

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 ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 401(K) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/2021
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) ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 20 N. WACKER DRIVE, 12TH FLOOR CHICAGO, IL 60606
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 82-2986155
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 773-251-7965
2d	Business code (see instructions) 441228

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.	10/14/2024	TARA EVANS, FOR TAG RESOURCES
	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 ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP, LLC DBA TAG RESOURCES 6501 DEANE HILL DR KNOXVILLE, TN 37919	3b Administrator's EIN 62-1874769 3c Administrator's telephone number 865-670-1844
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	5 194
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) 142 6a(2) 117 6b 5 6c 53 6d 175 6e 0 6f 175 6g(1) 163 6g(2) 166 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:

2A 2E 2J 2K 2F 2G 3D 3B 2T 2S

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 1
- (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 A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500. ► Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ASHLING PARTNERS LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 82-2986155	

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

(a) Name of insurance carrier
TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
36-6071399	70688	932534-00349	166	01/01/2023	12/31/2023

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

(a) Total amount of commissions paid 13684	(b) Total amount of fees paid 0
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3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid
JUSTIN LEVONYAK
WINTRUST INVESTMENTS
231 SOUTH LASALLE ST 13TH FLOOR
CHICAGO, IL 60604

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
13684	0	NA	3

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	5079830

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶

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

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

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ ☐**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

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

b Balance at the end of the previous year	7b	32310
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c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)	11378	
(2) Dividends and credits	7c(2)		
(3) Interest credited during the year	7c(3)	994	
(4) Transferred from separate account.....	7c(4)	2091	
(5) Other (specify below)	7c(5)	32902	

▶ EBA AND FORFEITURE CREDITS

(6) Total additions	7c(6)	47365
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d Total of balance and additions (add lines 7b and 7c(6))	7d	79675
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e Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)	8300	
(2) Administration charge made by carrier	7e(2)	112	
(3) Transferred to separate account.....	7e(3)	46	
(4) Other (specify below)	7e(4)	10382	

▶ ADMIN AND TPA FEES, SERVICE FEES

(5) Total deductions	7e(5)	18840
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f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line 7e(5) from line 7d)	7f	60835
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Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

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

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid.....	9a(2)		
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)).....		9a(4)	0
b Benefit charges (1) Claims paid.....	9b(1)		
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)).....		9b(3)	0
(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies.....	9c(1)(F)		
(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	0
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were ☐ paid in cash, or ☐ credited.).....		9c(2)	
d Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
(3) Other reserves.....		9d(3)	
e Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

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

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

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

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

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) 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 ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ASHLING PARTNERS LLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 82-2986155

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).....

X

YesNo
- 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
TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS	
36-6071399	

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

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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)

TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS

36-6071399

(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 37 52 62 64 67	RECORD KEEPER	25955	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

ADMIN. GROUP, LLC DBA TAG RESOURCES

62-1874769

(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 37 64	RECORD KEEPER	15452	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	Yes ☐ No ☒

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

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ► File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023

A Name of plan <u>ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 401(K) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ►	<u>001</u>
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>ASHLING PARTNERS LLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>82-2986155</u>	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)
(Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)	

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>AMERICAN FUNDS FUNDMNTL INVST RET A</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>36-6071399-232</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>69568</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>AMERICAN FUNDS GR FD OF AMERICA RET</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>36-6071399-975</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>21566</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>DFA EMERGING MARKETS CORE EQUITY RE</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>36-6071399-759</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>15972</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>JPMORGAN EQT INC RET ACCT</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>36-6071399-579</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>17503</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MFS INTERNATIONAL DIVERSIFICATION R</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>83-1098532-123</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>118305</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>STATE STEET PRTN SERIES WITH TA MOD</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>36-6071399-504</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>38900</u>		
a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>STATE STREET GLOBAL ALL CAP EX US I</u>				
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO</u>				
c EIN-PN <u>83-1098532-409</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>79001</u>		

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET RUSSELL SMALL CAP INDE		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-407	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 66950

