

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

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.

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [X] a multiemployer plan [ ] a multiple-employer plan... B This return/report is: [ ] a single-employer plan [ ] a DFE... C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here... [X] D Check box if filing under: [ ] Form 5558 [ ] automatic extension [ ] the DFVC program [ ] special extension... 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: C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 501
1c Effective date of plan: 07/01/1970
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 34-6727972
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 216-778-6300
2d Business code (see instructions): 493100

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.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes rows for employer/plan sponsor and DFE.

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

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> 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: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	246
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. .... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	246
	<b>6a(2)</b>	240
	<b>6b</b>	0
	<b>6c</b>	0
	<b>6d</b>	240
	<b>6e</b>	
	<b>6f</b>	240
	<b>6g(1)</b>	
<b>6g(2)</b>		
<b>6h</b>		
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	1

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

**b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
4Q

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> 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)

<b>a Pension Schedules</b>	<b>b General Schedules</b>
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached _____
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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**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.

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**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 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>SCHEDULE H</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Financial Information</b>  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).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <b>01/01/2024</b> and ending <b>12/31/2024</b>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>501</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>34-6727972</b>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Asset and Liability Statement</b>
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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.

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>	8828	10118
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>		
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>		

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	8828	10118
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k		
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	8828	10118

**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.

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	28655	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		28655
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	40	
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		40
(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 .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(10)</b>		
<b>c</b> Other income .....	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2d</b>		28695

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	<b>2e(1)</b>	23730	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other .....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		23730
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>	3675	
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>		
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	<b>2i(4)</b>		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	<b>2i(5)</b>		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>		
(7) Actuarial fees .....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
(8) Legal fees .....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
(11) Other expenses .....	<b>2i(11)</b>		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		3675
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2j</b>		27405

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		1290
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan .....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
(2) From this plan .....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**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: **NEITZEL, LUKE & SALOPEK, INC.**

(2) EIN: **34-1316056**

**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
<b>a</b> 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.)		X	
<b>b</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.)		X	
<b>c</b> 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.)		X	
<b>d</b> 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.)		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		10000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
<b>g</b> 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?		X	
<b>h</b> 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?		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>j</b> 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.)		X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
<b>n</b> 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.)

<b>5b(1)</b> Name of plan(s)	<b>5b(2)</b> EIN(s)	<b>5b(3)</b> 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 \_\_\_\_\_.

C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400

Comparative Financial Statements  
and Supplementary Information  
Cash Basis

December 31, 2024 and 2023

**Financial Statements and Supplementary Information  
Cash Basis**

**C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

*Financial Statements - Cash Basis*

Independent Auditor's Report.....	1
Statements of Cash Receipts and Disbursements.....	4
Notes to Financial Statements.....	5

*Supplementary Information - Cash Basis*

Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year).....	7
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**NEITZEL, LUKE & SALOPEK, INC.**  
**Certified Public Accountants**  
**25000 Center Ridge Road, Ste. 8**  
**Westlake, OH 44145-4105**  
**440-835-1040 Fax: 440-835-1037**

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Trustees  
C.E.R. Fund of Local 400

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the C.E.R. Fund of Local 400 (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of cash receipts and disbursements for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash receipts and disbursements of the Plan for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits 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 the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

**Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note 2 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements and supplemental schedules are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

**Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 2; this includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible 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 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**

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 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.

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**

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule (cash basis) of assets (held at end of year), as of December 31, 2024, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is 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 has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

In forming our opinion on the schedule (cash basis), we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule (cash basis), including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedule (cash basis) is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

*Neitzel, Luke & Salopek, Inc.*

Westlake, Ohio  
May 6, 2025

**C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400**

**STATEMENTS OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>CASH RECEIPTS</b>		
Employer contributions	\$ 28,655	\$ 26,508
Interest income	40	29
	<u>28,695</u>	<u>26,537</u>
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	28,695	26,537
<b>CASH DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Accounting fees	3,675	3,675
Benefit payments	23,730	23,096
	<u>27,405</u>	<u>26,771</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	27,405	26,771
<b>CASH RECEIPTS OVER CASH DISBURSEMENTS</b> <b>(CASH DISBURSEMENTS OVER CASH RECEIPTS)</b>	1,290	(234)
<b>CASH:</b>		
<b>BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>8,828</u>	<u>9,062</u>
<b>END OF YEAR</b>	<u><u>\$ 10,118</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,828</u></u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

## **C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400**

### **NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

#### **NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN**

The following description of C.E.R. Fund of Local 400 (the "Plan") provides only general information about the Plan's provisions. Participants should refer to the plan agreement for a complete description of the Plan's provisions.

