

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 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 04/01/1978
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) CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC. 3100 SW BROOKSIDE DR GRIMES, IA 50111
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 42-1102408
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 515-265-1447
2d	Business code (see instructions) 236110

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.	10/07/2024	LISA CROYLE
	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	5 137
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) 117 6a(2) 110 6b 0 6c 20 6d 130 6e 1 6f 131 6g(1) 123 6g(2) 119 6h 0
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 2O 2Q 3I

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 0
- (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 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 42-1102408

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).....

No

Yes

☒
- b

If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b)

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

(b)

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

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

GREATBANC TRUST COMPANY

36-3681493

(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?
21	TRUSTEE	50980	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

HDH ADVISORS

1601 22ND STREET STE 400
WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266

(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?
34	APPRAISALS	20550	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

BLUE RIDGE TOPCO, LLC

154 HANSEN ROAD
SUITE 102
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22911

84-5145051

(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	THIRD PARTY ADMIN	16880	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

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

RSM US, LLP

42-0714325

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	AUDITOR	16500	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

NEWPORT GROUP

45-2164254

(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	N/A	4045	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

NYEMASTER GOOD P.C.

42-1154516

(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?
29	LEGAL	3588	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) 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 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC.		
		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 42-1102408

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)	640000	720000
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)	2063519	1880919
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)	8777468	11224241
(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)	13864750	14419340
(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	25345737	28244500
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	25345737	28244500

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)	720000	
(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)		720000
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)		0
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	1880919	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	371525	
(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)	4566458	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	4558185	
(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)	1352938	
(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		4333655

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1200801	
(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)		1200801
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)	16880	
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	2i(4)	16500	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	4045	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	50980	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	3588	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	20550	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	121548	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		234091
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1434892

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		2898763
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: **RSM US LLP**

(2) EIN: **42-0714325**

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?	☒		1000000
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 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CRAMER & ASSOCIATES, INC.		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 42-1102408
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): 36-3681493		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year		3
Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)	
4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.		
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.		
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)		6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year		6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount)		6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.		
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
Part III	Amendments	
9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No		
Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.	
10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?		☐ Yes ☒ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?		☐ Yes ☒ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)		☐ Yes ☒ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?		☒ Yes ☐ No
For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.		
Schedule R (Form 5500) 2023 v. 230707		

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part VI	Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans
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18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment..... ☐

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

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:

Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%

High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? ☐ Yes ☐ No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

☐ Yes.

☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation. _____

Part VII	IRS Compliance Questions
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21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? ☒ Yes ☐ No

21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

☐ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☐ "Current year" ADP test

☒ N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702657A.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Financial Report
December 31, 2023

Contents

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Independent Auditor's Report

RSM US LLP

Plan Administrator and Plan Management
Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership 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, 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 a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the 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 4 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.

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.

Emphasis of Matter—Investment in Common Stock

As discussed in Note 2, the financial statements include an investment representing 51% and 55% of total assets as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, whose fair value has been estimated by an independent appraisal, in the absence of readily ascertainable fair values, with the assistance of management and approved by the trustee. Because of the inherent uncertainty of the valuation, the estimated value may differ significantly from the value that would have been used had a market for the investment existed, and the difference could be material. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

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 within one year after the date that the financial statements are issued or 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 certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of 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 schedules of Schedule H, Part IV, line 4i—schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023, and Schedule H, Part IV, line 4j—schedule of reportable transactions for the year ended December 31, 2023, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are 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 schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

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

RSM VS LLP

Des Moines, Iowa
September 30, 2024

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

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

	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments at fair value:		
Common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc.	\$ 14,419,340	\$ 13,864,750
Mutual funds	11,224,241	8,777,468
Receivables:		
Employer contributions	720,000	640,000
Accrued income	1,880,919	2,063,519
Total assets	28,244,500	25,345,737
Liabilities	-	-
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 28,244,500	\$ 25,345,737

See notes to financial statements.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

