

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) _____ ☐ 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 STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/2014
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) STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 2915 PEACHTREE RD ATLANTA, GA 30305
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 26-4622679
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 678-618-0862
2d	Business code (see instructions) 722513

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.	09/17/2024	MYLES EMMERT
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 732
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1) 618 6a(2) 555 6b 0 6c 132 6d 687 6e 0 6f 687 6g(1) 218 6g(2) 229 6h 3
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 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) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply) (1) ☐ Insurance (2) ☐ Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts (3) ☒ Trust (4) ☐ General assets of the sponsor
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10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5) ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) ☐ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☐ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) ☐ Yes ☐ No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 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 STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 26-4622679

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

ALLIANZ GLOBAL INVESTORS DISTRIBUTO1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 10105

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

AMERICAN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

95-2769620

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

BLACKROCK INVESTMENTS, INC.

23-2784752

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

DELAWARE INVESTMENTS2005 MARKET STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

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

FEF DISTRIBUTORS, LLC

1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NY 10105

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

FRANKLIN TEMPLETON DISTRIBUTORS, I

100 FOUNTAIN PARKWAY
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716

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

J.P. MORGAN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

13-3200244

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

LEGG MASON INVESTOR SERVICES, LLC

100 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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

LOOMIS SAYLES FUNDS

399 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

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

MFS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC.

04-2747644

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

T. ROWE PRICE

100 EAST PRATT STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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

VANGUARD

455 DEVON PARK DRIVE
WAYNE, PA 19087

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)

ADP, INC.

13-3036745

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
37 50 15 64	RECORD KEEPER	27227	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER & SMITH

13-5674085

(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 17 50 64 70 52	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	8581	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	46	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

ADP BROKER-DEALER

22-3319984

(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?
49 99	RECORD KEEPER	0	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☒	0	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
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
ALLIANZ GLOBAL INVESTORS DISTRIBUTO 1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10105	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
AMERICAN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, INC. 95-2769620	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
BLACKROCK INVESTMENTS, INC. 23-2784752	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	

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
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
DELAWARE INVESTMENTS 2005 MARKET STREET PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
FEF DISTRIBUTORS, LLC 1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10105	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
FRANKLIN TEMPLETON DISTRIBUTORS, I 100 FOUNTAIN PARKWAY ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33716	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	

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
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
J.P. MORGAN INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT 13-3200244	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
LEGG MASON INVESTOR SERVICES, LLC 100 INTERNATIONAL DRIVE BALTIMORE, MD 21202	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
LOOMIS SAYLES FUNDS 399 BOYLSTON STREET BOSTON, MA 02116	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	

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
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
MFS FUND DISTRIBUTORS, INC. 04-2747644	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
T. ROWE PRICE 100 EAST PRATT STREET BALTIMORE, MD 21202	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
ADP BROKER-DEALER	99	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.	
VANGUARD 455 DEVON PARK DRIVE WAYNE, PA 19087	ANNUAL RATE 0.00260 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-A SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00325 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-C SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00150 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-I SHRS ANNUAL RATE 0.00275 OF AVERAGE DAILY ASSETS-R SHRS	

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 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 STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 26-4622679	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
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1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
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)	89493	88040
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	1528400	2157999
(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	1617893	2246039
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	1617893	2246039

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)	69663	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	472027	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B), (C), and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		541690
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)	4849	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		4849
(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)	66340	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B), and (C)	2b(2)(D)		
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		245645
c Other income	2c		188
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		858712

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	174016	
(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)		174016
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		14246
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		6496
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	2i(3)	27228	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	8580	
(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)		35808
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		230566

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		628146
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **BENNETT THRASHER LLP**

(2) EIN: **58-1673613**

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?	☒		162000
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	B Three-digit plan number (PN)	
STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN	001	
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500	D Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC	26-4622679	

Part I	Distributions
--------	---------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1	Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	0
2	Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 57-1198022		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.			
3	Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3	

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
---------	--

4	Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.				
5	If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.			
6	a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a		
	b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b		
	c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)	6c		
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.				
7	Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A
8	If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?	☐ Yes	☐ No	☐ N/A

Part III	Amendments
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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
---	--	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
---------	--

10	Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11	a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
	b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12	Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. *Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.*

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box ☐ and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:		
a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	14c	

15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:		
a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	

16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:		
a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers	16b	

17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
----------------	---

18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐

19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) 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
-----------------	---------------------------------

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 10 / 06 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704162A.

