

**Form 5500-SF**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Short Form Annual Return/Report of Small Employee Benefit Plan**

This form is required to be filed 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-SF.**

OMB Nos. 1210-0110  
1210-0089

**2023**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

**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 single-employer plan  a multiple-employer plan (not multiemployer) (Pension Plan filers checking this box must attach Schedule MEP. Other plans must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- 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** Check box if filing under:  Form 5558  automatic extension  DFVC program  
 special extension (enter description)
- D** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here ..... ▶
- 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

<b>1a</b> Name of plan <u>THE PLANETARY SOCIETY TIAA CREF RETIREMENT PLAN</u>		<b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u>
		<b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1989</u>
<b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>THE PLANETARY SOCIETY</u>  <u>60 SOUTH LOS ROBLES AVENUE</u> <u>60 SOUTH LOS ROBLES AVENUE</u> <u>PASADENA, CA 91101</u> <u>PASADENA, CA 91101</u>		<b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>95-3423566</u>
		<b>2c</b> Sponsor's telephone number <u>626-793-5100</u>
		<b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>813000</u>
<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor.		<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN
		<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number
<b>4</b> 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. <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name		<b>4b</b> EIN
		<b>4d</b> PN
<b>5a</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year .....	<b>5a</b>	<u>50</u>
<b>b</b> Total number of participants at the end of the plan year.....	<b>5b</b>	<u>51</u>
<b>c(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) .....	<b>5c(1)</b>	<u>50</u>
<b>c(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) .....	<b>5c(2)</b>	<u>51</u>
<b>d(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year.....	<b>5d(1)</b>	<u>26</u>
<b>d(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year.....	<b>5d(2)</b>	<u>27</u>
<b>e</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>5e</b>	

**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, if applicable, a Schedule SB or Schedule MB completed and signed by an enrolled actuary, 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.	08/09/2024	JENNIFER VAUGHN
	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

- 6a** Were all of the plan's assets during the plan year invested in eligible assets? (See instructions.).....  Yes  No
- b** Are you claiming a waiver of the annual examination and report of an independent qualified public accountant (IQPA) under 29 CFR 2520.104-46? (See instructions on waiver eligibility and conditions.).....  Yes  No
- If you answered "No" to either line 6a or line 6b, the plan cannot use Form 5500-SF and must instead use Form 5500.**
- c** If the plan is a defined benefit plan, is it covered under the PBGC insurance program (see ERISA section 4021)? .....  Yes  No  Not determined
- If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year \_\_\_\_\_ (See instructions.)

<b>Part III Financial Information</b>			
<b>7</b>		<b>(a) Beginning of Year</b>	<b>(b) End of Year</b>
<b>7</b>	Plan Assets and Liabilities		
<b>a</b>	Total plan assets.....	<b>7a</b> 5353231	6788808
<b>b</b>	Total plan liabilities.....	<b>7b</b>	
<b>c</b>	Net plan assets (subtract line 7b from line 7a).....	<b>7c</b> 5353231	6788808
<b>8</b>		<b>(a) Amount</b>	<b>(b) Total</b>
<b>8</b>	Income, Expenses, and Transfers for this Plan Year		
<b>a</b>	Contributions received or receivable from:		
	(1) Employers.....	<b>8a(1)</b> 222033	
	(2) Participants.....	<b>8a(2)</b> 136103	
	(3) Others (including rollovers).....	<b>8a(3)</b> 150	
<b>b</b>	Other income (loss).....	<b>8b</b> 1160869	
<b>c</b>	Total income (add lines 8a(1), 8a(2), 8a(3), and 8b).....	<b>8c</b>	1519155
<b>d</b>	Benefits paid (including direct rollovers and insurance premiums to provide benefits).....	<b>8d</b> 83578	
<b>e</b>	Certain deemed and/or corrective distributions (see instructions) .	<b>8e</b>	
<b>f</b>	Administrative service providers (salaries, fees, commissions).....	<b>8f</b>	
<b>g</b>	Other expenses.....	<b>8g</b>	
<b>h</b>	Total expenses (add lines 8d, 8e, 8f, and 8g).....	<b>8h</b>	83578
<b>i</b>	Net income (loss) (subtract line 8h from line 8c).....	<b>8i</b>	1435577
<b>j</b>	Transfers to (from) the plan (see instructions).....	<b>8j</b>	

<b>Part IV Plan Characteristics</b>	
<b>9a</b>	If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions: 2L
<b>b</b>	If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristic Codes in the instructions:

<b>Part V Compliance Questions</b>				
<b>10</b>		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>10</b>	During the plan year:			
<b>a</b>	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>10a</b>	X	
<b>b</b>	Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 10a.).....	<b>10b</b>	X	
<b>c</b>	Was the plan covered by a fidelity bond?.....	<b>10c</b>	X	
<b>d</b>	Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?.....	<b>10d</b>	X	
<b>e</b>	Were any fees or commissions paid to any brokers, agents, or other persons by an insurance carrier, insurance service, or other organization that provides some or all of the benefits under the plan? (See instructions.).....	<b>10e</b>	X	
<b>f</b>	Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?.....	<b>10f</b>	X	
<b>g</b>	Did the plan have any participant loans? (If "Yes," enter amount as of year-end.).....	<b>10g</b>	X	
<b>h</b>	If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.).....	<b>10h</b>	X	
<b>i</b>	If 10h was answered "Yes," check the box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.....	<b>10i</b>	X	

**Part VI Pension Funding Compliance**

**11** Is this a defined benefit plan subject to minimum funding requirements? (If "Yes," see instructions and complete Schedule SB (Form 5500) and lines 11a and b below.) If this is a defined contribution pension plan, leave line 11 blank and complete line 12 below.  Yes  No

**a** Enter the unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 ..... **11a**

**b PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If the plan is covered by PBGC and the amount reported on line 11a is greater than \$0, 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**12** Is this a defined contribution plan subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Code or section 302 of ERISA? .....  Yes  No  
 (If "Yes," complete line 12a or lines 12b, 12c, 12d, and 12e below, as applicable.) If this is a defined benefit pension plan, leave line 12 blank and complete line 11 above.

