

Form 5500-SFDepartment of the Treasury
Internal Revenue ServiceDepartment of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Short Form Annual Return/Report of Small Employee
Benefit Plan**This form is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement
Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal
Revenue Code (the Code).▶ **Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500-SF.**OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089**2022****This Form is Open to
Public Inspection****Part I Annual Report Identification Information**For calendar plan year 2022 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2021 and ending 12/31/2021

- A** This return/report is for: a single-employer plan a multiple-employer plan (not multiemployer) (Filers checking this box must attach a list of participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)
- B** This return/report is the first return/report the final return/report
 an amended return/report a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
- C** Check box if filing under: Form 5558 automatic extension DFVC program
 special extension (enter description) REQUEST EXTENSION DUE TO COVID
- D** 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 <u>LEATHERBACK TRUST, INC 401(K) PLAN</u>		1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u>
		1c Effective date of plan <u>08/15/2014</u>
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, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>LEATHERBACK TRUST, INC</u> <u>THE LEATHERBACK TRUST</u> <u>JAMES R. SPOTILA</u> <u>THE LEATHERBACK TRUST</u> <u>5736 KINLOCK PL</u> <u>FORT WAYNE, IN 46835-8826</u>		2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>22-3741033</u>
		2c Sponsor's telephone number <u>609-440-5158</u>
		2d Business code (see instructions) <u>112510</u>
3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor.		3b Administrator's EIN
		3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report. a Sponsor's name c Plan Name		4b EIN
		4d PN
5a Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year.....		5a <u>1</u>
b Total number of participants at the end of the plan year		5b <u>0</u>
c Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)		5c <u>0</u>
d(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year		5d(1) <u>0</u>
d(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year.....		5d(2) <u>0</u>
e Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....		5e <u>0</u>

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including, if applicable, a Schedule SB or Schedule MB completed and signed by an enrolled actuary, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

SIGN HERE	<u>Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.</u>	<u>01/06/2025</u>	<u>JAMES SPOTILA</u>
	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

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500-SF.

Form 5500-SF (2022)
v.220413

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

Part III Financial Information			
7 Plan Assets and Liabilities		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total plan assets.....	7a	104862	0
b Total plan liabilities.....	7b	0	0
c Net plan assets (subtract line 7b from line 7a).....	7c	104862	0
8 Income, Expenses, and Transfers for this Plan Year		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions received or receivable from:			
(1) Employers.....	8a(1)	0	
(2) Participants.....	8a(2)	0	
(3) Others (including rollovers).....	8a(3)	0	
b Other income (loss).....	8b	12360	
c Total income (add lines 8a(1), 8a(2), 8a(3), and 8b).....	8c		12360
d Benefits paid (including direct rollovers and insurance premiums to provide benefits).....	8d	117222	
e Certain deemed and/or corrective distributions (see instructions).....	8e	0	
f Administrative service providers (salaries, fees, commissions).....	8f	0	
g Other expenses.....	8g	0	
h Total expenses (add lines 8d, 8e, 8f, and 8g).....	8h		117222
i Net income (loss) (subtract line 8h from line 8c).....	8i		-104862
j Transfers to (from) the plan (see instructions).....	8j	0	

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

Part V Compliance Questions				
10 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? (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program).....	10a		X	
b Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 10a.).....	10b		X	
c Was the plan covered by a fidelity bond?.....	10c		X	
d Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?.....	10d		X	
e Were any fees or commissions paid to any brokers, agents, or other persons by an insurance carrier, insurance service, or other organization that provides some or all of the benefits under the plan? (See instructions.).....	10e		X	
f Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?.....	10f		X	
g Did the plan have any participant loans? (If "Yes," enter amount as of year-end.).....	10g		X	
h If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.).....	10h		X	
i If 10h was answered "Yes," check the box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.....	10i		X	

Part VI Pension Funding Compliance

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

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

b PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If the plan is covered by PBGC and the amount reported on line 11a is greater than \$0, has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

- Yes.
- No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.
- No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.
- No. Other. Provide explanation _____

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part VII Plan Terminations and Transfers of Assets

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

If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year..... **13a** 0

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

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

13c(1) Name of plan(s):	13c(2) EIN(s)	13c(3) PN(s)



**The
Leatherback
Trust**

January 6, 2025

Department of Labor
Employee Benefit Security Administration

Dear Colleagues:

I hereby appeal any penalty for my late filing of Form 5500-SF for 2021 for The Leatherback Trust Benefit Plan (401 (K)). The Leatherback Trust is a small mom and pop conservation organization dedicated to saving sea turtles. Almost all of the funds that we raise from donors goes to pay for conservation efforts in Costa Rica on the beaches where sea turtles nest and in local communities. In the past we tried to expand our efforts and hired an Executive Director, George Shillinger. However, several years ago he left the organization. Since that time one or two of us have been running day to day operations. All our attention was focused on the turtles. In August of 2021 we terminated the plan and distributed all assets to Dr. Shillinger. I was unaware that we had not filed a final Form 5500 SF for that plan year because in early 2022 when the Covid pandemic hit us Dr. Paladino, President, and I, Chairman, were overwhelmed with carrying on our conservation efforts in Costa Rica, ensuring the health and well-being of our conservation people in Costa Rica, as well as our students at Purdue University and Drexel University in the US. The need to file Form 5500 SF was lost to us in the confusion and difficulties of the Covid pandemic. It was uncertain whether we would even be able to continue our conservation efforts.

Only recently did we receive a notice from the IRS that the form 5500-SF was overdue. That notice was sent on November 11, 2024, but I did not receive it until December 18, 2024- after the time required for a response. I called the IRS helpline on December 26, 2024, and was given very helpful guidance about how to complete the 5500-SF form.

Since we had only one employee in the plan in the past and have no employees in the US now, any funds taken as a penalty will directly take away from our ability to have people on the beach protecting the turtles during the next nesting season. Therefore, I request a waiver of any penalties. Each dollar of penalty will cost us protection for one hatchling on the beach in Costa Rica.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

James R. Spotila, Ph.D.

Chairman of the Board