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

Additions to net assets attributed to:	
Investment income:	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 1,361,211
Dividend income:	
Cramer and Associates, Inc. common stock	1,880,919
Mutual funds	371,525
Employer contributions	720,000
Total additions	<u>4,333,655</u>
Deductions from net assets attributed to:	
Benefits paid to participants	1,200,801
Administrative expenses	234,091
Total deductions	<u>1,434,892</u>
Net increase	2,898,763
Net assets available for benefits:	
Beginning of year	<u>25,345,737</u>
End of year	<u><u>\$ 28,244,500</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1. Description of Plan

The following description of the Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the Plan), provides general information only. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General and eligibility: Cramer and Associates, Inc. (the Company) established the Plan effective April 1, 1978. The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all full-time employees of the Company, other than employees represented by a collective bargaining unit, who are age 18 or older and have completed one year of service in which 1,000 hours of service have been completed. Employees are entered into the Plan effective January 1 in the year eligibility requirements are met. The Board of Directors is responsible for oversight of the Plan and determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA).

Employer contributions: The Company contributions are discretionary and are allocated to each participant's account based upon the relation of the participant's compensation to total compensation for the plan year. Eligible compensation is defined in the Plan document.

Participants' accounts: The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Accounts are nonparticipant directed. Plan earnings are allocated to each participant's account based on the ratio of the participant's beginning of the year account balance to all participants' beginning of the year account balances. Annually, at the end of the plan year, the Company will direct transfers between the participant's employer securities and the general investment accounts so that the percentage of each participant account invested in the employer securities is the same for active employees. Until the Plan Administrator determines that sufficient liquid assets are not available, the Plan will convert a terminated participant's account into cash as soon as feasible following the end of the Plan Year in which the participant terminated from service.

Diversification: Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in Company common stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least age 55 with at least 10 years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a six-year period. In each of the first five years, a participant may diversify up to 25% of the number shares allocated to his or her account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50%. Participants who elect to diversify receive a cash distribution. During the year ended December 31, 2023, \$75,545 of distributions were related to participants electing to diversify.

Vesting: Participants are immediately vested in the Company's contribution.

Payment of benefits: Upon termination of service, a participant with an account balance of less than \$5,000 will be paid in a lump sum following the close of the plan year. Participants with account balances greater than \$5,000 may be paid out in annual installments over a period not exceeding five years as defined in the Plan document, subject to a minimum annual installment of \$75,000. All distributions will be made in the form of cash. At December 31, 2023, participants that had terminated employment had account balances totaling approximately \$2,491,000.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 1. Description of Plan (Continued)

Put option: Under federal income tax regulations, the employer stock that is held by the Plan and its participants and is not readily tradable on an established market, or is subject to trading limitations, includes a put option. The put option is a right to demand that the Company buy any shares of its stock distributed to participants for which there is no market. The put price is representative of the fair market value of the stock. The purpose of the put option is to ensure that the participants have the ability to ultimately obtain cash.

Voting rights: Each participant (under certain circumstances that are mandated by the Internal Revenue Code (the Code)) (or a Beneficiary), has the right to direct the Trustee regarding the voting of such Employer Securities allocated to his/her Employer Securities Account with respect to any corporate matter which involves the approval or disapproval of any corporate merger or consolidation, recapitalization, reclassification, liquidation, dissolution, sale of substantially all assets of trade or business or such similar transaction. The Trustee votes all shares of employer securities held by it in employer securities accounts for which it has received instructions from participants and beneficiaries in accordance with those instructions. The Trustee votes all shares of employer securities held by it for which it does not have instructions or directions from participants and beneficiaries, and all shares of employer securities on all matters with respect to which participants and beneficiaries are not entitled to vote, in accordance with the Plan.

Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of accounting: The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual basis of accounting.

Accounting estimates and assumptions: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits and changes therein and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The financial statements include Cramer and Associates, Inc. common stock valued at \$14,419,340 and \$13,864,750 at December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively, whose value has been determined by an independent appraisal in the absence of readily ascertainable market values.