**a** 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 letter ruling granting the waiver. .... Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**If you completed line 12a, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB (Form 5500), and skip to line 13.**

**b** Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year ..... **12b**

**c** Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year ..... **12c**

**d** Subtract the amount in line 12c from the amount in line 12b. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) ..... **12d**

**e** Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 12d be met by the funding deadline? .....  Yes  No  N/A

**Part VII Plan Terminations and Transfers of Assets**

**13a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted in any plan year? .....  Yes  No

**a** If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year..... **13a**

**b** Were all the plan assets distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC? .....  Yes  No

**c** 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.)

<b>13c(1)</b> Name of plan(s):	<b>13c(2)</b> EIN(s)	<b>13c(3)</b> PN(s)

**Part VIII IRS Compliance Questions**

**14a** 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

**14b** 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

**15** 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 \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number \_\_\_\_\_.



# HENSIEK & CARON

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS  
650 SIERRA MADRE VILLA, SUITE 303  
PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91107  
(626) 792-9988 • FAX (626) 792-9852

BARRY B. HENSIEK, CPA  
SUSAN E. CARON, CPA

August 8, 2024

Ms. Jennifer Vaughn  
The Planetary Society  
60 South Los Robles Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91101

Re: The Planetary Society TIAA Cref Retirement Plan

Dear Jennifer,

This letter is to confirm and specify the terms of our engagement with The Planetary Society regarding the Planetary Society TIAA Cref Retirement Plan (the “Plan”) for the plan year ended December 31, 2023, and to clarify the nature and extent of the tax services we will provide for the Plan.

We will prepare the Form 5500-SF (Short Form Annual Return/Report of Small Employee Benefit Plan) for the Plan for the plan year ending December 31, 2023.

By indicating its acceptance of this engagement, the Society agrees to timely provide us with all requested information and documents, such as the plan document, amendments to the plan document, and any other information we may request in order to properly prepare the forms and schedules.

We will use the reporting information provided by TIAA-Cref to prepare the forms and the related schedules. If we require any additional information, we will let you know. You represent that the information supplied by TIAA-Cref and that the information that you are supplying to us is accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge and that you have disclosed to us all relevant facts affecting the return. We will not verify the information you give us; however, we may ask for additional clarification of some information.

We are under no duty to review the information you provide to determine whether you may have other federal or state filing obligations. If we become aware of any other filing requirement, we will tell you of the obligation and may prepare the appropriate returns at your request as a separate engagement.

This engagement letter does not cover the preparation of any financial statements or plan testing services, which, if requested, would be covered under a separate engagement letter.

It is your responsibility to provide all the information required for the preparation of a complete and accurate return. You should retain all the documents, canceled checks, and other data that form the basis for information reported on the return and related schedules. These may be necessary to prove the accuracy and completeness of the return to the IRS and Department of Labor (DOL). You have the final responsibility for the return and, therefore, you should review it carefully before you sign.

If, during our work, we discover information that affects prior-year Form 5500 returns, we will make you aware of the facts. However, we cannot be responsible for identifying all items that may affect prior-year returns. If you become aware of such information during the year, please contact us to discuss the best resolution of the issue. We will be happy to prepare appropriate amended returns as a separate engagement.

Our work in connection with the preparation of the forms does not include any procedures designed to discover defalcations or other irregularities, should any exist. The return will be prepared solely from information provided to us without verification by us.

It is our policy to keep records related to this engagement for five years. However, we do not keep any of your original records, so we will return those to you upon the completion of the engagement. When records are returned to you, it is your responsibility to retain and protect the records for possible future use, including potential examination by the IRS or DOL. By signing this engagement letter, you acknowledge and agree that upon the expiration of the five-year period, we are free to destroy our records related to this engagement.

Should we receive any request for the disclosure of privileged information from any third party, including a subpoena or summons from the IRS or DOL, we will notify you. In the event you direct us not to make the disclosure, you agree to hold us harmless from any expenses incurred in defending the privilege, including, by way of illustration only, our attorney's fees, court costs, outside adviser's costs, or penalties or fines imposed as a result of your asserting the privilege or your direction to us to assert the privilege.

The return may be selected for review by either the IRS or DOL (or both). In the event of an audit, you may be requested to produce documents, records, or other evidence to substantiate the information reported on the forms and any attachments or schedules filed with the return. Any proposed adjustments by the examining agent are subject to certain rights of appeal. In the event of an IRS or DOL examination, we will be available, upon request, to represent you. However, such additional services are not included in the fees for the preparation of the forms and schedules.

Our fees for return preparation services will be based in part upon the amount of time required at our standard billing rates for the personnel working on the engagement, plus

out-of-pocket expenses. All invoices are due and payable upon presentation. Amounts not paid within 30 days from the invoice date will be subject to a late payment charge of 1.5% per month (18% per year).

If the foregoing correctly sets forth your understanding of our tax engagement, please sign this letter in the space below and return it to our office. If you disagree with any of these terms, please notify us immediately.

We want to express our appreciation for this opportunity to work with you.

Sincerely,

*Barry B Hensiek*

Barry B. Hensiek

Agreed to and accepted by:

*Jennifer Vaughn*

Date: August 8, 2024