

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 (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) [x] a single-employer plan [ ] a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_
B This return/report is: [ ] the first return/report [ ] the final return/report [ ] an amended return/report [ ] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. [ ]
D Check box if filing under: [ ] Form 5558 [ ] automatic extension [ ] the DFVC program [ ] special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 501
1c Effective date of plan: 01/01/1993
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 64-0394922
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 662-494-5732
2d Business code (see instructions): 541211

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, Date, and Name. Rows include plan administrator, 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>	148
<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>	148
	<b>6a(2)</b>	277
	<b>6b</b>	0
	<b>6c</b>	0
	<b>6d</b>	277
	<b>6e</b>	
	<b>6f</b>	
	<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>	

**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:  
4A 4B 4D 4E 4F

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>3</u>
(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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**SCHEDULE A  
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Insurance Information**

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

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

▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).

OMB No. 1210-0110

**2024**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN</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>WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC</b>		<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>64-0394922</b>

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

**1 Coverage Information:**

**(a)** Name of insurance carrier  
**BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD OF MS, INC.**

<b>(b)</b> EIN	<b>(c)</b> NAIC code	<b>(d)</b> Contract or identification number	<b>(e)</b> Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	<b>Policy or contract year</b>	
				<b>(f)</b> From	<b>(g)</b> To
<b>64-0295748</b>	<b>60111</b>	<b>0020836, ET AL</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>09/01/2023</b>	<b>08/31/2023</b>

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

<b>(a)</b> Total amount of commissions paid <b>14254</b>	<b>(b)</b> Total amount of fees paid
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**3 Persons receiving commissions and fees.** (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

**(a)** Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid  
**KYLE CHANDLER IV**  
**610 COMMERCE STREET**  
**WEST POINT, MS 39773**

<b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid	<b>Fees and other commissions paid</b>		<b>(e)</b> Organization code
	<b>(c)</b> Amount	<b>(d)</b> Purpose	
<b>14254</b>		<b>AGENT OR BROKER OF RECORD</b>	<b>3</b>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information**  
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

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

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶

**b** Premiums paid to carrier ..... **6b**

**c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year ..... **6c**

**d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. .... **6d**  
 Specify nature of costs ▶

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

**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

- a** Type of contract: (1)  deposit administration (2)  immediate participation guarantee  
 (3)  guaranteed investment (4)  other ▶

<b>b</b> Balance at the end of the previous year .....	<b>7b</b>	
<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>	
	<b>7c(2)</b>	
	<b>7c(3)</b>	
	<b>7c(4)</b>	
	<b>7c(5)</b>	
(6) Total additions .....	<b>7c(6)</b>	
<b>d</b> Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....	<b>7d</b>	
<b>e</b> Deductions: (1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year .....	<b>7e(1)</b>	
	<b>7e(2)</b>	
	<b>7e(3)</b>	
	<b>7e(4)</b>	
	(5) Total deductions .....	<b>7e(5)</b>
<b>f</b> Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....	<b>7f</b>	0

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

**8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

<b>a</b> Premiums: (1) Amount received .....		<b>9a(1)</b>	1055751
(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid .....		<b>9a(2)</b>	
(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve .....		<b>9a(3)</b>	
(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3)) .....		<b>9a(4)</b>	1055751
<b>b</b> Benefit charges (1) Claims paid .....		<b>9b(1)</b>	841661
(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves .....		<b>9b(2)</b>	7585
(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2)) .....		<b>9b(3)</b>	849246
(4) Claims charged .....		<b>9b(4)</b>	1963737
<b>c</b> Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
(A) Commissions .....	<b>9c(1)(A)</b>	14254	
(B) Administrative service or other fees .....	<b>9c(1)(B)</b>	89739	
(C) Other specific acquisition costs .....	<b>9c(1)(C)</b>		
(D) Other expenses .....	<b>9c(1)(D)</b>		
(E) Taxes .....	<b>9c(1)(E)</b>	15836	
(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies .....	<b>9c(1)(F)</b>		
(G) Other retention charges .....	<b>9c(1)(G)</b>		
(H) Total retention .....	<b>9c(1)(H)</b>		119829
(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.) .....		<b>9c(2)</b>	
<b>d</b> Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement .....		<b>9d(1)</b>	
(2) Claim reserves .....		<b>9d(2)</b>	
(3) Other reserves .....		<b>9d(3)</b>	
<b>e</b> Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).) .....		<b>9e</b>	

**10** Nonexperience-rated contracts:

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

**Part IV Provision of Information**

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

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

**SCHEDULE A  
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Insurance Information**

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

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

▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).