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1. The information contained in this e-mail is confidential and intended only for the use of the management Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan (the Plan), should not be altered. This email was created September 16, 2024 and Bennett Thrasher LLP will maintain a duplicate copy pursuant to our data retention policies. Additional copies may be requested by reference to its unique identification number 237073.
2. With regard to the electronic dissemination of audited financial statements, including financial statements published electronically on your (or any other) Internet website, you understand that electronic sites are a means to distribute information and, therefore, we are not required to read the information contained in those sites or to consider the consistency of other information in the electronic site with the original document.
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Atlanta, Georgia 30339

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Fax: 770-390-0394

Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan

Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022



Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan

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* Other schedules required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 have been omitted because there is not information to report.



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator
Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan
2915 Peachtree Road NE
Atlanta, GA 30305

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k 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 the 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 (DOL) 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 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 DOL'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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the 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 U.S. GAAP, 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 the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements were available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the plan, and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 the 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 certifications, 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 U.S. GAAP.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

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

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL'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 their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

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 DOL'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).

Bennett Thrasher LLP

Bennett Thrasher, LLP
Atlanta, GA

September 6, 2024

Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Assets:		
Investments at fair value	\$ 2,157,999	\$ 1,528,400
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	88,040	89,493
Participant contributions	17,055	16,026
Plan Sponsor contributions	<u>1,527</u>	<u>1,535</u>
Total receivables	<u>106,622</u>	<u>107,054</u>
Total assets	<u>2,264,621</u>	<u>1,635,454</u>
Liability:		
Excess contributions payable	<u>42,325</u>	<u>14,057</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u><u>\$ 2,222,296</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,621,397</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Contributions:

Participants	\$ 430,731
Employer	<u>69,655</u>
Total contributions	<u>500,386</u>

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	245,645
Dividends	66,340
Other income	<u>188</u>
Total investment income	312,173

Interest income on notes receivable from participants	<u>4,849</u>
Total additions	<u>817,408</u>

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefits paid to participants	180,701
Administrative expenses	<u>35,808</u>
Total deductions	<u>216,509</u>

Increase in net assets available for benefits	600,899
Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year	<u>1,621,397</u>
Net assets available for benefits, end of year	<u>\$ 2,222,296</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023 and 2022

Note 1: Description of Plan

The following description of Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan established by Sterling Restaurants, LLC (the Plan Sponsor and Company) under the provisions of Section 401(a) of the United States Internal Revenue Code (the IRC), which includes a qualified cash or deferred arrangement as described in Section 401(k) of the IRC, for the benefit of eligible employees of the Company and any adopting participating employers. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as well as certain provisions of the federal income tax laws.

All employees of the Company and any participating affiliates are subject to the following eligibility requirements:

- Age: 18
- Service: 6 months

Upon satisfying the eligibility requirements, employees may participate in the Plan on the first day of the next month.

Contributions

The Plan is funded through employee elective deferrals and Company contributions. Each year, participants may elect to contribute a portion of their compensation, subject to certain maximum limitations imposed by Section 402(g) of the IRC. At the discretion of the Plan Administrator, participants may be permitted to deposit or "rollover" into the Plan distributions they have received from other plans and certain Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions.

The following contribution types are allowed by the Plan:

- Roth deferrals
- Elective deferrals
- Employer matching
- Rollover contributions

The Company may make discretionary profit-sharing contributions which will be allocated in accordance with the plan document provisions.

The Company makes a stated matching contribution of 25% of the participant deferral up to 90% of compensation. The matching contributions are limited to \$1,000 per year and are subject to certain Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations.

