

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

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

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: a multiemployer plan, a multiple-employer plan, a single-employer plan, a DFE, etc.
B This return/report is: the first return/report, the final return/report, an amended return/report, a short plan year return/report, etc.
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.
D Check box if filing under: Form 5558, automatic extension, special extension, the DFVC program, etc.
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: ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 003
1c Effective date of plan: 01/01/2007
2a Plan sponsor's name, mailing address, city or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code.
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 24-0568185
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 570-421-0531
2d Business code (see instructions): 522120

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>	282
<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>	221
	<b>6a(2)</b>	201
	<b>6b</b>	4
	<b>6c</b>	63
	<b>6d</b>	268
	<b>6e</b>	0
	<b>6f</b>	268
	<b>6g(1)</b>	270
<b>6g(2)</b>	266	
<b>6h</b>	2	
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
2P 2I 3H

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

<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)

**a Pension Schedules**

- (1)  **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2)  **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3)  **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4)  **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached \_\_\_\_\_
- (5)  **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

**b General Schedules**

- (1)  **H** (Financial Information)
- (2)  **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3)  **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
- (4)  **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5)  **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6)  **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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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>ESSA BANK &amp; TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>003</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>ESSA BANK &amp; TRUST</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>24-0568185</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.

Assets	(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<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>	1633221
<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)	20913673	19688741
(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	22331064	21321962
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i	7796118	7446520
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	7796118	7446520
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	14534946	13875442

**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)	654023	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		654023
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	83491	
(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)		83491
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)	616970	
(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)		616970
(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)	-577357	
(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>		777127

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	<b>2e(1)</b>	772145	
(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>		772145
<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>		664486
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(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>		0
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		1436631

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		-659504
<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: S.R SNODGRASS, P.C.

(2) EIN: 25-1616561

**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		9000000
<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 \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>SCHEDULE R</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>Retirement Plan Information</b>  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).  <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 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>ESSA BANK &amp; TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>003</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>ESSA BANK &amp; TRUST</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>24-0568185</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
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**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

<b>1</b> Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	560812
<b>2</b> 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): <u>20-1171923</u>		
<b>Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.</b>		
<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....	3	

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
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**4** Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? .....  Yes  No  N/A  
**If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.**

**5** If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
**If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.**

<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	6a	
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	6b	
<b>c</b> 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

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

<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
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**10** Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? .....  Yes  No

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

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

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

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

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

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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(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:

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

**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:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

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

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</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.....	<b>16b</b>	

**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 \_\_\_\_\_.

ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
STROUDSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

AUDIT REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
DECEMBER 31, 2024

	<u>Page Number</u>
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Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits	5
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits	6
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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Plan Trustees  
ESSA Bank & Trust Employee Stock Ownership Plan

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

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of ESSA Bank & Trust Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023; the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024; and the related notes to the financial.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor (DOL)'s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 3 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section:

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

#### **PITTSBURGH, PA**

2009 Mackenzie Way • Suite 340  
Cranberry Township, PA 16066  
(724) 934-0344

#### **PHILADELPHIA, PA**

161 Washington Street • Suite 200  
Conshohocken, PA 19428  
(610) 278-9800

#### **WHEELING, WV**

980 National Road  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
(304) 233-5030

#### **STEUBENVILLE, OH**

511 N. Fourth Street  
Steubenville, OH 43952  
(304) 233-5030



## **Opinion (Continued)**

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

### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

### **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

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

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

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

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

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



### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements (Continued)**

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of U.S. GAAP.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with U.S. GAAP.

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



**Other Matters**

***Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA***

The supplemental schedule of Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule 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 DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule 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 schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

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



Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania  
July 18, 2025

ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

	December 31,					
	2024			2023		
	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Investment in sponsor company common stock, at fair value	\$ 9,092,659	\$ 10,596,082	\$ 19,688,741	\$ 9,128,476	\$ 11,785,197	\$ 20,913,673
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>1,633,221</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,633,221</u>	<u>1,417,391</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,417,391</u>
 Total assets	 10,725,880	 10,596,082	 21,321,962	 10,545,867	 11,785,197	 22,331,064
<b>LIABILITIES</b>						
Loan payable	<u>-</u>	<u>7,446,520</u>	<u>7,446,520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,796,118</u>	<u>7,796,118</u>
 Net assets available for benefits	 <u>\$ 10,725,880</u>	 <u>\$ 3,149,562</u>	 <u>\$ 13,875,442</u>	 <u>\$ 10,545,867</u>	 <u>\$ 3,989,079</u>	 <u>\$ 14,534,946</u>