Investment valuation and income recognition: The Plan's investments are stated at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan Administrator determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the trustee. See Note 6 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

Payment of benefits: Benefits are recorded when paid.

Subsequent events: Management has evaluated subsequent events for potential recognition and disclosure through September 30, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 2. Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Subsequent to December 31, 2023, the Plan was amended effective January 1, 2024, to change certain provisions of the Plan, including increasing the required minimum distribution age from 72 to 73 years old and increasing the mandatory withdrawal limit upon termination from \$5,000 to \$7,000. Certain other Plan provisions were changed in accordance with the amended Plan document.

Note 3. Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Company and are excluded from these financial statements. Management fees and operating expenses charged to the Plan for investments in the mutual funds are deducted from income earned on a daily basis and are not separately reflected. Consequently, management fees and operating expenses are reflected as a reduction on investment returns for such investments.

Note 4. Information Certified and Provided by GreatBanc Trust Company, the Trustee

The following is a summary of the Plan's asset information as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ending December 31, 2023, included throughout the Plan's financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules, obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified by GreatBanc Trust Company, the trustee of the Plan. The Plan Administrator has obtained certifications from the trustee that the information provided to the Plan Administrator related to the following assets is complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge. Accordingly, as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the Plan Administrator instructed the Plan's independent auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to the information that appears throughout the financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules related to the following assets:

	December 31	
	2023	2022
Investments at fair value:		
Common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc.	\$ 14,419,340	\$ 13,864,750
Mutual funds	11,224,241	8,777,468

The trustee also certified to the best of their knowledge to the completeness and accuracy of \$371,525 of dividends on mutual funds, \$1,880,919 of dividends on common stock, and \$1,361,211 of net appreciation in the fair value of investments for the year ended December 31, 2023.

All assets of the Plan are nonparticipant-directed and all changes in Plan assets are detailed on the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 5. Investment in Common Stock

Information about the Plan's investment in common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc. at December 31, 2023 and 2022, is as follows:

	2023	2022
Number of shares	55,459	55,459
Cost	\$ 3,282,907	\$ 3,282,907
Fair value	\$ 14,419,340	\$ 13,864,750

Note 6. Fair Value Measurements

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. The Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures Topic of the FASB Accounting Standards Codification requires the use of valuation techniques that are consistent with the market approach, the income approach and/or the cost approach. Inputs to valuation techniques refer to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Inputs may be observable, meaning those that reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on market data obtained from independent sources, or unobservable, meaning those that reflect the Plan's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability developed based on the best information available in the circumstances. In that regard, the Topic establishes a fair value hierarchy for valuation inputs that give the highest priority to quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs. The fair value hierarchy is as follows:

- Level 1:** Quoted prices (unadjusted) for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the Plan has the ability to access as of the measurement date.
- Level 2:** Significant other observable inputs other than Level 1 prices such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3:** Significant unobservable inputs that reflect the Plan's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability.

A description of the valuation methodologies used for instruments measured at fair value, as well as the general classification of such instruments pursuant to the valuation hierarchy, is set forth below. The level to which an asset or liability is classified is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurements. There have been no changes to methodologies at December 31, 2023, compared to December 31, 2022.

Mutual funds: Mutual funds are reported at fair value based upon the quoted market price of the fund and are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc.: The fair value of the common stock held by the Plan is valued at estimated fair value based upon an independent appraisal. See description of the valuation method disclosed later in Note 6. These assets are classified within Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 6. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2023 and 2022:

Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2023 Using				
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
Assets:				
Mutual funds	\$ 11,224,241	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,224,241
Common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc.	-	-	14,419,340	14,419,340
Total	\$ 11,224,241	\$ -	\$ 14,419,340	\$ 25,643,581

Fair Value Measurements at December 31, 2022 Using				
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)	Total
Assets:				
Mutual funds	\$ 8,777,468	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,777,468
Common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc.	-	-	13,864,750	13,864,750
Total	\$ 8,777,468	\$ -	\$ 13,864,750	\$ 22,642,218

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Plan collected its 2022 employer contribution receivable of \$640,000 through receipt of cash. There were no other purchases, issuances, or transfers of Level 3 assets or liabilities during the year ended December 31, 2023.