Administration

The Company serves as the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator has the responsibility to administer the Plan for the exclusive benefit of the participants and their beneficiaries. These duties include, but are not limited to, establishing procedures, maintaining records, interpreting provisions of the Plan, and making determinations regarding questions which may affect eligibility of benefits. The Company engaged Automatic Data Processing, Inc. (ADP) a third-party administrator, to assist with administration of the Plan during 2023 and 2022. Reliance Trust Company (Reliance) serves as the Trustee of the Plan.

Reliance serves as the Custodian of the Plan. The Custodian receives all contributions made under the Plan, holds plan assets, pays benefits as directed by the Plan Administrator and assists in the administration of the Plan. The Custodian serves as the intermediary for all asset purchases and redemptions. Additionally, the Custodian manages certain investment options of the Plan.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution, allocation of the Company's contributions, and Plan earnings or losses and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations may be charged based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting

Participants are immediately 100% vested in their elective deferrals including catch-up contributions, rollover contributions from other plans, and actual earnings thereon. The method for crediting vesting service for Company matching and profit-sharing contributions is based on vesting periods of service. Participants are credited with a period of service for 12 months from date of hire. If participants are employed on or after their Normal Retirement Age or if they terminate employment on account of death or disability, they are 100% vested in their Company matching and profit-sharing contributions.

<u>Service Years</u>	<u>Matching</u>	<u>Profit Sharing</u>
<1	0%	0%
1	100%	100%

Forfeited Accounts

Forfeitures represent unvested portions of terminated participants' accounts. The Plan allows forfeitures of non-vested Company contributions to be used as follows:

- Pay administrative expenses
- Reduce company contributions

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$58 and \$55, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2023, forfeited non-vested accounts of \$2,502 were used.

Investment Options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant may direct the contributions made to the Plan, for or on behalf of the participant, to any one or more of the investment funds determined at the discretion of the Plan Administrator and Plan Sponsor and in such multiples as the participant prescribes. A participant may change his or her investment direction with respect to future contributions or redirect the investment of his or her account balances.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants who are active employees may borrow against their vested account balances a minimum of \$500 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of 50% of their vested account balance or \$50,000. The loans, in the form of promissory notes, are secured by the balance in the participant's account, and bear interest at reasonable rates, which are commensurate with local prevailing rates as determined by the Plan Administrator. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions and generally repaid within 5 years. Notes receivable from participants used for financing the purchase of a participant's principal residence may be repaid over a period not to exceed thirty years.

Benefits Paid to Participants

Upon termination of service, disability, or retirement, a participant is entitled to receive a distribution equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account. Distribution of a deceased participant's account will be made to the designated beneficiary.

The following types of distributions are also allowed by the Plan:

- Hardship
- Rollover source withdrawal at any time
- In service
- Involuntary cash-outs

Involuntary cash-outs are allowed for account balances less than \$5,000.

Plan Expenses

The Plan's expenses are paid by either the Plan or the Company, as provided by the plan document. Expenses paid directly by the Company are excluded from these financial statements.

Certain expenses incurred in connection with the general administration of the Plan that are paid by the Plan are recorded as deductions in the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. In addition, certain investment-related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

Termination of the Plan

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. Upon termination, no further contributions will be made to the Plan and all amounts credited to the participant's account will become 100% vested. The Company will direct the distribution of the participant's account in a manner permitted by the Plan as soon as practicable.

Note 2: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value (except for any fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, which are reported at contract 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. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of investments are recorded on the trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation in fair value of investments, including realized gains and losses on sales during the year and current changes in unrealized appreciation in the market value of investments held at year end, is presented in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Contributions

Contributions from Plan participants and employer contributions, if any, are recorded in the year in which the participant contributions are withheld from compensation.

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. If a participant ceases to make scheduled repayments and the Plan Administrator deems the participant note receivable to be in default, the participant note receivable balance is reduced and a benefit payment recorded.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Subsequent Events

Subsequent events were evaluated through September 6, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Note 3: Certified Investments

Certain information summarized below related to the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Reliance Trust Company, the Custodian of the Plan.