OMB No. 1210-0110

**2024**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN</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>WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>64-0394922</b>

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

**1 Coverage Information:**

**(a)** Name of insurance carrier

**AFLAC**

<b>(b)</b> EIN	<b>(c)</b> NAIC code	<b>(d)</b> Contract or identification number	<b>(e)</b> Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	<b>Policy or contract year</b>	
				<b>(f)</b> From	<b>(g)</b> To
	<b>60380</b>	<b>82-2723296</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>01/01/2024</b>	<b>12/31/2024</b>

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

<b>(a)</b> Total amount of commissions paid <b>4394</b>	<b>(b)</b> Total amount of fees paid <b>206</b>
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**3 Persons receiving commissions and fees.** (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

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

**JOAN G OUTLAW**

**50156 DAN TAYLOR ROAD  
ABERDEEN, MS 39730**

<b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid	<b>Fees and other commissions paid</b>		<b>(e)</b> Organization code
	<b>(c)</b> Amount	<b>(d)</b> Purpose	
<b>2735</b>	<b>146</b>		<b>3</b>

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

**KRISTI H BUSKIRK**

**1015 DOGWOOD CV  
NEW ALBANY, MS 38652**

<b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid	<b>Fees and other commissions paid</b>		<b>(e)</b> Organization code
	<b>(c)</b> Amount	<b>(d)</b> Purpose	
<b>238</b>	<b>30</b>		<b>3</b>

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

Schedule A (Form 5500) 2024  
v. 240311

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

WILLIAM C ATKINS

891 HARRELL DR  
WEST POINT, MS 39773

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
267			3

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

GINGER KAYE HARDY

431 W MAIN ST STE 410  
TUPELO, MS 38804

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
231	30		3

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

BRUCIE M. LYON

PO BOX 762  
WEST POINT, MS 39773

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
215			3

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

JOHN BRASEL

118 ALLYE AVE  
MOOREVILLE, MS 38857

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
132			

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

MICHELLE B RILEY

3558 OLD HIGHWAY 19 SE  
MERIDIAN, MS 39301

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
67			3

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

CHRISTOPHER S HARDY  
 PO BOX 872  
 TUPELO, MS 38802

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
63			3

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

BENEFITS BY DESIGN  
 3558 OLD HIGHWAY 19 SE  
 MERIDIAN, MS 39301

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
60			

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

ED L LYON  
 PO BOX 762  
 WEST POINT, MS 39773

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
57			3

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

JENNIFER LYNN MILAM  
 701 W 3RD ST  
 IUKA, MS 38852

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
55			3

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

CHRISTY W. FISHER  
 75 COUNTY ROAD 7461  
 BALDWYN, MS 38824

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
44			3

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

YVONNE G ROBINSON 540 SCR 88  
MIZE, MS 39116

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
26			3

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

ROBERT J LOVERN 10160 SAINT FRANCIS DRIVE  
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
24			3

