of December 31, 2021.

Fair Value Estimated Using Net Asset Value per Share December 31, 2022					
Investment	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitment	Redemption Frequency	Other Redemption Restrictions	Redemption Notice Period
Common collective trust fund-Stable Value	\$ 3,337,101	\$ -	Daily	None	None

6. Plan Termination

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

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2022

7. Tax Status

The Plan has received an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020, that the Plan Document is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The Plan Administrator and the Plan's management believe that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and therefore believe the Plan is qualified and the related trust is tax-exempt.

8. Non-Exempt Transactions

During the 2022 and 2021 Plan years, the Company failed to deposit participant contributions in the amounts of \$50,525 and \$48,049, respectively, within the required timeframe as stated by the DOL regulations. Company has calculated the lost earnings and remitted them to the Plan in February 2024.

9. 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:

<i>December 31,</i>	2022	2021
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 25,278,425	\$ 29,760,879
Accrued loan interest	-	1,884
Net Assets Available for Benefits per the Form 5500	\$ 25,278,425	\$ 29,762,763

The following is a reconciliation of the change in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2022:

<i>Year Ended December 31,</i>	2022
Change in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ (4,482,454)
Prior year accrued loan interest	1,884
Change in net assets available for benefits per the Form 5500	\$ (4,480,570)

10. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investments. Investments are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit volatility. Market risks include U.S. and global events that could impact the value of Plan investments. Such events may include public health emergencies such as a pandemic, as well as international conflicts, cybersecurity attacks, supply chain disruptions, global monetary policy decisions, inflation, significant economic influences, and other adverse credit and market events and conditions. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investments 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.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2022

11. Related Party Transactions and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Principal Trust Company, the trustee, as defined by the Plan, and therefore, transactions with this party qualifies as party-in-interest transactions. Fees are paid by the Plan for their services.

12. Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through February 14, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Effective January 1, 2024, the following amendments were made to the Plan:

- New employees will be automatically enrolled on the first day of the month following their hire date.
- All current employees will become immediately vested in their accounts and new hires will be 100 percent vested upon enrollment.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions
Year Ended December 31, 2022

Plan #: 001
EIN: 45-2595304

Participant Contributions transferred Late to Plan	Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002- 51
	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
Check here if late Participant Loan Repayments are included:				
☒ 2021	\$ 48,049	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
☒ 2022	\$ 50,525	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
December 31, 2022

Plan #: 001

EIN: 45-2595304

(b) Identity of Issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of Investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
Collective investment trust fund -			
Putnam Investment Mgmt Co.	Putnam Stable Value Fund (15)	\$	3,337,101
Mutual funds:			
American Century Investments	Small Cap Value R6 Fund		28,913
Fidelity Investments	Fidelity 500 Index Fund		736,963
Eagle Financial Services, Inc.	Mid Cap Growth R6 Fund		521,862
John Hancock	Disciplined Value Mid Cap R6 Fund		156,761
MFS Investment Management	MFS Growth R6 Fund		389,443
Oppenheimer	Invesco Discovery R6 Fund		21,324
The American Funds	EuroPacific Growth R6 Fund		108,832
The American Funds	New World R6 Fund		93,969
* Vanguard Group	Total Bond Market Index Adm Fund		43,507
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement Income Fund		928,453
* Vanguard Group	Equity Income Adm Fund		253,983
* Vanguard Group	Real Estate Index Adm Fund		40,375
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2060 Fund		185,640
* Vanguard Group	Mid Cap Index Adm Fund		222,062
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2040 Fund		2,228,357
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2035 Fund		2,906,955
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2045 Fund		1,137,031
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2020 Fund		1,248,151
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2055 Fund		385,732
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2025 Fund		4,330,002
* Vanguard Group	Small Cap Index Adm Fund		446,492
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2065 Fund		80,092
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2070 Fund		3,262
* Vanguard Group	Total Intl Stock Index Adm Fund		52,884
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2050 Fund		891,786
* Vanguard Group	Target Retirement 2030 Fund		3,715,117
Western Asset	Core Plus Bond IS Fund		370,328
Total mutual funds			21,528,276
Total investments per financial statements			24,865,377
* Notes receivable from participants	Interest rates ranging from 4.25%-8.50%		322,374
Total investments per Form 5500			\$ 25,187,751

* Represents a party-in-interest.

** All investments are participant directed; therefore cost information is not required.

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions
Year Ended December 31, 2022

Plan #: 001
EIN: 45-2595304

Participant Contributions transferred Late to Plan	Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002- 51
	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
Check here if late Participant Loan Repayments are included:				
☒ 2021	\$ 48,049	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
☒ 2022	\$ 50,525	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Merit Distribution Group 401(k) Plan

Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
December 31, 2022

Plan #: 001

EIN: 45-2595304

(b) Identity of Issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of Investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
Collective investment trust fund -			
Putnam Investment Mgmt Co.	Putnam Stable Value Fund (15)	\$	3,337,101
Mutual funds:			
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