##### **General**

The Plan was established by the Commission House Drivers, Helpers and Employees Union Local No. 400 (the "Union") and various employers. The Plan's Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Plan. The Plan's Board of Trustees determines the appropriateness of the Plan's investment offerings and monitors investment performance. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

##### **Benefits**

The purpose of the Plan is to establish a charitable, educational and recreational fund for receiving contributions, and to provide benefits for eligible participants, their families and dependents. Benefits provided are normally in the form of gift cards, hats, t-shirts, and other paraphernalia.

##### **Contributions**

Contributions to the Plan are made by employers for each week worked by eligible participants, at rates agreed upon between the Union and employers, pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement. For the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, 100% of the employer contributions were from one employer.

#### **NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of Accounting and Use of Estimates**

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of cash and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

##### **Cash**

The Plan maintains its cash account at a regional financial institution. The balance, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. The Plan's cash balances did not exceed federally insured limits at any time during 2024.

##### **Payment of Benefits**

Benefit payments are recorded when paid.

### **Subsequent Events**

Management has evaluated subsequent events for the Plan through May 6, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

### **NOTE 3 – TAX STATUS**

The Plan received an exemption letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) dated June 11, 1971, stating that the trust is tax-exempt under the provisions of Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). However, as a result of the Plan's funding policy, from time to time, the trust may be subject to income taxes. No federal or state income taxes have been recorded, for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, for unrelated business taxable income.

In addition, the Plan and the trust are required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain the tax-exempt status of the trust. The Plan administrator believes that the Plan is being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the related trust is tax-exempt.

The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits in progress for any tax periods.

### **NOTE 4 – TERMINATION OF THE PLAN**

Although it has not expressed any intention to do so, the Plan's Board of Trustees has the right under the Plan to terminate the requirement for employers to contribute to the Plan and to terminate the Plan, subject to the provisions set forth in ERISA. In the event of termination of the Plan, remaining assets, after those used to cover the expenses of the Plan, will be used in a manner, which will carry out the purposes of the Plan.

### **NOTE 5 – PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

The Plan has certain arrangements with service providers that qualify as party-in-interest transactions under ERISA.

**C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400**

**SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
 CASH BASIS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024**

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	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
	Independence Bank	Business Money Market Checking	\$ 10,118	\$ 10,118

See independent auditor's report.

**C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400**

**SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
CASH BASIS**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024**

<u>(a)</u>	<u>(b)</u>	<u>(c)</u>	<u>(d)</u>	<u>(e)</u>
	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
	Independence Bank	Business Money Market Checking	\$ 10,118	\$ 10,118

See independent auditor's report.

**2024 Form 5500 e-file Signature Authorization**

C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400  
C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400 501  
707 BROOKPARK ROAD  
CLEVELAND, OH 44109-5817

Employer Identification Number: 34-6727972

Client Identification Number: LOCAL400CER

You, as plan administrator, are authorizing that Neitzel, Luke & Salopek, Inc. electronically file the 2024 Form 5500 for C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400 as an EFAST2 Service Provider.

**Authorization**

As plan administrator for C.E.R. FUND OF LOCAL 400, I authorize Neitzel, Luke & Salopek, Inc. to electronically file Form 5500 for the tax year 2024. I understand that a PDF copy of the first two pages of the manually signed form will be submitted to EFAST2 with the electronic file, and that the image of my signature will be included with the rest of the return / report posted by the Department of Labor on the internet for public disclosure.

Please sign and date below:

Plan Administrator Authorization



Date: 5/22/25

<b>Form 5500</b> Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service  Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration  Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	<b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b> 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).  <b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b>	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089  <div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">2024</div>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b>
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**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and ending \_\_\_\_\_

**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) \_\_\_\_\_

**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:  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

<b>1a</b> Name of plan C. E. R. FUND OF LOCAL 400	<b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	501
<b>2a</b> 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) C. E. R. FUND OF LOCAL 400  707 BROOKPARK ROAD  CLEVELAND OH 44109-5817	<b>1c</b> Effective date of plan 07/01/1970	<b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 34-6727972
	<b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number 216-778-6300	<b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) 493100

**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		05/21/2025	ANTHONY SARA
	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