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

ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
Additions to net assets:			
Investment income:			
Net unrealized depreciation in fair value of investments	\$ (271,248)	\$ (306,109)	\$ (577,357)
Interest	76,633	6,858	83,491
Dividends	263,766	353,204	616,970
Employer contributions	-	654,023	654,023
Allocation of 45,282 shares of sponsor company common stock at fair value	883,007	-	883,007
Total additions	952,158	707,976	1,660,134
Deductions from net assets:			
Distributions to participants	772,145	-	772,145
Allocation of 45,282 shares of sponsor company common stock at fair value	-	883,007	883,007
Interest expense	-	664,486	664,486
Total deductions	772,145	1,547,493	2,319,638
Net decrease	180,013	(839,517)	(659,504)
Net assets available for benefits:			
Beginning of year	10,545,867	3,989,079	14,534,946
End of year	\$ 10,725,880	\$ 3,149,562	\$ 13,875,442

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

ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following brief description of the ESSA Bank & Trust Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the “Plan”) is provided for general information purposes only. Interested parties should refer to the Plan document for a more comprehensive description of the Plan’s provisions.

General

ESSA Bank & Trust (the “Bank”) established the Plan effective as of January 1, 2007. The Plan operates as a leveraged employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) and is designed to comply with Section 4975(e)(7) and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the Code), as amended, and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended. The Benefits Committee has overall responsibility for the operation and administration of the Plan. The Trust Department of True Integrity Trust is the Plan’s trustee.

On April 2, 2007, the Plan purchased 1,358,472 shares of ESSA Bancorp, Inc. (the “Company”)’s common stock using the proceeds of a bank borrowing and holds the common stock in a trust established under the Plan. The stock was purchased at a price of \$10 per share for an aggregate purchase price of \$13,584,720.

The borrowing is collateralized by the unallocated shares of common stock and is guaranteed by the Company. The lender has no rights against shares of common stock once they are allocated to participants in accordance with the terms of the ESOP. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to (a) the accounts of employees with rights in allocated common stock and (b) common stock not yet allocated to employees.

Eligibility

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering the employees of the Bank who have attained the age of 21 and have completed one year of service, which is a 12-consecutive-month period beginning on the date of hire, during which at least 1,000 hours of service are completed.

Contributions

For each Plan year, the Bank is obligated to make contributions in cash to the Plan, which, when aggregated with the Plan’s dividend and interest income, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payments of principal and interest due on its term loan. The Bank’s contributions for any Plan year shall not exceed the maximum amount allowable as a deduction to the Bank under the provisions of the Code Section 404.

## NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (Continued)

### Participant Accounts

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant's stock ownership account is credited with Plan earnings as of the last day of each Plan year, with an allocation of shares of the Company's common stock released by True Integrity Trust (Trustee) from the unallocated account and forfeitures of terminated participants' nonvested accounts. Only those participants who are eligible employees of the Bank as of the last day of the Plan year will receive an allocation. Allocations are based upon units accumulated by each participant's account. Units are apportioned based on a participant's eligible compensation, relative to total eligible compensation. Plan earnings are allocated to each participant's account based on the ratio of the participant's account balance.

### Vesting

Vesting in the Plan is based on completion of credited service years. A credited service year is considered one in which the participant completed at least 1,000 hours of service. Employees become 100 percent vested after three years of service.

### Administrative Expenses

As explained in the Plan document, administrative expenses may be paid either by the Plan or by the Bank.

### Payment of Benefits

Upon termination of service, participants who elect to consent to a distribution of benefits will be paid in a combination of shares of common stock and cash. If participants do not consent to a distribution, benefit payments will be made when they are entitled to a distribution based on their vested account balance. Participants whose accounts do not exceed \$1,000 may receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of their account. Participants whose accounts are between \$1,000 and \$5,000 may have the balance of their account rolled over into an Individual Retirement Account (IRA). Participants whose vested account balance at the time of termination exceeds \$5,000 may receive a lump-sum distribution or may defer payments until normal retirement. Participants may also elect to receive the benefits solely in the form of Company common stock plus cash for any fractional shares. These shares are restricted certificates that enable the Bank the right of first refusal if said shares are to be later sold.

