

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2022

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

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.

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, 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
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
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: WHATCOM FIRE TRUST
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 501
1c Effective date of plan: 03/01/2020
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): WHATCOM FIRE TRUST WHATCOM FIREFIGHTERS BENEFITS TRUST
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 84-4189978
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 360-393-2951
2d Business code (see instructions): 813930

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.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature, Date, and Name. Rows for plan administrator, employer/plan sponsor, and DFE.

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

Form 5500 (2022) v. 220413

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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	5 161
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 a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits..... d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)..... h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1) 156 6a(2) 158 6b 3 6c 6d 161 6e 6f 161 6g 6h
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: b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions: 4A 4B 4D 4E 4H	
9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance (2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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) <input type="checkbox"/> R (Retirement Plan Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary (3) <input type="checkbox"/> SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	b General Schedules (1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> H (Financial Information) (2) <input type="checkbox"/> I (Financial Information – Small Plan) (3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 A (Insurance Information) (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C (Service Provider Information) (5) <input type="checkbox"/> D (DFE/Participating Plan Information) (6) <input type="checkbox"/> 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 _____

<p>SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)</p> <p>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p>Insurance Information</p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p>2022</p> <hr/> <p>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2022** and ending **12/31/2022**

<p>A Name of plan WHATCOM FIRE TRUST</p>	<p>B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p>501</p>
<p>C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 WHATCOM FIRE TRUST WHATCOM FIREFIGHTERS BENEFITS TRUST</p>	<p>D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 84-4189978</p>	

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

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
VISION SERVICE PLAN

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
23-7089668	53031	30101832	122	01/01/2022	12/31/2022

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

<p>(a) Total amount of commissions paid</p> <p style="text-align: center;">690</p>	<p>(b) Total amount of fees paid</p>
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3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

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

LIBERTY BENEFITS GROUP LLC **PO BOX 691**
WOODINVILLE, WA 98072-0691

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
690			3

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end.....	4	
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount..... Specify nature of costs ▶	6d	

e Type of contract: (1) individual policies (2) group deferred annuity
 (3) other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) deposit administration (2) immediate participation guarantee
 (3) guaranteed investment (4) other ▶

b Balance at the end of the previous year **7b**

c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)		
(2) Dividends and credits.....	7c(2)		
(3) Interest credited during the year.....	7c(3)		
(4) Transferred from separate account.....	7c(4)		
(5) Other (specify below)	7c(5)		

(6) Total additions..... **7c(6)** 0

d Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)..... **7d**

e Deductions:			
(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)		
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	7e(2)		
(3) Transferred to separate account.....	7e(3)		
(4) Other (specify below)	7e(4)		

(5) Total deductions..... **7e(5)** 0

f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 0

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

- 8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)
- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| a <input type="checkbox"/> Health (other than dental or vision) | b <input type="checkbox"/> Dental | c <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vision | d <input type="checkbox"/> Life insurance |
| e <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary disability (accident and sickness) | f <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term disability | g <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental unemployment | h <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription drug |
| i <input type="checkbox"/> Stop loss (large deductible) | j <input type="checkbox"/> HMO contract | k <input type="checkbox"/> PPO contract | l <input type="checkbox"/> Indemnity contract |
| m <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▶ | | | |

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)	
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)	
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)	
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))		9a(4)
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)	
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)	
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))		9b(3)
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --		
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)	
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)	
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)	
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)	
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)	
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)	
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)	
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.)		9c(2)
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)
(3) Other reserves		9d(3)
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e
10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:		
a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	24944
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount. Specify nature of costs.	10b	

Part IV Provision of Information

- 11** Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A? Yes No
- 12** If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

**SCHEDULE A
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service
Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Insurance Information

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).

OMB No. 1210-0110

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 WHATCOM FIRE TRUST	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 501
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 WHATCOM FIRE TRUST WHATCOM FIREFIGHTERS BENEFITS TRUST	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 84-4189978

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

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
LEOFF TRUST

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
		ADMIN	446	01/01/2022	12/31/2022

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

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid
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3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end.....	4	
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount..... Specify nature of costs ▶	6d	

e Type of contract: (1) individual policies (2) group deferred annuity
 (3) other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) deposit administration (2) immediate participation guarantee
 (3) guaranteed investment (4) other ▶

b Balance at the end of the previous year **7b**

c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)		
(2) Dividends and credits.....	7c(2)		
(3) Interest credited during the year.....	7c(3)		
(4) Transferred from separate account.....	7c(4)		
(5) Other (specify below)	7c(5)		

