

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 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023	
A	This return/report is for: ☐ a multiemployer plan ☐ a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) ☒ a single-employer plan ☐ a DFE (specify) _____
B	This return/report is: ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ ☐
D	Check box if filing under: ☐ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)
E	If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ▶ ☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information
1a	Name of plan EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
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) EMPIRE SOUTHWEST LLC 1725 SOUTH COUNTRY CLUB DRIVE MESA, AZ 85210
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 86-0894087
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 480-633-4944
2d	Business code (see instructions) 532400

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

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

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	07/29/2024	JOHN HELMS
	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:		4b EIN	
a Sponsor's name		4d PN	
c Plan Name			
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year		5	2955
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)	2528
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year		6a(2)	4303
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits		6b	4
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits		6c	624
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c		6d	4931
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits		6e	5
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e		6f	4936
g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g(1)	2944
g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		6g(2)	4887
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested		6h	323
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			
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)		9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)	
(1) ☐ Insurance		(1) ☐ Insurance	
(2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts		(2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	
(3) ☒ Trust		(3) ☒ Trust	
(4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor		(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		b General Schedules	
(1) ☒ R (Retirement Plan Information)		(1) ☒ H (Financial Information)	
(2) ☐ MB (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary		(2) ☐ I (Financial Information – Small Plan)	
(3) ☐ SB (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary		(3) ☐ A (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>	
(4) ☐ DCG (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____		(4) ☒ C (Service Provider Information)	
(5) ☐ MEP (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan 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 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 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
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EMPIRE SOUTHWEST LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 86-0894087

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

(b)

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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)

ONEAMERICA RETIREMENT SERVICES LLC

46-5378846

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
15 36 37 38 50 64	NONE	275918	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

WEALTHPLAN ADVISORS

7272 E INDIAN SCHOOL RD, SUITE 103
SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85251

(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 50	NONE	75000	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

CLIFTONLARSONALLEN LLP

41-0746749

(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 50	NONE	11650	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

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

MATRIX TRUST COMPANY

75-3182674

(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?
19 21 25 62	NONE	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☒ No ☐

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

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

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

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

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
MATRIX TRUST COMPANY	19 21 25 62	0
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
ONEAMERICA RETIREMENT SERVICES LLC 46-5378846	ONEAMERICA HAS AGREEMENT WITH MATRIX TRUST COMPANY TO PAY ANNUAL \$1250 TRUSTEE AND CUSTODY FEE PLUS 1 BP ON ASSETS ANNUALIZED MONTHLY	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) 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 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2023** and ending **12/31/2023**

A Name of plan EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN)	002
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EMPIRE SOUTHWEST LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 86-0894087	

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: GALLIARD STABLE VALUE FD CLASS C		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): SEI TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 52-2250946-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 33004525
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2005		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 61-6434302-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2010		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 32-6199795-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2015		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 35-6941654-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2020		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 36-7594871-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2025		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 37-6495447-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2030		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 38-7010946-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2035		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 36-7595013-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2040		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 35-6941729-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2045		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 32-6199848-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2050		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 30-6303214-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2055		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 35-6941728-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2060		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 47-1088316-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT 2065		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 85-1763138-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BALANCED		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 38-7011316-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2025		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 37-6658226-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 19210335

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2040		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY		
c EIN-PN 30-6596089-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 30763146

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2045

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 35-2611309-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 22144656
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MORLEY STABLE VALUE FUND

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 93-6274329-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 6688971
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: PUTNAM LARGE CAP VALUE TRUST II

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): GREAT GRAY TRUST CO.

c EIN-PN 86-1899009-676	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 31760577
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2010

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 37-6658064-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 6309817
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2015

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 37-6658059-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 12987357
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2020

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 32-6493445-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 9713843
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2030

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 35-7192509-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 22990402
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2035

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 37-6658473-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 16115296
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2050

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 35-7192720-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 26924872
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2055

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 30-1011718-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 9180883
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2060

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 35-7193113-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 4743391
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T ROWE PRICE RETIREMENT BLEND 2065

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): T ROWE PRICE TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 85-1790880-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 448721
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: SSGA S&P 500 INDEX CLASS N

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS TRUST COMPANY

c EIN-PN 90-0337987-306	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 25421936
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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:

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

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

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

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

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EMPIRE SOUTHWEST LLC		
		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 86-0894087

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	73475	299745
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	208549	32860
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(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)	5084818	7708381
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	132752389	278408728
(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)	116414683	130329626
(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	254533914	416779340
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	254533914	416779340

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)	8308157	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	24649099	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	2087897	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		35045153
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)	445152	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		445152
(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)	1930561	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1930561
(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)		29757333
(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)		21849244
c Other income	2c		137943
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		89165386

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	14375404	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		14375404
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	275918	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	11650	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	75000	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		362568
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		14737972

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		74427414
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		87818012
(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: **CLIFTONLARSONALLEN LLP**

(2) EIN: **41-0746749**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG 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. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		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?		☒	
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?		☒	
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?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
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.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
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.			