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET S&P 500 INDEX CLASS II		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-405	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 814032

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET S&P MID CAP INDEX RET		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-410	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 183266

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2020 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-415	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 617

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2025 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-416	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 43718

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2030 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-417	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 187380

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2035 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-418	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 314133

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2040 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-419	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 342320

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2045 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-420	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 374587

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2050 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-421	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 775785

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2055 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-422	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 593599

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2060 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-423	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 331053

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE 2065 BY TA R		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-424	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 64176

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET SECCOURSE INC BY TA RE		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-414	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1237

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: STATE STREET U.S. BOND INDEX RET AC		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-413	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 120317

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: T. ROWE PRICE US SMALL CAP VALUE EQ		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-425	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 148028

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: VANGUARD FTSE SOCIAL IDX FUND ADMIR		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-408	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 356676

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: WESTERN ASSET CORE PLUS BOND RET AC		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): TRANSAMERICA FINANCIAL LIFE INS CO		
c EIN-PN 83-1098532-431	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 1141

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

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

Part II**Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)**

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

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

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 ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 ASHLING PARTNERS LLC		
		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 82-2986155

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)	200810	190525
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	10313	0
(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)	9858	40432
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	2658934	5079830
(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)	32310	60835
(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	2912225	5371622
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable	1g		
h Operating payables	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j Other liabilities	1j	1687	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	1687	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	2910538	5371622

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)	190525	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	1286668	
(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)		1477193
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)	1247	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	994	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		2241
(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)		0
(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)		698290
(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		2177724

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	329130	
(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)		329130
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)	41407	
(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)		41407
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		370537

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		1807187
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		653897
(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: **COULTER & JUSTUS**

(2) EIN: **62-1532536**

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.)	☒	☐	10313
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	☐	☒	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	☐	☒	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	☐	☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒	☐	500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	☐	☒	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	☐	☒	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	☐	☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒	☐	
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	☐	☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	☐	☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	☐	☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	☐	☒	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	☐	☐	

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? ☐ Yes ☒ No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2023 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2023 and ending 12/31/2023		
A Name of plan	B Three-digit plan number (PN)	
ASHLING PARTNERS LLC 401(K) PLAN	001	
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500	D Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
ASHLING PARTNERS LLC	82-2986155	

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

1	Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	0
2	Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):		
	EIN(s): 36-6071399		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.			
3	Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year	3	

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

Part III	Amendments
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9	If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.	☐ Increase	☐ Decrease	☐ Both	☐ No
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Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
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10	Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?	☐ Yes	☐ No
11	a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?	☐ Yes	☐ No
	b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)	☐ Yes	☐ No
12	Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?	☐ Yes	☐ No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

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

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

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:		
a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	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 08 / 17 / 2021 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704633A.

Financial Statements
and Supplemental Schedules

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

*As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and
for the year ended December 31, 2023
with Independent Auditor's Report*

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Financial Statements
and Supplemental Schedules

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and
for the year ended December 31, 2023

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Independent Auditor's Report

Plan Administrator
Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

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

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) 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 audit 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 audit 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 a certification from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

In our opinion, based on our audit 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 (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).

Plan Administrator
Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

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 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 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 the financial statements are issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current Plan instrument, including all Plan amendments, administering the Plan, and determining 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 independent 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.

Plan Administrator
Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

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 audit 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 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 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 Delinquent Participant Contributions and Assets (Held at End of Year) as of and 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.

Plan Administrator
Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Other Matter - Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA (continued)

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).

Coulter & Justus, P.C.

Coulter & Justus, P.C.