(6) Total additions..... **7c(6)** 0

d Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)..... **7d**

e Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)		
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	7e(2)		
(3) Transferred to separate account.....	7e(3)		
(4) Other (specify below)	7e(4)		

(5) Total deductions..... **7e(5)** 0

f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 0

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

- 8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)
- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| a <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health (other than dental or vision) | b <input type="checkbox"/> Dental | c <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vision | d <input type="checkbox"/> Life insurance |
| e <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary disability (accident and sickness) | f <input type="checkbox"/> Long-term disability | g <input type="checkbox"/> Supplemental unemployment | h <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription drug |
| i <input type="checkbox"/> Stop loss (large deductible) | j <input type="checkbox"/> HMO contract | k <input type="checkbox"/> PPO contract | l <input type="checkbox"/> Indemnity contract |
| m <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) ▶ | | | |

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)	
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)	
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve.....	9a(3)	
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		9a(4)
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	9b(1)	
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)	
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		9b(3)
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --		
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)	
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)	
(C) Other specific acquisition costs.....	9c(1)(C)	
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)	
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)	
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)	
(G) Other retention charges.....	9c(1)(G)	
(H) Total retention.....		9c(1)(H)
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.).....		9c(2)
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement.....		9d(1)
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)
(3) Other reserves		9d(3)
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).).....		9e
10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:		
a Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	2943461
b If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount. Specify nature of costs.	10b	

Part IV Provision of Information

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

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

TRUST PROVIDING ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES, NO SCHEDULE A AVAILABLE

<p style="text-align: center;">SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p>Insurance Information</p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large;">2022</p> <hr/> <p>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2022** and ending **12/31/2022**

<p>A Name of plan WHATCOM FIRE TRUST</p>	<p>B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p>501</p>
<p>C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 WHATCOM FIRE TRUST WHATCOM FIREFIGHTERS BENEFITS TRUST</p>	<p>D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 84-4189978</p>	

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

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
DELTA DENTAL OF WASHINGTON

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
91-0621480	47341	09702	534	01/01/2022	12/31/2022

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

<p>(a) Total amount of commissions paid</p> <p style="text-align: center;">26191</p>	<p>(b) Total amount of fees paid</p>
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3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

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

LIBERTY BENEFITS GROUP **4100 194TH STREET SW**
LYNNWOOD, WA 98026

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
26191			3

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

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

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

Part II	Investment and Annuity Contract Information Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.
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4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end.....	4	
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount..... Specify nature of costs ▶	6d	

e Type of contract: (1) individual policies (2) group deferred annuity
(3) other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) deposit administration (2) immediate participation guarantee
(3) guaranteed investment (4) other ▶

b Balance at the end of the previous year	7b	
c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)	
	7c(2)	
	7c(3)	
	7c(4)	
	7c(5)	
(6) Total additions.....	7c(6)	0
d Total of balance and additions (add lines 7b and 7c(6))	7d	
e Deductions: (1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)	
	7e(2)	
	7e(3)	
	7e(4)	
(5) Total deductions.....	7e(5)	0
f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line 7e(5) from line 7d)	7f	0

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

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)	284344	
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))		9a(4)	284344
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))		9b(3)	
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	199040
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)	26191	
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)	27835	
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	54026
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.)		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

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

Part IV Provision of Information

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

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

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	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.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 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 <u>WHATCOM FIRE TRUST</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>501</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>WHATCOM FIRE TRUST WHATCOM FIREFIGHTERS BENEFITS TRUST</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>84-4189978</u>	

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

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(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)

FORVIS, LLP

44-0160260

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	AUDITOR	15000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(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 <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

(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

(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 H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 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 WHATCOM FIRE TRUST	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	501
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 WHATCOM FIRE TRUST WHATCOM FIREFIGHTERS BENEFITS TRUST	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 84-4189978	

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	163061	718723
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions.....	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)		
(3) Other.....	1b(3)	261176	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit).....	1c(1)		
(2) U.S. Government securities.....	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred.....	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other.....	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred.....	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common.....	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests.....	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property).....	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants).....	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans.....	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts.....	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts.....	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts.....	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities.....	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	1c(13)		
(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	424237	718723

Liabilities

g Benefit claims payable.....	1g	0	262855
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j	24970	25977
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	24970	288832

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	399267	429891
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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)	3302670	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	5589	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		3308259
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)		
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		
(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)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		
(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)		
(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)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		3308259
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)		
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	3260558	
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3).....	2e(4)		3260558
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)	15000	
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)		
(3) Investment advisory and management fees	2i(3)		
(4) Other	2i(4)	2077	
(5) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (4).....	2i(5)		17077
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		3277635
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d.....	2k		30624
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan.....	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

- (1) Unmodified (2) Qualified (3) Disclaimer (4) Adverse

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

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

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

(1) Name: FORVIS LLP

(2) EIN: 44-0160260

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?.....	4e	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?	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.).....	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 _____.




Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

EIN 84-4189978 PN 501

Independent Auditors' Report and Basic Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021



Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

December 31, 2022 and 2021

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Supplementary Schedule

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111 S. Tejon Street, Suite 800 / Colorado Springs, CO 80903

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Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Trustees
Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust
Bellingham, Washington

We have audited the financial statements of Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust (the Trust), an employee benefit plan subject to the *Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974* (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits and of benefit obligations as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits and of changes in benefit obligations for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits and benefit obligations of the Trust as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits and benefit obligations for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits 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 the Trust 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 audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with 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.

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 the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that these financial statements are available to be issued.

Board of Trustees
Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

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' Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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 the Trust's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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.

Board of Trustees
Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

Supplementary Schedule Required by ERISA

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is 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 has been subjected to the 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 GAAS.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

FORVIS,LLP

Colorado Springs, Colorado
April 18, 2024

Federal Employer Identification Number: 44-0160260

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
Assets		
Noninterest-bearing cash	\$ 718,723	\$ 163,061
Prepaid expenses	-	261,176
Total assets	718,723	424,237
Liabilities		
Medical insurance premiums payable	262,855	-
Deferred dental premium contributions	25,977	24,970
Total liabilities	288,832	24,970
Net Assets Available for Benefits	\$ 429,891	\$ 399,267

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust
Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
City of Bellingham Contributions		
Medical	\$ 2,996,811	\$ 2,727,636
Dental and vision	305,859	319,585
Total City of Bellingham contributions	3,302,670	3,047,221
Deductions		
Benefits paid to participants		
Dental and vision	-	21,000
Medical insurance premiums	2,943,461	2,629,175
Dental and vision insurance premiums	317,097	257,881
Legal and professional expenses	9,411	14,912
Administrative expenses	2,077	7,807
Total deductions	3,272,046	2,930,775
Net Increase	30,624	116,446
Net Assets Available for Benefits, Beginning of Year	399,267	282,821
Net Assets Available for Benefits, End of Year	\$ 429,891	\$ 399,267

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust
Statements of Plan's Benefit Obligations
December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
Amounts Currently Payable		
Dental and vision claims payable	\$ -	\$ -
 Other Obligations for Current Benefit Coverage, at Present Value of Estimated Amounts		
Claims incurred but not reported	-	-
 Total Benefit Obligations	\$ -	\$ -

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust
Statements of Changes in Plan's Benefit Obligations
Years Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021

	2022	2021
Amounts Currently Payable		
Beginning of year	\$ -	\$ 14,407
Claims reported and approved for payment	-	-
Claims paid	-	(14,407)
	-	-
End of period	-	-
Other Obligations for Current Benefit Coverage, at Present Value of Estimated Amounts		
Beginning of period	-	21,000
Claims incurred	-	-
Claims reclassified to amounts currently payable	-	(21,000)
	-	-
End of period	-	-
Total Benefit Obligations, End of Year	\$ -	\$ -

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021

Note 1: Description of the Trust

General

The following description of Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust (the Trust) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the trust document for a complete description of the Trust's provisions, which are available from the trustees.

The Trust was established effective March 1, 2020 by the International Association of Firefighters Local No. 106 (Local 106) to provide health benefits for its eligible members and their dependents. The Trust provides health and welfare benefits to qualified participants. Qualified participants include active and retired firefighters of the City of Bellingham (the Employer) and their dependents. The Trust is subject to the provisions of the *Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974* (ERISA), as amended.

Benefits

The Trust provides health benefits (medical, dental, vision and life). Retired employees are entitled to similar health benefits (in excess of Medicare coverage). The Trust also provides continuation of certain benefits upon termination of employment through the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). The Trust did not have a significant number of retiree or COBRA participants during 2022.

Insured Benefits

The Trust offers one health maintenance organization (HMO) that participants can choose, Aetna, and fully insures its medical benefits. Effective January 1, 2022, the Trust terminated its contract with Aetna for medical insurance and began purchasing coverage from the LEOFF Trust. Effective January 1, 2021, the Trust fully insured dental and vision benefit. The Trust purchases annual insurance contracts for these insured benefits. Premiums are paid to the insurance company from the general assets of the Trust.

