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

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.)
- [X] a single-employer plan
- [ ] a DFE (specify) ____

B This return/report is:
- [ ] the first return/report
- [ ] the final return/report
- [ ] an amended return/report
- [ ] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . . ▶ [ ]

D Check box if filing under:
- [X] Form 5558
- [ ] automatic extension
- [ ] the DFVC program
- [X] special extension (enter description) DISASTER - HURRICANE FRANCINE

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
PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

1c Effective date of plan 09/15/2016

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)
PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

1300 COMMERCE STREET
RUSTON, LA 71270-2924

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 72-1451789

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 318-251-3276

2d Business code (see instructions) 621900

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.	12/10/2024	PENNY DUNN
	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 [X] Same as Plan Sponsor

3b Administrator's EIN

3c Administrator's telephone number

4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:

a Sponsor's name

4b EIN

c Plan Name

4d PN

5	Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	**5**	643
6	Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines **6a(1), 6a(2), 6b, 6c,** and **6d**).		
a(1)	Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year	**6a(1)**	517
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	530
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	0
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	144
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	674
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	0
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	674
g(1)	Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(1)**	298
g(2)	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(2)**	309
h	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	**6h**	6
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:

2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D 3H

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)** [X] Insurance
- **(2)** [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- **(3)** [X] Trust
- **(4)** [ ] General assets of the sponsor

9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)

- **(1)** [X] Insurance
- **(2)** [ ] Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
- **(3)** [X] Trust
- **(4)** [ ] General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- **(1)** [X] **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)** [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- **(3)** [X] **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

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

A Name of plan
PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
72-1451789

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.

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
THE VARIABLE ANNUITY LIFE INSURANCE CO.

(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
74-1625348	70238	71829	311	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	(b) Total amount of fees paid
21034	

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

BREAUX, WILLIAM T
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	(e) Organization code
8000		COMMISSION	3

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

POYNOT, DANIEL P
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	(e) Organization code
7319		COMMISSION	3

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

RICHMOND, CHRISTOPHER
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	
5142		COMMISSION	3

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

HATCHER, MICHAEL A
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	
458		COMMISSION	3

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

PIPHO, STUART A
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	
66		COMMISSION	3

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

MAZANDER, HEATHER
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	
37		COMMISSION	3

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

BUTLER, JOHN D
2929 ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		**(e)** Organization code
	(c) Amount	**(d)** Purpose	
12		COMMISSION	3

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	306052
5	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end	5	4058851

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 ▶

b	Balance at the end of the previous year			7b	262830
c	Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)	52364		
	(2) Dividends and credits	7c(2)	0		
	(3) Interest credited during the year	7c(3)	4959		
	(4) Transferred from separate account	7c(4)	49764		
	(5) Other (specify below) ▶	7c(5)	0		
	(6) Total additions			7c(6)	107087
d	Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)			7d	369917
e	Deductions:				
	(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)	34914		
	(2) Administration charge made by carrier	7e(2)	0		
	(3) Transferred to separate account	7e(3)	28000		
	(4) Other (specify below) ▶ CONTRACT SURRENDER CHARGES	7e(4)	951		
	(5) Total deductions			7e(5)	63865
f	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)			7f	306052

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)**	
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)**	
(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)**	
(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 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
PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
72-1451789

Part I Asset and Liability Statement

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

Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	67701	68688
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	2960599	4305654
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

			(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d	Employer-related investments:			
	(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	3028300	4374342
	Liabilities			
g	Benefit claims payable	1g		
h	Operating payables	1h		
i	Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
j	Other liabilities	1j		
k	Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k		
	Net Assets			
l	Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	3028300	4374342

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.

			(a) Amount	(b) Total
	Income			
a	**Contributions:**			
	(1) Received or receivable in cash from: **(A)** Employers	2a(1)(A)	279162	
	(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	598183	
	(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	325329	
	(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
	(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		1202674
b	**Earnings on investments:**			
	(1) Interest:			
	(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)		
	(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
	(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
	(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
	(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
	(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	6694	
	(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		6694
	(2) Dividends: **(A)** Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
	(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
	(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)		
	(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		
	(3) Rents	2b(3)		
	(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: **(A)** Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
	(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
	(C) Subtract line **2b(4)(B)** from line **2b(4)(A)** and enter result	2b(4)(C)		
	(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: **(A)** Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
	(B) Other	2b(5)(B)		
	(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		493830
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		1703198
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	344874	
(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)		344874
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)	12282	
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(11)**	2i(12)		12282
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		357156
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		1346042
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