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
		2023
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EMPIRE SOUTHWEST LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 86-0894087	

Part I	Distributions
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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): 75-3182674		
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.)
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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
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9	If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
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Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
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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

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) b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment) c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14a 14b 14c	
15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:		
a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	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) and (b):	
a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as: Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____% High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%	
b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: ☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more	
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: _____	

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☐ Yes ☒ No	
21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2). ☐ Design-based safe harbor method ☐ "Prior year" ADP test ☒ "Current year" ADP test ☐ N/A	
22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter <u>06 / 30 / 2020</u> (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number <u>Q703398A</u> .	

EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
ERISA-REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022 AND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**



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**EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
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AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022 AND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023**

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Retirement Plan Committee
Empire Retirement Savings Plan
Mesa, Arizona

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of Empire Retirement Savings Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

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

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

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 Empire Retirement Savings 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 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. 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 Empire Retirement Savings 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.

Retirement Plan Committee
Empire Retirement Savings Plan

- 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 Empire Retirement Savings 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 Empire Retirement Savings Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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

Other Matters

Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023 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 included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule 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 schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Retirement Plan Committee
Empire Retirement Savings Plan

In our opinion

- the form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is 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 schedule 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).



CliftonLarsonAllen LLP

Phoenix, Arizona
July 22, 2024

**EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
ASSETS		
CASH	\$ 299,745	\$ 73,475
INVESTMENTS (at Fair Value)		
Mutual Funds	130,329,626	116,414,683
Collective Fund	<u>278,408,728</u>	<u>132,752,389</u>
Total Investments at Fair Value	408,738,354	249,167,072
RECEIVABLES		
Employer Contributions	<u>32,860</u>	<u>208,549</u>
Total Assets	409,070,959	249,449,096
NOTES RECEIVABLE FROM PARTICIPANTS	<u>7,745,970</u>	<u>5,140,377</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u><u>\$ 416,816,929</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 254,589,473</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

ADDITIONS:

INVESTMENT INCOME

Net Appreciation in Fair Value of Investments	\$ 51,725,240
Dividend Income	1,930,561
Total Investment Income	<u>53,655,801</u>

**INTEREST INCOME ON NOTES RECEIVABLE
FROM PARTICIPANTS**

445,152

CONTRIBUTIONS

Participants	24,649,099
Rollovers	2,087,897
Employer	8,308,157
Total Contributions	<u>35,045,153</u>

Total Additions	89,146,106
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DEDUCTIONS:

BENEFITS PAID TO PARTICIPANTS

14,375,404

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

361,258

Total Deductions	<u>14,736,662</u>
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NET INCREASE

74,409,444

MERGER IN FROM ANOTHER PLAN

87,818,012

NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS:

Beginning of Year	<u>254,589,473</u>
End of Year	<u><u>\$ 416,816,929</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of the Empire Retirement Savings Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description and the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan established on January 1, 1985 and has been amended from time to time since that date. The Plan was last amended and restated effective August 1, 2023. The Plan was created for the exclusive benefit of employees of Empire Southwest, LLC (the Company, the Plan Sponsor, or the Employer) and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. The Retirement Plan Committee has oversight of the Plan.

Eligibility

To be eligible for voluntary salary deferral contributions and employer discretionary matching contributions, employees must (a) be at least age 18, (b) be employed at least one month, and (c) be a Plan-eligible employee. An employee can participate in the voluntary salary deferral contributions in the first pay period in which the eligibility period commences.

To be eligible for a portion of any employer discretionary profit sharing contribution, employees must (a) be at least age 18, (b) complete at least one year of service, (c) work at least 1,000 hours during an applicable Plan year, (d) be employed by the Company on the last day of the applicable Plan year and (e) be a Plan-eligible employee.

Effective August 1, 2023, the age requirement was removed from the Plan for the voluntary salary deferral contributions, employer discretionary matching contributions, and the employer discretionary profit sharing contributions.