Knoxville, Tennessee
October 14, 2024

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31	
	2023	2022
Assets		
Investments:		
Investments at fair value	\$ 5,079,830	\$ 2,658,934
Investment at contract value	60,835	32,310
Total investments	5,140,665	2,691,244
Receivables:		
Employer cash contributions	190,525	200,810
Participant cash contributions	-	10,313
Notes receivable from participants	40,432	9,858
Total receivables	230,957	220,981
Total assets	5,371,622	2,912,225
Liabilities		
Excess contributions payable	-	1,687
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 5,371,622	\$ 2,910,538

See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended December 31, 2023

Additions

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 698,290
Interest income from stable value advantage option	994

Total investment income	699,284
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Interest income on notes receivable from participants	1,247
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Cash contributions earned:

Employer	190,525
Participants	1,286,668

Total cash contributions earned	1,477,193
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Total additions	2,177,724
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Deductions

Benefits paid to participants	329,130
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Administrative expenses to parties-in-interest	41,407
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Total deductions	370,537
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Net increase	1,807,187
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Transfer in from Besters Corporation 401(k) Plan	653,897
--	---------

Net assets available for benefits at beginning of year	2,910,538
--	-----------

Net assets available for benefits at end of year	<u>\$ 5,371,622</u>
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See accompanying Notes to Financial Statements.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

1. Description of the Plan

The following description of the Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) 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 available to eligible employees of Ashling Partners LLC (the Employer) who are age 21 or older. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Effective December 1, 2022, the Employer acquired fourTENS LLC (formerly Besters Corporation dba fourTENS) through a stock purchase agreement. The Besters Corporation 401(k) Plan merged into the Plan effective August 14, 2023.

The Employer is responsible for the administration of the Plan and has entrusted the maintenance of records and the day-to-day administration to TAG Resources, LLC (TAG), who processes transactions through Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company (Transamerica), the custodian.

Contributions

Each year, participants may contribute up to 90% of their pre-tax annual compensation, as defined in the Plan. In addition, participants who have attained the age of 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans (rollovers). Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. Participants can change the investment options previously elected at any time.

The Plan includes an auto-enrollment provision whereby all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless they affirmatively elect not to participate. Automatically enrolled participants have their deferral rate set at 6% of eligible compensation, increasing annually by 1% up to maximum deferral rate of 15% of eligible compensation.

The Employer will make matching contributions equal to 25% of the employee's contributions up to 100% of the employee's compensation limited to a maximum match of \$2,500 per participant annually. Participants must be employed on the last day of the Plan year to be eligible for matching contributions. The Employer may also make discretionary nonelective and qualified nonelective contributions. For 2023, the Employer did not make any discretionary contributions to the Plan.

Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Service (IRS) limitations.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

1. Description of the Plan (continued)

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions, the Employer's matching, discretionary nonelective and qualified nonelective contributions and Plan earnings or losses. Participant accounts are charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances or specific participant transactions, as defined. 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 vested in their voluntary contributions and discretionary qualified nonelective contributions plus actual earnings on these contributions. Vesting in the Employer's matching and discretionary nonelective contribution portion of their accounts plus related earnings thereon is based on years of vesting service in which the participants complete 1,000 hours of service, as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vesting Percentage</u>
Less than 1	0%
1 but less than 2	25%
2 but less than 3	50%
3 but less than 4	75%
4 or more	100%

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account. The loan interest rate is set at 1% above the prime rate, as defined. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Payment of Benefits

On termination of service due to death, disability or early retirement, a participant may elect to receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account. Participants electing to receive benefits after the normal retirement age may choose either a lump-sum amount or annual installments. For termination of service due to other reasons, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump-sum distribution or roll over their account into another individual retirement account. The Plan permits in-service and hardship withdrawals under certain conditions.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

1. Description of the Plan (continued)

Forfeitures

Forfeitures are created when participants terminate employment before becoming entitled to their full benefits under the Plan and are considered nonparticipant-directed investments. Forfeitures may be used to pay administrative expenses and to reduce future Employer contributions. During 2023, administrative expenses were reduced by \$44, from forfeited non-vested accounts. As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, forfeited non-vested accounts held in the stable value advantage option total \$32,716 and \$10,100, respectively.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

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

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures and changes therein. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The Plan's investments are reported at fair value except for its benefit-responsive investment contract, which is valued at contract value (Note 5). 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 Employer determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the custodian. See Note 4 for a discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held, during the year.