(1) [X] 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) [X] 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: TMCE, LLP **(2)** EIN: 45-3564278

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.)	**4a**		X	
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.)	**4b**		X	
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.)	**4c**		X	
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.)	**4d**		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	**4e**	X		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?	**4f**		X	
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?	**4g**		X	
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?	**4h**		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	**4i**	X		
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.)	**4j**		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	**4k**		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	**4l**		X	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	**4m**		X	
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.	**4n**			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? [ ] Yes [X] No

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

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

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

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

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

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Retirement Plan Information

This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

2023

This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

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

A Name of plan
PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
PAFFORD EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
72-1451789

Part I Distributions

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

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions ..... | **1** |

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): 74-1625348

Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.

3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year ..... | **3** |

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

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.

5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.

6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) ..... | **6a** |

b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year ..... | **6b** |

c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) ..... | **6c** |

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No** ☐ **N/A**

Part III Amendments

9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ..... ☐ **Increase** ☐ **Decrease** ☐ **Both** ☐ **No**

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

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? ..... ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify):

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

---

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

e Contribution rate information *(If more than one rate applies, check this box* ☐ *and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)*
(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____
(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment)	**14a**	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	**14b**	
c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment)	**14c**	

15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	**15a**	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	**15b**	

16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

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

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

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

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

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

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%
High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:
☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

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

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

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

☐ Yes.

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

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

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation._____

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

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

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

☐ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☐ "Current year" ADP test

☐ N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter ___/___/_____ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number_____.

PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023
AND
DECEMBER 31, 2022

TMCE, LLP
Certified Public Accountants and Consultants

PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN
Table of Contents and Index

	Page
Independent Auditors' Report	1-3
Financial Statements	
Statements of net assets available for benefits	4
Statement of changes in net assets available for benefits	5
Notes to the financial statements	6-13
Supplemental Schedule	
Schedule of assets (held at end of year)	15

* All other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor's *Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure* under Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 have been omitted because they are not applicable.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Plan Administrator
PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN
Ruston, Louisiana

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

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of Pafford EMS 401(k) 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 statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of Pafford EMS 401(k) Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our 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 Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 10 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 financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the financial statements referred to above related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Pafford EMS 401(k) Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Pafford EMS 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, 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 Pafford EMS 401(k) 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 Pafford EMS 401(k) 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 accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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

Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental Schedule H, Line 4(I) – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2021 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental 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 generally accepted auditing standards. 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 Department of Labor'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 Department of Labor'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).



TMCE, LLP
Shreveport, Louisiana
November 24, 2024

PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value (NOTE 3)	$ 3,986,766	$ 2,694,792
Investments, at contract value (NOTE 4)	387,576	333,508
Total investments	4,374,342	3,028,300
Receivables		
Participant contributions	-	24,572
Employer contributions	-	10,487
Total receivables	-	35,059
TOTAL ASSETS	$ 4,374,342	$ 3,063,359
TOTAL LIABILITIES	-	-
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	$ 4,374,342	$ 3,063,359

PAFFORD EMS 401(K) PLAN
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

ADDITIONS		
Additions to net assets attributed to:		
Investment income		
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	$	493,830
Interest and dividends		6,694
Total investment income		500,524
Contributions		
Participants		573,611
Employer		268,675
Rollovers		325,329
Total contributions		1,167,615
TOTAL ADDITIONS		1,668,139
DEDUCTIONS		
Deductions from net assets attributed to:		
Benefits paid to participants		344,874
Administrative expenses		12,282
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS		357,156
NET INCREASE		1,310,983
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS:		
Beginning of year		3,063,359
End of year	$	4,374,342

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

(1) Description of the Plan

The following description of the Pafford EMS (the "Company") 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan is a tax-qualified defined contribution plan under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which provides retirement, disability and death benefits for eligible employees of the Company. To attain eligibility, employees must be age twenty-one (21), and must have completed 3 months of service, as defined by the Plan. The Plan is subject to various provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA").

The Plan as herein discussed is effective as of January 1, 2022.

Contributions and Allocations

Each year, eligible participants may contribute up to one-hundred percent (100%) of their pre-tax annual compensation ("eligible compensation" as defined under the Plan), not to exceed maximum annual contribution limits established by the Federal Government. The elective deferral limitations for 2023 and 2022 amounted to $22,500 and $20,500, respectively. In addition, during the year in which a participant attains age fifty (50) and in subsequent years, the participant may elect to make additional, pre-tax "catch up" contributions for 2023 and 2022 of up to $7,500 and $6,500, respectively.