Contributions

The Plan provides for four types of contributions:

- Participant pretax and Roth voluntary salary deferrals ranging from 1% to 100% of eligible compensation, as defined in the Plan document. The Plan has an automatic deferral feature of 5%, increasing each year by 1% up to a maximum of 10%, unless the participant opts out. Effective August 1, 2023, the maximum percentage contribution for participant pretax and Roth voluntary salary deferrals was changed from 100% to 75%.
- Employer discretionary matching contributions, to be determined, if any, either as a uniform percentage of deferrals or as a flat dollar amount for each participant.
- Employer discretionary profit sharing contributions, as determined by the Company's Board of Directors, are allocated to participants based on gross annual compensation. There were no profit sharing contributions made for the year ended December 31, 2023.
- Rollovers into the Plan from another qualified plan.

**EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

Contributions (Continued)

All contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Code (IRC) limitations.

The employer discretionary match was 50% of the first 6% of employee deferrals for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Participant Accounts

Individual accounts are maintained for each Plan participant. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, the Company's matching contribution, allocations of Company discretionary profit sharing contributions, and Plan earnings; and charged with withdrawals and an allocation of Plan losses and Plan expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, or participant transactions as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the total benefit that can be provided from the combined vested amount of these participant accounts.

Investments

Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Plan currently offers various mutual funds and collective funds as investment options for participants.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 35% of their vested account balance. Effective August 1, 2023, the maximum loan percentage was changed from 35% to 50%. The notes are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at BMO Harris Bank N.A.'s prime rate at the time the note is made, plus two percentage points. A participant may not have more than one note outstanding from the Plan at any time. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Vesting

Participants are vested immediately in their contributions plus actual earnings (losses) thereon. Vesting in the Company's contribution portion of their accounts is based on continuous years of service. Participants become 20% vested in their employer discretionary profit sharing contribution accounts and employer discretionary matching contribution accounts after two years of service. Vesting increases 20% each year for years three through six. A year of service is earned for any Plan year during which a participant works at least 1,000 hours. All accounts become 100% vested for a participant whose employment with the Company is ended due to death or total disability, or if a participant's employment is ended as part of a Plan termination.

Effective August 1, 2023, the vesting schedule was updated to 25% vesting in employer discretionary profit sharing and employer discretionary matching contributions after one year of service, with vesting increasing 25% each year thereafter and full vesting after four years of service.

**EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 1 DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

Forfeitures

Forfeitures are the nonvested portion of accounts of participants who have separated from employment with the Company. At December 31, 2023, accumulated discretionary profit sharing contribution account forfeitures were \$-0- and matching contribution account forfeitures were \$264,645. At December 31, 2022, accumulated discretionary profit sharing contribution account forfeitures were \$-0- and matching contribution account forfeitures were \$326,619. Forfeitures are first used to pay Plan expenses, and then any remaining forfeitures are used to reduce employer contributions for the Plan year following the Plan year in which the forfeitures occur. During the year ended December 31, 2023, the value of nonvested accounts used to reduce employer contributions was \$669,934.

Payment of Benefits

Generally, participants become eligible for distribution of their accounts upon separation from employment with the Company. If a participant's vested account balance is greater than \$5,000 upon separation, then the account balance will remain in the Plan until the participant directs otherwise. If a participant's vested account balance under the Plan is between \$1,000 and \$5,000 at separation and they do not consent to a distribution of their vested account balance, the vested benefit automatically will be rolled over to an Individual Retirement Account selected by the Plan administrator. If a participant's total vested benefit is \$1,000 or less upon separation, the entire vested benefit will be distributed to the participant in a lump sum, even if they do not consent to a distribution. Payment of benefits from the Plan will occur as soon as is administratively feasible following separation from employment.

Plan Administration

The Company administers the Plan through a Retirement Plan Committee composed of seven Company employees appointed by the Company's Board of Directors. Matrix Trust Company acts as the trustee and asset custodian. OneAmerica Retirement Services, LLC acts as the recordkeeper. WealthPlan Advisors acted as an investment advisor to the Plan until November 10, 2023, when they switched to Merrill Lynch Fiduciary Advisory Services.

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Administrative Expenses

Certain administrative functions are performed by employees of the Company. No such employee receives compensation from the Plan. In addition, OneAmerica Retirement Services provides the Plan certain accounting and administrative services for which fees are paid directly from the Plan. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants and benefit payments are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expense.

Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan, for investments in the mutual funds, are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction of investment return for such investments.

**EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make a number of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits and changes therein. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan's Investment Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisers and custodian. 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 appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2023 and 2022. Delinquent notes receivable are recorded as distributions on the basis of the terms of the Plan document.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through July 22, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 3 CERTIFICATION OF INVESTMENT INFORMATION

Matrix Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan, has supplied the Plan administrator with a certification as to the completeness and accuracy of all investment information and notes receivable from participants reflected on the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023.

**EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022**

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described as follows:

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

Level 2 – Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, such as:

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

Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair market 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 maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Mutual Funds – Valued at the net asset value (NAV) of shares based on the New York Stock Exchange at the close of each day.

Collective Fund – Valued at the NAV of units of the bank collective trust. NAV is a readily determinable fair value and is the basis for current transactions. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. If the Plan initiates a full redemption of the collective trust, the issuer reserves the right to temporarily delay withdrawal from the trust in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner.

EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE OF INVESTMENTS (CONTINUED)

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

2023				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds	\$ 130,329,626	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 130,329,626
Collective Fund	-	278,408,728	-	278,408,728
Total Investments at Fair Value	<u>\$ 130,329,626</u>	<u>\$ 278,408,728</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 408,738,354</u>

2022				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds	\$ 116,414,683	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 116,414,683
Collective Fund	-	132,752,389	-	132,752,389
Total Investments at Fair Value	<u>\$ 116,414,683</u>	<u>\$ 132,752,389</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 249,167,072</u>

NOTE 5 PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Matrix Trust Company is the trustee as defined by the Plan. Certain Plan investments are managed by the trustee, and therefore, these transactions qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan for investment management services were included as a reduction of the return on each fund.

NOTE 6 PLAN TAX STATUS

The Plan is placing reliance on an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020, received from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on the prototype plan indicating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401 of the IRC and is therefore not subject to tax under current income tax law. The prototype Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter. However, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

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

NOTE 7 PLAN MERGER

The Board resolved that effective August 1, 2023, the assets of the Cashman Equipment Company Employee Retirement Plan will be transferred into the Plan. A total of \$87,816,906 of assets were transferred into the Plan.

EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022

NOTE 8 RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to Form 5500 as of December 31:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Net Assets Available for Benefits per Financial Statements	\$ 416,816,929	\$ 254,589,473
Less: Deemed Distribution of Participant Loans in Default	<u>(37,589)</u>	<u>(55,559)</u>
Net Asset Available for Benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 416,779,340</u>	<u>\$ 254,533,914</u>

The following is a reconciliation of the changes in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Net Increase per Financial Statements	\$ 74,409,444
Less: Current Year Deemed Distributions	<u>17,970</u>
Net Increase per Form 5500	<u>\$ 74,427,414</u>

NOTE 9 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, the participant's employer profit sharing contributions and matching contributions shall become 100% vested and nonforfeitable and participants and each beneficiary shall be entitled to receive any amounts then credited to his/her account, in the manner described in Note 1.

NOTE 10 RISK AND UNCERTAINTIES

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

EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
EIN: 86-0894087 PLAN NUMBER 002
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 31, 2023

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identify of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	Cost**	Current Value
		Mutual Funds:		
	Dodge & Cox	International Stock Fund CI I		\$ 20,796,317
	Delaware	Ivy Small Cap Growth I		9,446,989
	DFA	US Targeted Value I		7,930,078
	Vanguard	Mid Cap Index Admiral		9,930,318
	Harbor Fund	Capital Appreciation Fund		55,883,212
	JP Morgan	Core Plus Bond Fund		22,724,433
	Victory Trivalent	International Smallcap Fund		3,618,279
		Total Mutual Funds		<u>130,329,626</u>
		Collective Funds:		
	Galliard	Stable Value C		33,004,525
	Morley	Stable Value Fund		6,688,971
	Putnam	Large Cap Value Trust		31,760,577
	SSGA	S&P 500 Index Class		25,421,936
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2010 Blend Fund		6,309,817
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2015 Blend Fund		12,987,357
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2020 Blend Fund		9,713,843
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2025 Blend Fund		19,210,335
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2030 Blend Fund		22,990,402
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2035 Blend Fund		16,115,296
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2040 Blend Fund		30,763,146
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2045 Blend Fund		22,144,656
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2050 Blend Fund		26,924,872
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2055 Blend Fund		9,180,883
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2060 Blend Fund		4,743,391
	T. Rowe Price	Retirement 2065 Blend Fund		448,721
		Total Collective Funds		<u>278,408,728</u>
*	Participant	Participant Loans, Net Deemed Distributions Interest Rates from 5.25% to 10.50%		<u>7,708,381</u>
				<u>\$ 416,446,735</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i- SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 31, 2023