The following table represents the Plan's Level 3 financial instrument at December 31, 2023 and 2022, the weighting of valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of that investment, and the significant unobservable inputs:

Description	Fair Value		Principal Valuation Technique	Unobservable Inputs
	2023	2022		
Common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc.	\$ 14,419,340	\$ 13,864,750	Asset approach (Adjusted net tangible asset value method)	Fair value of Cramer and Associates, Inc.'s net worth
			Market-based approach (private capital markets method)	Valuation multiple Private capital markets EBITDA multiples
			Income-based approach (capitalized net income method)	Long-term growth rate Price / earnings multiple Weighted average cost of capital Discount rate
			All valuation techniques	Discount for lack of control Discount for lack of marketability

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

Note 6. Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

The fair value of the common stock of Cramer and Associates, Inc. held by the Plan is valued based upon an independent appraisal. In the appraisal, as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the valuation is determined utilizing a weighted average between an asset-based approach (the net tangible asset value method), an income-based approach and a market-based approach. Using these methods, the fair value of the common stock on a controlling, marketable basis as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, is determined. From the controlling, marketable basis a discount for lack of control is applied. After the discount for lack of control is applied, a discount for lack of marketability is applied. After applying both discounts, the fair value of the common stock, on a non-marketable noncontrolling basis is determined.

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

Note 7. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA.

Note 8. Tax Status

Effective January 1, 2022, the Plan adopted a non-standardized pre-approved plan issued by Nyemaster Goode, P.C. The non-standardized pre-approved plan has received an opinion letter from the Internal Revenue Service as to the prototype plan's qualified status. The non-standardized pre-approved plan opinion letter dated June 30, 2020, has been relied upon by this Plan. The Plan Administrator believes the Plan is designed and is being operated in compliance with the applicable provisions of the Code.

The Plan follows the accounting guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes. Management evaluated the Plan's tax positions and concluded that the Plan had maintained its tax-exempt status and had taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustments to the financial statements. Therefore, no provision or liability for income taxes has been included in the financial statements.

Note 9. Related-Party Transactions

The Plan invests in Company common stock that qualifies as related party and party-in-interest transactions. GreatBanc Trust Company is the trustee of the Plan, therefore, transactions with the trustee qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees paid by the Plan to the Trustee totaled \$50,980 for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Company also paid certain administrative expenses of the Plan that are excluded from these financial statements.

Note 10. Risks and Uncertainties

Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. The Company's investment in the Company's common stock is subject to these risks, as well as valuation assumptions based on earnings, cash flows and other such techniques. 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.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

**Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4i—Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
December 31, 2023**

Employer Identification Number: 42-1102408

Plan Number: 001

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
	Mutual funds, registered investment companies:		
American Beacon	Bridgeway Large Cap Value Fund	\$ 90,781	\$ 90,220
Baird	Aggregate Bond Fund	920,939	947,166
Baird	Ultra Short Bond Fund	1,285,512	1,294,985
Goldman Sachs	Financial Square Government Fund	49,702	49,702
Guggenheim	Total Return Bond Fund	84,573	86,823
Invesco	S&P 500 Equal Weight ETF	572,230	631,200
Invesco	Ultra Short Duration ETF	158,336	159,616
iShares	Core Total US Bond Market ETF	290,908	297,750
iShares	Russell 1000 Growth ETF	591,266	742,766
iShares	Russell 1000 Value ETF	723,346	776,840
Lord Abbett	Bond Debenture Fund	138,133	140,123
MFS	Income Fund	625,265	641,023
Vanguard	S&P 500 ETF	1,793,169	2,071,306
Vanguard	Equity Income Fund	764,398	762,271
Vanguard	FTSE All-World ex-US Index Fund	1,460,529	1,616,832
Vanguard	Mega Cap Value Index Fund	411,400	437,480
Vanguard	Short-Term Inflation-Protected Securities Index Fund	210,195	213,705
Western Asset	Core Plus Bond Fund	176,224	180,223
Wisdomtree	Emerging Markets Local Debt Fund	78,988	84,210
* Cramer and Associates, Inc.	Common Stock	3,282,907	14,419,340
			<u>\$ 25,643,581</u>