### Forfeitures

Forfeitures shall be allocated based upon units accumulated by each participant's account. Units are apportioned based upon participant earnings. At December 31, 2024, there were no unallocated forfeitures or forfeited non-vested accounts. During the year ended December 31, 2024, there were no shares of stock and no cash forfeitures allocated to active participants' accounts.

### Voting Rights

Each participant is entitled to exercise voting rights attributable to the shares allocated to his or her account and is notified by the Trustee prior to the time that such rights are to be exercised. The Trustee is not permitted to vote any allocated share for which instructions have not been given by a participant. The Trustee is required, however, to vote any unallocated shares on behalf of the collective best interest of Plan participants and beneficiaries.

## NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (Continued)

### Put Option

Under federal income tax regulations, the employer stock that is held by the Plan and its participants is readily tradable on an established market and subject to trading limitations, including a put option. If the employer stock is not readily tradable on an established market when the participant is entitled to receive a distribution from the Plan, the participant would have the right to a put option. The put option is a right to demand that the Bank buy any shares of its stock distributed to participants at a price equal to its quoted market price. The put price is representative of the fair market value of the stock. The Bank can pay for the purchase with interest over a period of five years. The purpose of the put option is to ensure that the participant has the ability to ultimately obtain cash.

### Diversification

Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in ESSA Bancorp, Inc. common stock into investments that are more diversified. The option of diversification will be available to participants on the tenth anniversary of the Plan's date of establishment. Once the tenth anniversary is reached, participants who are at least age 55 with at least ten years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a six-year period. In each of the first five years, a participant may diversify up to 25 percent of the number of shares allocated to his or her account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50 percent. Participants who elect to diversify receive a cash distribution.

If the participant elects to diversify a portion of his or her ESSA Bancorp, Inc. common stock, the Benefits Committee may offer the following options: (1) distribute the stock or its cash value to the participant, (2) transfer to the participant's 401(k) if the 401(k) will accept the rollover, or (3) allow the amount to be rolled over into an IRA.

### Plan Termination

The Bank reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon such termination of the Plan, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the Code. Upon termination of the Plan, the Plan Administrator should direct the Trustee to pay all liabilities and expenses of the trust fund and to sell shares of financed common stock held in the loan suspense account to the extent it determines such sale to be necessary in order to repay the loan. Pursuant to the agreement and plan of merger with CNB Financial Corporation dated January 9, 2025, ESSA will terminate the Plan prior to the closing date.

## NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A summary of the significant accounting and reporting policies applied in the presentation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

### Basis of Accounting

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

## NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### Use of Estimates

The financial statements have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. In preparing the financial statements, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets liabilities, and changes therein, and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

The common shares of ESSA Bancorp, Inc. are valued at fair value. See Note 8 for a discussion of the fair value measurements. Dividend income is accrued on the ex-dividend date. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from security transactions are reported on the average cost method. Net depreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

### Payment of Benefits

Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

### Allocations

The financial statements of the Plan present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to (a) the accounts of employees with rights in allocated stock (allocated) and (b) stock not yet allocated to employees (unallocated), including shares that are committed to be released. Shares are released from collateral and become allocated generally in the period in which debt service is actually paid.

## NOTE 3 – INVESTMENTS

The Plan investments are administered by the Trustee, True Integrity Trust. Bank contributions are held and managed by the Trustee, which invests cash received, interest, and dividend income and makes distributions to participants. The Trustee also administers the payment of interest and principal on the loan, which is reimbursed to the Trustee through contributions as determined by the Company.

The following is a summary of the investment information as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, included throughout the Plan's financial statements and supplemental schedule, that was prepared by or derived from information provided by the Trustee and furnished to the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator has obtained certifications from the Trustee that information provided to the Plan Administrator by the Trustee related to the following investments is complete and accurate. Accordingly, as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the Plan Administrator instructed the Plan's independent auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to information that appears throughout the financial statements and supplemental schedule related to the following investments:

NOTE 3 – INVESTMENTS (Continued)

	2024		2023	
	Allocated	Unallocated	Allocated	Unallocated
ESSA Bancorp, Inc. common stock:				
Number of shares	466,290	543,389	455,968	588,671
Cost	\$ 4,662,900	\$ 5,433,890	\$ 4,559,680	\$ 5,886,710
Fair value	\$ 9,092,659	\$ 10,596,082	\$ 9,128,476	\$ 11,785,197

True Integrity Trust also certified to the completeness and accuracy of \$577,357 of net depreciation in fair value of investments, \$83,491 of interest, and \$616,970 of dividends related to the aforementioned investments for the year ended December 31, 2024.