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Investment values certified	\$ 2,157,999	\$ 1,528,400
Notes receivable from participants certified	\$ 88,040	\$ 89,493

Year ended December 31, 2023

Investment income certified:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 245,645
Dividends	\$ 66,340
Interest on notes receivable from participants certified	\$ 4,849

Note 4: Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) 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 to the valuation methodology include:
 - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
 - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
 - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

- If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
- Level 3: Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques 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, including the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2023 and 2022.

Mutual Funds

Mutual funds are valued at the net asset value (NAV) of shares held by the Plan at year end based on quoted market prices.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value:

	2023	2022
Level 1		
Mutual funds	\$ 2,157,999	\$ 1,528,400
Level 2	-	-
Level 3	-	-
 Investments at fair value	 <u>\$ 2,157,999</u>	 <u>\$ 1,528,400</u>

Note 5: Excess Contributions Payable

Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions.

The excess contributions as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 were distributed by the Plan to the applicable participants within the allowable time frame as required by ERISA.

Note 6: Related Party Transactions and Transactions with Parties-in-Interest

A related party is any party who can control or significantly influence Plan management or operating policies. Parties-in-interest are defined under DOL regulations as any employees of the Plan, fiduciaries of the Plan, service providers to the Plan, the employer whose employees are covered by the Plan, and certain significant owners of the employer and their relatives. Service providers may include, but are not limited to, the custodian, trustee, third-party administrator (TPA), investment managers, investment advisors, legal counsel, and Plan auditor.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Plan made direct payments of \$35,808 to certain parties-in-interest for administration and investment advisory fees, as allowed by ERISA. The Plan sponsor pays directly any other fees related to the operation of the Plan. Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in the net appreciation in fair value of the related investment, as they are paid using investment earnings rather than a direct payment.

Note 7: Risks and Uncertainties

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

Note 8: Tax Status

The Plan Sponsor adopted a plan which received a favorable determination letter, issued for the individually designed Plan, from the Internal Revenue Service dated October 06, 2020, which states that the Plan is designed in accordance with the applicable sections of the IRC and is, therefore, not subject to tax under present income tax law. The Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. Management is not aware of any course of action or series of events that have occurred that might adversely affect the Plan's qualified status.

U.S. GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not, based on the technical merits, would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that as of December 31, 2023 there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken. The Plan has recognized no interest or penalties related to uncertain tax positions. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. Generally, the statute of limitations for the IRS to assess taxes on a plan expires three years from the due date of the return or the date on which it was filed, whichever is later.

Note 9: Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits between the financial statements and Form 5500 as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

	2023	2022
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 2,222,296	\$ 1,621,397
Less: Contributions receivable	(18,582)	(17,561)
Add: Excess contributions payable	<u>42,325</u>	<u>14,057</u>
Net assets available for benefits per Schedule H of Form 5500	<u>\$ 2,246,039</u>	<u>\$ 1,617,893</u>

The following is a reconciliation of contributions between the financial statements and Form 5500 as of December 31, 2023:

	<u>2023</u>
Changes in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 600,899
Adjustment for change in participant contribution receivable	(1,029)
Adjustment for change in employer contribution receivable	8
Adjustment for change in excess contribution payable	<u>28,268</u>
Changes in net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u><u>\$ 628,146</u></u>

Note 10: Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated for subsequent events between the date of the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023 and the report date, the date the financial statements were available for issuance. Management has concluded that all subsequent events requiring recognition or disclosure have been incorporated into these financial statements.