Contributions

Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Employer are recorded in the year in which the employee contributions are withheld from compensation.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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 as 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 note receivable to be in default, the note receivable balance is reduced and a benefit payment recorded.

Excess Contributions Payable

Amounts payable to participants totaling \$1,687 as of December 31, 2022, for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions. The Plan distributed the excess contributions to the applicable participants during 2023.

Benefits Paid to Participants

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Employer. Expenses paid by the Employer are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments.

Subsequent Events

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 14, 2024, the date the financials were available to be issued. Effective August 13, 2024, the Employer transferred the Plan assets to Empower Retirement Services.

3. Certified Investments

Certain information related to investments and notes receivable from participants disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule, including investments and notes receivable from participants held as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and net appreciation in fair value of investments, interest income from stable value advantage option, interest income on notes receivable from participants, and transfer in from Besters Corporation 401(k) Plan for the year ended December 31, 2023, was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Transamerica.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

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 under FASB ASC 820 are described below:

- Level 1 Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets the Plan can access.
- Level 2 Inputs to the 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;
 - 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 fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy for assets and liabilities 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.

Pooled separate accounts: Valued at the net asset value (NAV) which equals the number of shares of the respective underlying fund, multiplied by the closing NAV per share quoted by that fund. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value.

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

	Level 1		Level 2		Level 3		Total
2023:							
Pooled separate accounts*	\$	—	\$	—	\$	—	\$5,079,830
2022:							
Pooled separate accounts*	\$	—	\$	—	\$	—	\$2,658,934

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

4. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

- * - In accordance with Subtopic 820-10, the Plan's interest in the pooled separate accounts is measured at fair value using the NAV per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient and has not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The NAV is determined by Transamerica and is based on the fair value of the underlying assets held by the funds. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the line items presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Fair value of Investments that use NAV

The following table summarizes investments measuring at fair value based on NAV per share as of December 31:

Investment Type	2023 Fair Value	2022 Fair Value	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice For Period
Pooled separate accounts	\$5,079,830	\$2,658,934	None	Daily	Daily

5. Group Annuity Contract

The Plan invests in a fully benefit-responsive investment contract with Transamerica totaling \$60,835 and \$32,310 as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively. Transamerica maintains the contributions in a general unallocated account. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The effective rate of interest is established every January 1 and July 1 and is based on the daily balance, at a rate that is the daily equivalent of the effective annual rate of interest applicable for the six-month period. There is no guaranteed minimum or maximum interest rate under this contract, no unfunded commitments, and redemption frequency and notice period can occur daily.

The contract meets the fully benefit-responsive investment criteria and therefore is reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, because it is the amount received by participants if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. Contract value, as reported to the Plan by Transamerica, represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

The Plan's ability to receive amounts due is dependent on the issuer's ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer's ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

5. Group Annuity Contract (continued)

Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial plan termination or merger with another plan), changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, bankruptcy of the Employer or other events that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA or premature termination of the contract. No events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that also would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants.

In addition, certain events allow the issuer to terminate the contract with the Plan and settle at an amount different from contract value. Such events include an uncured violation of the Plan's investment guidelines, a breach of material obligation under the contract, a material misrepresentation or a material amendment to the agreement without consent of the issuer.

6. Related Party Transactions and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Plan investments are in accounts of Transamerica; therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Notes receivable from participants and participant contributions are also considered to be party-in-interest transactions. Employer contributions are considered to be both party-in-interest and related party transactions.

7. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Employer has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their Employer contributions.