NOTE 4 – LOAN PAYABLE

In 2007, the Plan entered into a \$13,584,720 loan agreement with ESSA Bancorp, Inc. As of December 31, 2008, the Plan had received proceeds from this agreement in its entirety. These proceeds of the loan were used to purchase the ESSA Bancorp, Inc. common stock, which is the collateral for the loan.

The agreement provided for the loan to be repaid over 30 years in annual installments of principal and interest. The loan bears interest at the *Wall Street Journal* Prime Rate and reprices annually on January 1. At December 31, 2024, the interest rate on the loan was 8.5 percent. The scheduled amortization of the loan payments for the next five years and thereafter is as follows: 2025 - \$381,130; 2026 - \$413,526; 2027 – \$448,676, 2028 - \$485,368, 2029 and thereafter - \$5,717,820. For 2024 and 2023, the loan interest rate averaged 8.00 percent.

As the Plan makes each payment of principal, an appropriate percentage of stock will be allocated to eligible employees' accounts in accordance with applicable regulations under the Code. The borrowing is collateralized by the unallocated shares of stock and is guaranteed by the Bank. The lender has no rights against shares once they are allocated under the ESOP. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to: (a) the accounts of employees with vested rights in allocated common stock (allocated) and (b) common stock not yet allocated to employees (unallocated).

NOTE 5 – COMPANY DIVIDENDS

The Company paid dividends to the ESOP totaling \$0.60 per share or \$616,970 during the year ended December 31, 2024. The dividends on unallocated shares, totaling \$353,203, were applied to debt service.

NOTE 6 – TAX STATUS

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has determined and informed the Bank by a letter dated July 21, 2016, that the Plan is qualified and the trust established under the Plan is tax-exempt under the appropriate sections of the Code. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

#### NOTE 6 – TAX STATUS (Continued)

Plan management is required to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan Administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2021.

#### NOTE 7 – PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

The Bank absorbs all costs incurred in relation to the administration of the Plan. Such costs include but are not limited to legal, Plan administration, and accounting fees. Such costs amounted to \$64,934 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Bank. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan.

The Plan invests in the common stock of the parent company of the Bank. Therefore, related transactions qualify as related-party and party-in-interest transactions.

#### NOTE 8 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following disclosures show the hierarchal disclosure framework associated with the level of pricing observations utilized in measuring assets and liabilities at fair value. The three broad levels of pricing observations are as follows:

- Level I: Quoted prices are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reported date.
- Level II: Pricing inputs are other than the quoted prices in active markets, which are either directly or indirectly observable as of the reported date. The nature of these assets and liabilities includes items for which quoted prices are available but traded less frequently and items that are fair-valued using other financial instruments, the parameters of which can be directly observed.
- Level III: Valuations are derived from valuation techniques in which one or more significant inputs or significant value drivers are unobservable.

This hierarchy requires the use of observable market data when available.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

*Investment in sponsor company common stock:* valued at the closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

NOTE 8 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

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

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan’s assets at fair value as of December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	December 31, 2024			
	Level I	Level II	Level III	Total
Investment in sponsor company common stock	\$ 19,688,741	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 19,688,741
	December 31, 2023			
	Level I	Level II	Level III	Total
Investment in sponsor company common stock	\$ 20,913,673	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,913,673

NOTE 9 – RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in Company common stock, which is exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with such 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 Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits. The risk of change in value is more significant due to the lack of diversification in the Plan.

NOTE 10 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has reviewed events occurring through July xx, 2025, the date the financial statements were issued, and no subsequent events occurred requiring accrual or disclosure.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

ESSA BANK & TRUST EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
 SCHEDULE H, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
 EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 24-0568185  
 PLAN NUMBER - 003  
 DECEMBER 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of Issuer, 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
*	ESSA Bancorp, Inc.	1,009,679 shares of common stock	\$ 10,096,790	\$ 19,688,741
	Federated Hermes Treasury Obligation Fd	1,633,221 shares	<u>1,633,221</u>	<u>1,633,221</u>
	Total		\$ <u>11,730,011</u>	\$ <u>21,321,962</u>

\* Party in interest