SPONSOR: EMPIRE SOUTHWEST, LLC
 EIN: 86-0894087
 PLAN NUMBER: 002
 PLAN NAME: EMPIRE RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
IDENTITY OF ISSUE, BORROWER, LESSOR OR SIMILAR PARTY	QUANTITY	DESCRIPTION OF INVESTMENT including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	COST	CURRENT VALUE
ASSETS				
NON-INTEREST BEARING CASH				
CASH	299,744.87	CASH	299,744.87	299,744.87
TOTAL NON-INTEREST BEARING CASH			299,744.87	299,744.87
GENERAL INVESTMENTS				
Participant Loans				
Deemed Loan	37,589.28	Deemed Loan	37,589.28	37,589.28
* Master Participant Loan - Interest rate range 4.25% - 10.50%	7,708,381.20	Master Participant Loan	7,708,381.20	7,708,381.20
Total Participant Loans			7,745,970.48	7,745,970.48
Value of Interest in Common / Collective Trusts				
Galliard Stable Value C	552,932.241	Galliard Stable Value C	32,241,094.22	33,004,525.47
Morley Stable Value Fund 25 Bps (ter)	232,659.858	Morley Stable Value Fund 25 Bps (ter)	6,619,128.16	6,688,970.92
Putnam Large Cap Value Trust II Class U	2,563,404.144	Putnam Large Cap Value Trust II Class U	28,061,842.68	31,760,577.34
SSGA S&P 500 Index Class N	216,049.833	SSGA S&P 500 Index Class N	21,807,769.17	25,421,935.70
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2010 Tr-B	479,469.354	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2010 T	5,917,032.72	6,309,816.70
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2015 Tr-B	974,295.314	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2015 T	1,665,296.97	12,987,356.54
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2020 Tr-B	716,360.100	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2020 T	8,841,531.50	9,713,842.96
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2025 Tr-B	1,380,052.832	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2025 T	7,386,410.48	19,210,335.42
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2030 Tr-B	1,605,474.988	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2030 T	8,898,102.36	22,990,401.83
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2035 Tr-B	1,090,344.759	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2035 T	4,260,549.66	16,115,295.54
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2040 Tr-B	2,030,570.710	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2040 T	7,377,061.42	30,763,146.26
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2045 Tr-B	1,436,099.654	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2045 T	8,988,403.30	22,144,656.66
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2050 Tr-B	1,742,710.132	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2050 T	4,180,516.84	26,924,871.54
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2055 Tr-B	594,616.784	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2055 T	7,920,307.20	9,180,883.14
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2060 Tr-B	291,542.156	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2060 T	4,152,097.39	4,743,390.88
T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2065 Tr B	33,586.901	T. Rowe Price Retirement Blend 2065 T	408,217.21	448,721.00
Total Value of Interest in Common / Collective Trusts			250,725,361.26	278,408,727.89
Value of Interest in Registered Investment Companies				
Delaware Ivy Small Cap Growth I	479,786.112	Delaware Ivy Small Cap Growth I	9,025,612.85	9,446,988.55
DFA US Targeted Value I	248,669.745	DFA US Targeted Value I	7,013,065.45	7,930,078.17
Dodge & Cox International Stock C I I	423,032.669	Dodge & Cox International Stock C I I	18,755,175.36	20,796,286.01
Harbor Capital Appreciation Instl	579,160.654	Harbor Capital Appreciation Instl	38,533,909.29	55,883,211.50
JPMorgan Core Plus Bond A	3,130,087.258	JPMorgan Core Plus Bond A	22,372,961.16	22,724,433.49
Vanguard Mid Cap Index Admiral	34,471.893	Vanguard Mid Cap Index Admiral	9,023,155.28	9,930,318.22
Vanguard Treasury Money Market Investor	30.490	Vanguard Treasury Money Market Invest	30.49	30.49
Victory Munder Intl Small-Cap-R6	248,337.625	Victory Munder Intl Small-Cap-R6	3,513,693.10	3,618,279.20
Total Value of Interest in Registered Investment Companies			108,237,602.98	130,329,625.62
TOTAL GENERAL INVESTMENTS			366,708,934.72	416,484,323.99
TOTAL ASSETS			367,008,679.59	416,784,068.86
TOTAL NET ASSETS			367,008,679.59	416,784,068.86

* a party in interest as defined by ERISA