8. Tax Status

The Plan adopted non-standardized pre-approved profit sharing plan which had received an opinion letter dated August 17, 2021, from the IRS which stated the plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Although the plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter, the Plan administrator and the Plan's tax counsel believe the Plan is designed and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believe the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

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

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

9. Risks and Uncertainties

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

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan
Employer Identification Number: 82-2986155; Plan Number: 001

Schedule H, Line 4a - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions

Year ended December 31, 2023

			Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program and PTE 2002-51
Year	Participant Contributions Transferred Late to the Plan	Check Here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program	Contributions Pending Correction in Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program	
2022	\$ 10,313		\$ -	\$ 10,313	\$ -	\$ -
Total	<u>\$ 10,313</u>		<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 10,313</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan
Employer Identification Number: 82-2986155; Plan Number: 001

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

December 31, 2023

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment, including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
Investments at fair value:			
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	American Funds Fundmntl Invst	(1) \$	69,568
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	American Funds Gr Fd of America	(1)	21,566
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	DFA Emerging Markets Core Equity	(1)	15,972
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	JPMorgan Eqt Inc	(1)	17,503
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	MFS International Diversification	(1)	118,305
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Steet Prtn Series with TA Mod Gr	(1)	38,900
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street Global All Cap Ex US Index	(1)	79,001
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street Russell Small Cap Index	(1)	66,950
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street S&P 500 Index Class II	(1)	814,032
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street S&P Mid Cap Index	(1)	183,266
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2020 by TA	(1)	617
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2025 by TA	(1)	43,718
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2030 by TA	(1)	187,380
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2035 by TA	(1)	314,133
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2040 by TA	(1)	342,320
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2045 by TA	(1)	374,587
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2050 by TA	(1)	775,785
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2055 by TA	(1)	593,599
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2060 by TA	(1)	331,053
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2065 by TA	(1)	64,176
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse Inc by TA	(1)	1,237
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street U.S. Bond Index	(1)	120,317
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	T. Rowe Price US Small Cap Value Equity	(1)	148,028
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	Vanguard FTSE Social Idx Fund Admiral	(1)	356,676
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	Western Asset Core Plus Bond	(1)	1,141
Total investments at fair value			<u>5,079,830</u>
Investment at contract value:			
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	Transamerica Stable Value Advantage Option	(1)	60,835
*Participant notes receivable	Loans bearing interest at rates ranging from 9.25% to 9.5%, to be repaid through 2027	—	40,432
Total assets held for investment purposes at end of year			<u><u>\$ 5,181,097</u></u>

* Represents a party-in-interest to the Plan.

(1) Cost information has been omitted, since these investments are participant-directed.

Ashling Partners LLC 401(k) Plan
Employer Identification Number: 82-2986155; Plan Number: 001

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

December 31, 2023

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Description of Investment, including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
Investments at fair value:			
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	American Funds Fundmntl Invst	(1) \$	69,568
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	American Funds Gr Fd of America	(1)	21,566
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	DFA Emerging Markets Core Equity	(1)	15,972
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	JPMorgan Eqt Inc	(1)	17,503
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	MFS International Diversification	(1)	118,305
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Steet Prtn Series with TA Mod Gr	(1)	38,900
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street Global All Cap Ex US Index	(1)	79,001
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street Russell Small Cap Index	(1)	66,950
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street S&P 500 Index Class II	(1)	814,032
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street S&P Mid Cap Index	(1)	183,266
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2020 by TA	(1)	617
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2025 by TA	(1)	43,718
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2030 by TA	(1)	187,380
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	State Street SecCourse 2035 by TA	(1)	314,133
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*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	Vanguard FTSE Social Idx Fund Admiral	(1)	356,676
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	Western Asset Core Plus Bond	(1)	1,141
Total investments at fair value			<u>5,079,830</u>
Investment at contract value:			
*Transamerica Financial Life Insurance Company	Transamerica Stable Value Advantage Option	(1)	60,835
*Participant notes receivable	Loans bearing interest at rates ranging from 9.25% to 9.5%, to be repaid through 2027	—	40,432
Total assets held for investment purposes at end of year			<u><u>\$ 5,181,097</u></u>

* Represents a party-in-interest to the Plan.

(1) Cost information has been omitted, since these investments are participant-directed.