*Designates a party-in-interest.

The above information has been certified by GreatBanc Trust Company, the trustee, to be complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.

Cramer and Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

**Schedule H, Part IV, Line 4j—Schedule of Reportable Transactions
Year Ended December 31, 2023**

Employer Identification Number: 42-1102408

Plan Number: 001

Identity of Party Involved	Description of Asset	Purchase Price	Selling Price	Cost of Asset	Current Value on Transaction Date	Net Gain (Loss)
<i>Series of transactions by issue in excess of 5%</i>						
GreatBanc Trust Company	Goldman Sachs Financial Square Government Fund (83 purchases)	\$ 3,406,988	\$ -	\$ 3,406,988	\$ 3,406,988	\$ -
GreatBanc Trust Company	Goldman Sachs Financial Square Government Fund (25 sales)	-	3,882,276	3,882,276	3,882,276	-

Transactions are measured against the December 31, 2023, net asset value of \$25,345,737.

The above information has been certified by GreatBanc Trust Company, the trustee, to be complete and accurate to the best of their knowledge.

Schedule H, Line 4j
Schedule of Reportable Transactions

Name of Employer: ► Cramer & Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Employer Identification Number (EIN): 42-1102408

001

For the plan year beginning/ending: 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2023

[illegible]

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

Name of Plan:

► Cramer & Associates, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Employer Identification Number: ► 42-1102408

For plan year (beginning/ending): ► 01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023

Plan number: ► 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
*	Cramer and Associates, Inc. Stock	55,459 shares of common stock		14,419,340
	Goldman Sachs	Mutual Fund		49,702
	Invesco Ultra Short Duration	3,200 Shares - Mutual Fund		159,616
	iShares Core Total US Bond ETF	3,000 Shares - Mutual Fund		297,750
	Vanguard Short Term TIPS	4,500 Shares - Mutual Fund		213,705
	Wisdomtree Emerging Markets Debt	3,000 Shares - Mutual Fund		84,210
	Baird Aggregate Bond Fund	96,061.461 Shares - Mutual Fund		947,166
	Baird Ultra Short Bond Fund	128,470.725 Shares - Mutual Fund		1,294,985
	Guggenheim Total Return Bond Fund	3,644.958 Shares - Mutual Fund		86,823
	Lord Abbett Bond Depenture Fund	19,903.828 Shares - Mutual Fund		140,123
	MFS Income Fund	107,194.520 Shares - Mutual Fund		641,023
	Western Asset Asset Core Plus	18,812.387 Shares - Mutual Fund		180,223
	Invesco S&P 500 Equal Weight EFT	4,000 Shares - Mutual Fund		631,200
	iShares Russell 1000 Growth Fund	2,450 Shares - Mutual Fund		742,767
	iShares Russell 1000 Value Fund	4,701 Shares - Mutual Fund		776,840
	Vanguard FTSE All World Ex US	28,800 Shares - Mutual Fund		1,616,832
	Vanguard Mega Cap Value ETF	4,000 Shares - Mutual Fund		437,480
	Vanguard S&P 500 ETF	4,742 Shares - Mutual Fund		2,071,306
	American Beacon Bridgeway Large	3,892.140 Shares - Mutual Fund		90,220
	Vanguard Equity Income Fund	18,952.533 Shares - Mutual Fund		762,271