In addition, participants are allowed to contribute up to one-hundred percent (100%) of their after-tax annual compensation as a Roth 401k contribution. Roth Elective Deferrals should not exceed maximum annual limits established by the Federal Government.

Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various options offered by the Plan.

A matching contribution by the Company is discretionary for each plan year. Matching contributions for the 2023 plan year are equal to fifty percent (50%) of a participant's elective deferrals, including catch-up contributions, which do not exceed six percent (6%) of the participant's total eligible compensation. Participants who have attained age twenty-one (21) and completed one year of service, as defined by the Plan, are eligible to receive a matching contribution. Matching contributions totaled $268,675 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Rollover contributions are permitted by the Plan. Rollover contributions remain in segregated rollover accounts and are always one hundred percent (100%) vested. Rollover contributions may be withdrawn by the participant at any time. Voluntary employee contributions to the Plan are not allowed.

Participant Accounts

Under the Plan, elective deferrals made by participants and any employer contributions are placed into investment accounts, as directed by the participant, which are then credited with gains and losses at each valuation date. Valuation is performed daily. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participants vested account.

(1) Description of the Plan (cont.)

Vesting
Under the Plan, participants are immediately vested in their elective deferral contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Participants are vested in the Company's contribution portion of their accounts plus actual earnings thereon based on years of continuous service. All participants are fully vested after completing at least three (3) years of service.

The vesting schedule for matching employer contributions is as follows:

Completed Years of Service	Percentage Vested
Less than 3	0%
3 or more	100%

Policy Loans
Participants may borrow funds directly from VALIC using a portion of their Plan accounts as security for the policy loan. Loans are issued for amounts ranging from a minimum of one-thousand dollars ($1,000) up to the lesser of fifty-thousand dollars ($50,000) or fifty percent (50%) of a participant's eligible account balance. Eligible participant accounts include pre-tax elective deferral, Roth elective deferral and rollover accounts. Participants may not have more than one (1) outstanding loan at a time. Loan repayment periods may not extend past five (5) years.

Policy loans are secured by an amount equal to one-hundred and ten percent (110%) of the outstanding loan balance through the participant's balance in the VALIC Short-Term Fixed Account or the Fixed Account Plus.

Policy loans bear interest at market rates established by VALIC. Principal and interest is paid ratably through periodic direct payments by the participant to VALIC.

The Plan Administrator has determined that these loans are not assets of the Plan. Policy loans totaled $68,688 and $67,701 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

Payment of Benefits
In-service distributions are permitted by the Plan if a participant has attained age fifty-nine and one-half (59½) and is one-hundred percent (100%) vested in the account from which the distribution is made.

Hardship distributions are permitted by the Plan, provided the participant provides documentation demonstrating the existence of a hardship event, as defined by the Plan. Distributions are limited to the participant's vested portion of pre-tax deferral, Roth 401k deferral and rollover accounts.

On termination of service due to reasons other than death, disability or retirement, participants are entitled to receive only the vested portion of their account balance. If the value of the participant's account does not exceed five-thousand dollars ($5,000), then a single lump-sum distribution will be made for the participant, regardless if they consent to receive it.

(1) Description of the Plan (cont.)

If a participant's account exceeds five-thousand dollars ($5,000), the participant must consent to any distribution. The participant may elect to receive a single lump-sum payment. Partial withdrawals or installments are not permitted.

Participants who attain Normal Retirement Age at age sixty-five (65) will become one-hundred percent (100%) vested in all account balances. Payment of benefits will begin as soon as administratively feasible when the participant terminates employment and reaches their Normal Retirement Date. Participants who remain employed past their Normal Retirement Date may defer their distribution of benefits until they terminate employment.

On termination due to disability, participants become one-hundred percent (100%) vested in all account balances. Payment of benefits will be made as if the participant had retired. On termination of service due to death, a participant's account balance will be used to provide the participant's beneficiary(ies) with death benefits.

For most distributions, participants may request that a direct transfer ("rollover") of all or a portion of the distribution be made either to an individual retirement account or annuity (IRA) or another employer retirement plan willing to accept the transfer.