* * * * *

Supplemental Information

Sterling Restaurants, LLC 401k Plan

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

December 31, 2023

Plan #001- Employer Identification #26-4622679

(a)	(b) Identity of Issuer, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investments (Number of Shares)	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
Investments, at fair value:				
Mutual funds:				
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2035 - Class R6	20,691	#	\$ 382,985
	American Funds Fundamental Investors - Class R6	4,199	#	300,164
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2055 - Class R6	11,054	#	269,930
	Vanguard Value Index - Admiral Class	2,701	#	157,417
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2030 - Class R6	6,284	#	110,979
	T Rowe Price Blue Chip Growth - Class I	695	#	104,293
	American Funds International Growth and Income - Class R6	2,636	#	94,483
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2025 - Class R6	5,269	#	84,729
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2045 - Class R6	3,596	#	71,878
	Loomis Sayles Small Cap Growth - Class N	2,609	#	69,602
	BlackRock Mid-Cap Growth Equity - Class K	1,668	#	64,592
	Franklin Small Cap Value - Class R6	1,002	#	57,680
	Delaware Emerging Markets - Class R6	2,635	#	51,326
	BlackRock High Yield Bond Portfolio - Class K	6,526	#	45,944
	MFS Mid Cap Value Fund - Class R6	1,319	#	40,621
	PIMCO Real Return - Institutional Class	3,399	#	34,093
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2020 - Class R6	2,158	#	32,867
	BlackRock T-Fund - Institutional Class	32,799	#	32,799
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement Income - Class R6	2,215	#	32,744
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2040 - Class R6	1,415	#	28,341
	Vanguard Short Term Bond Index - Admiral Class	2,378	#	24,019
	First Eagle Fund of America - Class I	928	#	22,894
	Western Asset Core Plus Bond - Class IS	2,386	#	22,860
	JPMorgan SmartRetirement 2050 - Class R6	1,023	#	20,758
	Total mutual funds			2,157,999
	Total investments			2,157,999
* Notes receivable from participants				
	Interest rates from 5.25% to 10.5% maturing at various dates through January 2032			88,040
				<u>\$ 2,246,039</u>
* A party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.				
# Not required for participant-directed investments.				

See accompanying notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

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 and ending		
A Name of plan	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500	D Employer Identification Number (EIN)	

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement		
1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.			
Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash.....	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions.....	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other.....	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)		
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)		
(15) Other.....	1c(15)		

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

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		

Net Assets

l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l		
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Part II Income and Expense Statement

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

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)		
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)		
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other.....	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		
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)		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees.....	2i(5)		
(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)		
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name:

(2) EIN:

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** because:

(1) ☐ This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, or MTIA. (2) ☐ It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. 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:

a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)

	Yes	No	Amount
4a			
4b			
4c			
4d			
4e			
4f			
4g			
4h			
4i			
4j			
4k			
4l			
4m			
4n			

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?

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

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN

EIN: 26-4622679

Plan Sponsor's Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC

PN: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value.	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
	PARTICIPANT LOANS	INTEREST RATES (5.25% TO 10.50%)		88,040
	VANGUARD VALUE INDEX FUND ADMR	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		157,417
	BLACKROCK MIDCAP GROWTH EQ K	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		64,592
	PIMCO REAL RETURN FUND - INSTL	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		34,093
	LOOMIS SAYLES SMALL CAP GR N	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		69,602
	T ROWE PRICE BLUE CHIP GR I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		104,293
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2035 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		382,985

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN

EIN: 26-4622679

Plan Sponsor's Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC

PN: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value.	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2030 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		110,979
	AMERICAN FND5 FUNDAMENT INV R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		300,164
	FIRST EAGLE RISING DIVIDEND I	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		22,894
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2040 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		28,341
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2020 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		32,867
	VANGUARD SH TERM BD INDEX ADM	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		24,019
	BLACKROCK HIGH YIELD BOND K	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		45,944

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN

EIN: 26-4622679

Plan Sponsor's Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC

PN: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value.	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
	WESTERN ASSET CORE PLUS BD IS	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		22,860
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2055 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		269,930
	DELAWARE EMERGING MARKETS R	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		51,326
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2025 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		84,729
	BLACKROCK T-FUND - PREMIER	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		32,799
	FRANKLIN SCV R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		57,680
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2050 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		20,758

Attachment to 2023 Form 5500
Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)

Plan Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC 401K PLAN

EIN: 26-4622679

Plan Sponsor's Name STERLING RESTAURANTS, LLC

PN: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value.	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT INCOME R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		32,744
	AMERICAN FUNDS INT GR & INC R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		94,483
	JPM SMARTRETIREMENT 2045 R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		71,878
	MFS MID CAP VALUE FUND - R6	REGISTERED INVESTMENT COMPANY		40,621