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

AMANDA B TUTOR 1009 COUNTY ROAD 821  
SALTILLO, MS 38866

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
22			

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

DAVID C HENRY 36 ELM LN  
ECRU, MS 38841

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
19			3

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

MILDRED A JOHNSON 174 REYNARD DR  
TUPELO, MS 38801

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
18			3

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

JAYNE A STALLINGS 8056 TIGER PALM WAY  
FORT MYERS, FL 33966

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
16			3

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

KATHERINE LYON COMER PO BOX 763  
WEST POINT, MS 39773

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
15			3

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

V L MONTGOMERY INC 6373 RED OAK DR  
BAILEY, MS 39320

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
13			3

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

GARTH KEMP 21 MOSS FOREST CIR  
JACKSON, MS 39211

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
9			3

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

JOY LOVERN 11010 ROAD 387  
PHILADELPHIA, MS 39350

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
9			3

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

J NELSON LLC

112 HICKORY HILLS LOOP  
PURVIS, MS 39475

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
8			

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

DENNIS L BRELAND

1405 BAY RIDGE DRIVE  
GAUTIER, MS 39553

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
8			3

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

CURTIS W OGLESBY

3615 POTOMAC RIDGE COURT  
EAST MOBILE, AL 36695

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
8			3

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

E SPEED INC

129 GLENWOOD BND  
MADISON, MS 39110

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
6			3

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

D P SMITH

519 SHALOM WAY  
FLOWOOD, MS 39232

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
6			3

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

RANDALL D LADNER  
6 GREENBRIAR DR  
GULFPORT, MS 39507

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
6			3

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

GREGORY J WEEKS  
730 AVIGNON DR SUITE 101  
RIDGELAND, MS 39157

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
5			3

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

CHRISTIAN ANDREW LEVERN  
1929 SPILLWAY RD STE D  
BRANDON, MS 39047

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
5			

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

PETER B WILKINSON JR  
1408 LANCELOT AVE  
WOLFFORTH, TX 79382

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

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

VICKI M BUTLER  
105 LONG LEAF PL  
MADISON, MS 39110

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

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

WILLIAM A BRIGGS

1731 GAY THOMPSON RD  
RAMER, TN 38367

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	
1			3

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

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

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

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
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(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

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

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

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

**Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information**  
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

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

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶

**b** Premiums paid to carrier ..... **6b**

**c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year ..... **6c**

**d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. .... **6d**  
 Specify nature of costs ▶

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

**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

**a** Type of contract: (1)  deposit administration (2)  immediate participation guarantee  
 (3)  guaranteed investment (4)  other ▶

<b>b</b> Balance at the end of the previous year .....			<b>7b</b>	
<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>			
	<b>7c(2)</b>			
	<b>7c(3)</b>			
	<b>7c(4)</b>			
	<b>7c(5)</b>			
(6) Total additions .....			<b>7c(6)</b>	
<b>d</b> Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....			<b>7d</b>	
<b>e</b> Deductions:				
	<b>7e(1)</b>			
	<b>7e(2)</b>			
	<b>7e(3)</b>			
	<b>7e(4)</b>			
(5) Total deductions .....			<b>7e(5)</b>	
<b>f</b> Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....			<b>7f</b>	0

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

**8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

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

**10** Nonexperience-rated contracts:

<b>a</b>	Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier .....	<b>10a</b>	30328
<b>b</b>	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount. ....	<b>10b</b>	

Specify nature of costs.

**Part IV Provision of Information**

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

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

**SCHEDULE A  
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Insurance Information**

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

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

▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).

OMB No. 1210-0110

**2024**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN</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>WATKINS, WARD AND STAFFORD, PLLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>64-0394922</b>

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

**1 Coverage Information:**

**(a)** Name of insurance carrier

**METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>(b)</b> EIN	<b>(c)</b> NAIC code	<b>(d)</b> Contract or identification number	<b>(e)</b> Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	<b>Policy or contract year</b>	
				<b>(f)</b> From	<b>(g)</b> To
<b>13-5581829</b>	<b>65978</b>	<b>5966385</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>09/01/2023</b>	<b>08/31/2024</b>

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

<b>(a)</b> Total amount of commissions paid <b>9290</b>	<b>(b)</b> Total amount of fees paid
--	--------------------------------------

**3 Persons receiving commissions and fees.** (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

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

**GCM INSURANCE AGENCY LLC**  
**2320 COMMERCE STREET**  
**P. O. BOX 9670**  
**COLUMBUS, MS 39705**

<b>(b)</b> Amount of sales and base commissions paid	<b>Fees and other commissions paid</b>		<b>(e)</b> Organization code
	<b>(c)</b> Amount	<b>(d)</b> Purpose	
<b>9290</b>		<b>AGENT OR BROKER OF RECORD OTHER COMPENSATION</b>	<b>3</b>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information**  
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

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

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶

**b** Premiums paid to carrier ..... **6b**

**c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year ..... **6c**

**d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. .... **6d**  
 Specify nature of costs ▶

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

**f** If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

**7** Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

**a** Type of contract: (1)  deposit administration (2)  immediate participation guarantee  
 (3)  guaranteed investment (4)  other ▶

<b>b</b> Balance at the end of the previous year .....			<b>7b</b>	
<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>			
	<b>7c(2)</b>			
	<b>7c(3)</b>			
	<b>7c(4)</b>			
	<b>7c(5)</b>			
(6) Total additions .....			<b>7c(6)</b>	
<b>d</b> Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....			<b>7d</b>	
<b>e</b> Deductions:				
	<b>7e(1)</b>			
	<b>7e(2)</b>			
	<b>7e(3)</b>			
	<b>7e(4)</b>			
(5) Total deductions .....			<b>7e(5)</b>	
<b>f</b> Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....			<b>7f</b>	0

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

**8** Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

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

**10** Nonexperience-rated contracts:

<b>a</b>	Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier .....	<b>10a</b>	82235
<b>b</b>	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount. ....	<b>10b</b>	

Specify nature of costs.

**Part IV Provision of Information**

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

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