Forfeited Accounts
Forfeitures are amounts which cannot be paid to terminated participants because they were not one hundred percent (100%) vested upon separation from service with the Company. Forfeitures of company contributions will be used to supplement employer contributions or allocated to eligible plan participants. The Plan, as of December 31, 2023 had $9,439 in forfeited non-vested account balances. As of December 31, 2022, the Plan had $120 in forfeited non-vested account balances. During the plan year ended December 31, 2023, the Plan did not use any forfeited non-vested account balances to supplement employer contributions or pay plan expenses.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting
The accompanying financial statements of the Plan have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").

Use of Estimates
The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition
The Plan's investments are stated at fair value, except for its fixed group annuity contract (the "Fixed Account Plus"), which is stated at contract value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 3 for a discussion of fair value measurements.

Fully benefit responsive investment contracts held by a defined-contribution plan are reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined-contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the plan.

Net appreciation (depreciation) in the fair value of Plan assets reflected in the Plan's statement of changes in net assets available for benefits includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold, as well as held during the year. Purchases and sales of units of participation in the insurance company variable annuity accounts are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Payment of Benefits
Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses
Although not required, the Company, as Plan Sponsor, may pay the related costs of administering the Plan. Expenses paid by the Company on behalf of the Plan are not reflected in the financial statements of the Plan.

(3) 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 as follows:

- Level 1 inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the plan has the ability to access.

- Level 2 inputs to the valuation methodology include the following:
    - 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

(3) Fair Value Measurements (cont.)

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

- Level 3 inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset's or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value-

- *Variable Annuity Funds* – The VALIC variable annuity funds are valued using pricing models maximizing the use of observable inputs for similar securities. This includes basing the unit value on the NAV, as quoted in active markets, for each investment option offered to the VALIC Separate Practical Expedient Account policyholders.

As of December 31, 2023 and 2022, the Plan's investments in Variable Annuity Funds totaled $3,986,766 and $2,694,792, respectively. The Plan Administrator has reviewed the inputs to the fair value calculation for these investments which are valued at fair value and has determined that under FASB ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements,* they qualify as Level 2 investments.

(4) Group Annuity Contracts with Insurance Companies

The Plan invests in a fixed interest group annuity contract with VALIC. VALIC maintains the contributions in a general account. This contract meets the fully benefit responsive investment contract criteria and therefore is reported at contract value. The annuity is included in investments in the financial statements at contract value as reported to the Plan by VALIC. Contract value represents contributions made under the annuity, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses.

Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value. The fixed interest annuity is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specified interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan.

As the fixed interest annuity is fully benefit-responsive, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits attributable to the fixed interest annuity. There are no reserves against contract value for credit risk or the contract issuer or otherwise.

Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include the following: (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) bankruptcy of the Employer or other Employer events that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, or (3) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction

(4) Group Annuity Contracts with Insurance Companies (cont.)

exemption under ERISA. The plan administrator does not believe that any events which would limit the plan's ability to transact at contract value with participants are probable of occurring.

(5) Transactions with Parties in Interest

Certain Plan investments are units of variable group annuity funds managed by VALIC, the Custodian of the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. All investment fund earnings or losses posted to each Plan participant's account are net of investment management fees charged by each investment fund under the Plan.

Additionally, Pafford EMS, the Plan sponsor, provides certain accounting and administrative services for which no fees are charged.

(6) Plan Amendment or Termination

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

(7) Tax Status

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has determined that the prototype adopted by the Plan, as designed at the time, qualifies under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 401(a). The Plan has not received a determination letter specific to the Plan itself; however, the plan administrators and the plan's tax counsel believe that the plan was designed and was being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the plan's financial statements.

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

(8) Risks and Uncertainties

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

(9) Subsequent Events

The Plan Administrator has evaluated all events or transactions that occurred after December 31, 2023 through November 24, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

(10) Information Certified by the Plan's Custodian

The Plan's management has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, as permitted under such election, the plan management instructed the plan's independent auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to the following information certified by VALIC, except for comparing such information certified by the custodian with information included in the plan's financial statements and supplemental Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year):

		2023		2022
Fixed Group Annuity Contracts	**$**	**387,576**	$	333,508
Variable Group Annuity Contracts		**3,986,766**		2,694,792
Total assets held by the Custodian	**$**	**4,374,342**	$	3,028,300
Investment income:				
Dividends, interest and other	**$**	**6,694**		
Net apppreciation in fair value of investments	**$**	**493,830**		

(11) Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Schedule H of Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of the Plan's financial statements at December 31, 2023 to Schedule H of Form 5500:

	Net assets available for benefits
Balance per the financial statements	$ 4,374,342
Cash to accrual adjustments	-
Balance per the Form 5500	$ 4,374,342

The following is a reconciliation of the Plan's financial statements at December 31, 2022 to Schedule H of Form 5500:

	Net assets available for benefits
Balance per the financial statements	$ 3,063,359
Cash to accrual adjustments	(35,059)
Balance per the Form 5500	$ 3,028,300

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE H LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
PLAN 001
EIN 72-1451789
DECEMBER 31, 2023

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	Fixed Group Annuity Contracts			
*	VALIC	Fixed Account Plus	**	301,016
*	VALIC	Short Term Fixed Account	**	14,475
*	VALIC	Loan Collateral Fund	**	71,663
*	VALIC	Loan Escrow Fund	**	422
	Variable Group Annuity Contracts			
*	VALIC	Aggressive Growth Lifestyle Fund	**	188,729
*	VALIC	Ariel Fund	**	47
*	VALIC	Blue Chip Growth Fund	**	21,303
*	VALIC	Core Bond Fund	**	55,401
*	VALIC	Dividend Value Fund	**	1,079
*	VALIC	Emerging Economies Fund	**	197,295
*	VALIC	Global Real Estate Fund	**	73,898
*	VALIC	Institutional Social Responsible Fund	**	43,335
*	VALIC	Growth Fund	**	302
*	VALIC	High Yield Bond Fund	**	25,095
*	VALIC	Inflation Protection Fund	**	19,349
*	VALIC	Internatl Equities Index Fund	**	313,716
*	VALIC	Intl Opportunities Fund	**	204,049
*	VALIC	International Value Fund	**	74,181
*	VALIC	Invesco Bal Risk Commod Str R5 Fund	**	44,358
*	VALIC	Large Government Securities Fund	**	3,695
*	VALIC	Large Capital Growth Fund	**	68,890
*	VALIC	Mid Cap Strategic Growth Fund	**	70,787
*	VALIC	Mid Cap Index Fund	**	268,598
*	VALIC	Mid Cap Value Fund	**	115,322
*	VALIC	Moderate Growth Lifestyle Fund	**	188,760
*	VALIC	Nasdaq-100(R) Index Fund	**	41,327
*	VALIC	Science & Technology Fund	**	55,680
*	VALIC	Small Cap Index Fund	**	982
*	VALIC	Small Cap Growth Fund	**	1,017
*	VALIC	Small Cap Value Fund	**	67,849
*	VALIC	Stock Index Fund	**	291,947
*	VALIC	Systemic Core Fund	**	187
*	VALIC	Systematic Value Fund	**	991
*	VALIC	Asset Allocation Fund	**	4,682
*	VALIC	GS VIT Gov Money Market Fund	**	549,188
*	VALIC	International Government Bond Fund	**	3,719
*	VALIC	International Growth Fund	**	1,690
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Adv Fund	**	10,650
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Adv Fund	**	31,270
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2035 Adv Fund	**	81
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2040 Adv Fund	**	25,412
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2045 Adv Fund	**	22,374
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2050 Adv Fund	**	201,766
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2055 Adv Fund	**	136,686
*	VALIC	T Rowe Price Retirement 2060 Adv Fund	**	91,147
*	VALIC	US Socially Responsible Fund	**	228,332
*	VALIC	Vanguard Lift Strategy Moderation Fund	**	5,155
*	VALIC	Vanguard LT Inv-Grade Fund	**	1
*	VALIC	Vanguard Windsor II Fund	**	236,444
		Total		$ 4,374,342

* Represents a party-in-interest.

** Information on the cost basis of investments has been excluded, as all investments are participant directed

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

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.)
- [x] a single-employer plan
- [ ] a DFE (specify) ____

B This return/report is:
- [ ] the first return/report
- [ ] the final return/report
- [ ] an amended return/report
- [ ] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ [ ]

D Check box if filing under:
- [x] Form 5558
- [ ] automatic extension
- [ ] the DFVC program
- [x] special extension (enter description) Disaster - hurricane Francine

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
Pafford EMS 401(k) Plan

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001

1c Effective date of plan 09/15/2016

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)
Pafford Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

1300 Commerce Street

Ruston, LA 71270-2924

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN)
72-1451789

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number
(318) 251-3276

2d Business code (see instructions)
621900

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	Penny Dunn	12·10·24	Penny Dunn
	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

SCHEDULE H LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
PLAN 001
EIN 72-1451789
DECEMBER 31, 2023

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
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