Experience-rated Contracts

The Trust's insurance contracts are subject to experience-rating adjustments. Experience ratings (calculated as the difference between premiums paid and the total of claims paid and fees charged by the insurance company) are determined by the insurance company in the following year and may result in a premium surplus or deficit.

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021

Self-insured Benefits

Prior to January 1, 2021, the Trust's dental and vision benefits were self-insured. The claims for self-insured benefits were processed by the Trust's third-party claims processors under administrative services only (ASO) arrangements. The claims processors paid claims directly to or on behalf of participants and were then reimbursed by the assets of the Trust. Despite the Trust's utilization of third-party claim's processors, ultimate responsibility for payments to providers and participants was retained by the Trust. The Trust retained stop-loss insurance for self-insured benefits during 2021.

Contributions

The Employer makes contributions to the Trust based on elected participant coverages and pre-determined rates. Contributions received by the Employer are derived in part from employee withholdings assessed and administered by the Employer. Any deficiency of the Trust's net assets over benefit obligations is funded by the Employer on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Trust Termination

Although it has not expressed an intention to do so, the Board of Trustees, following the written approval of the Employer, has the right under the Trust to discontinue its contributions at any time, to modify the benefits provided to, and contributions required of, participants, and to terminate the Trust. In the event of termination of the Trust, remaining assets will be applied in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner toward the provision of benefits for or on account of the participants. No assets of the Trust may be used for purposes other than for the exclusive benefit of the Trust's participants.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

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

Use of Estimates

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

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021

Noninterest-bearing Cash

Trust assets are held in a noninterest-bearing checking account. At December 31, 2022, the Trust's cash account exceeded federally insured limits by approximately \$470,000.

Payment of Benefits

Premiums paid by the Trust are recorded as premium payments in the accompanying statements of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Claim payments are recorded when paid by the third-party claims processor. Amounts due to claims processors that have yet to be reimbursed by the Trust are recorded as payable to claims administrators in the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits. The third-party claims processor processes claims, but the responsibility for payments to participants and providers is retained by the Trust.

Experience-rated Contracts

For experience-rated contracts, premium surpluses are recorded as a receivable from the insurance company. To the extent that premium surpluses are attributable to premiums paid by the Employer, a payable to the Employer is also recorded for surplus amounts attributable to Employer-paid coverage.

If the insurance company requires payment of additional premiums due to a premium deficit, an obligation for the additional premiums is included in benefit obligations. If the deficit relates to Employer-paid coverage, a receivable from the Employer is also recorded.

Administrative Expenses

Administrative expenses are paid by the Trust.

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021

Note 3: Related-party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Party-in-interest transactions include those with fiduciaries, any person who provides services to the Trust, an employer whose employees are covered by the Trust, an employee organization whose members are covered by the Trust, a person who owns 50% or more of such an employer or employee association or relatives of such persons.

The Trust has a number of service providers. Such providers are parties in interest under ERISA and include the following during the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Office supplies and other expenses	\$ 2,077	\$ 2,142
Dental and vision administrative fees	-	4,681
COBRA administrative fees	-	984
	<u>\$ 2,077</u>	<u>\$ 7,807</u>

Note 4: Tax Status

The Trust is in the process of obtaining a tax determination letter, however, the Board of Trustees and legal counsel believe the Trust is designed and has operated in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. It is reasonably possible that certain events will occur in the near term that could materially affect the outcome of its application.

Note 5: 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:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 429,891	\$ 399,267
Claims incurred but not reported	-	-
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 429,891</u>	<u>\$ 399,267</u>

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2022 and 2021

The following is a reconciliation of benefit payments per the financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2022 and 2021, to Form 5500:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Claims paid per the financial statements	\$ -	\$ 21,000
Add (Less): Claims incurred but not reported in current year	<u>-</u>	<u>(21,000)</u>
Claims paid, net, per Form 5500	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Amounts currently payable to or for participants, dependents and beneficiaries are recorded on Form 5500 for benefit claims that have been processed and approved for payment prior to December 31, but not yet paid as of that date.

Note 6: Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through April 18, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Supplementary Information

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

EIN 84-4189978 PN 501

Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2022

Identity of Issuer	Description	Cost	Current Value
North Coast Credit Union	Noninterest-bearing checking account	<u>\$ 718,723</u>	<u>\$ 718,723</u>

Whatcom Firefighters Benefits Trust

EIN 84-4189978 PN 501

Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

December 31, 2022

Identity of Issuer	Description	Cost	Current Value
North Coast Credit Union	Noninterest-bearing checking account	<u>\$ 718,723</u>	<u>\$ 718,723</u>