

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

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**

<p><b>1a</b> Name of plan <u>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</u></p>	<p><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>001</u></p>
<p><b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>THE CLEARING, INC.</u></p> <p><u>1250 CONNECTICUT AVENUE NORTHWEST</u> <u>SUITE 625</u> <u>WASHINGTON, DC 20036</u></p>	<p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>01/01/2010</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>26-1287688</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>202-558-6499</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>541600</u></p>

**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.

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	08/26/2025	JON GEZOTIS
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

<p><b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor</p> <p>MERCER INVESTMENTS, LLC</p> <p>99 HIGH STREET BOSTON, MA 02110</p>	<p><b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN 30-0282430</p> <p><b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number 617-747-9500</p>
<p><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:</p> <p><b>a</b> Sponsor's name THE CLEARING, INC.</p> <p><b>c</b> Plan Name THE CLEARING 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</p>	<p><b>4b</b> EIN 26-1287688</p> <p><b>4d</b> PN 001</p>
<p><b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year</p>	<p><b>5</b> 186</p>
<p><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>).</p>	
<p><b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year .....</p>	<p><b>6a(1)</b> 129</p>
<p><b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year .....</p>	<p><b>6a(2)</b> 108</p>
<p><b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....</p>	<p><b>6b</b> 0</p>
<p><b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits .....</p>	<p><b>6c</b> 67</p>
<p><b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b>, <b>6b</b>, and <b>6c</b>.....</p>	<p><b>6d</b> 175</p>
<p><b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. ....</p>	<p><b>6e</b> 0</p>
<p><b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> .....</p>	<p><b>6f</b> 175</p>
<p><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) .....</p>	<p><b>6g(1)</b> 160</p>
<p><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) .....</p>	<p><b>6g(2)</b> 160</p>
<p><b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....</p>	<p><b>6h</b> 17</p>
<p><b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....</p>	<p><b>7</b></p>

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D

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

<p><b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)</p> <p>(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance</p> <p>(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts</p> <p>(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust</p> <p>(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor</p>	<p><b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)</p> <p>(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance</p> <p>(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts</p> <p>(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust</p> <p>(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor</p>
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**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

<p><b>a Pension Schedules</b></p> <p>(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)</p> <p>(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary</p> <p>(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary</p> <p>(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____</p> <p>(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)</p>	<p><b>b General Schedules</b></p> <p>(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information)</p> <p>(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan)</p> <p>(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>  2  </u></p> <p>(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information)</p> <p>(5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information)</p> <p>(6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)</p>
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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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<p><b>SCHEDULE A</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b></p> <p>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Insurance Information</b></p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b></p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p><b>2024</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<p><b>A</b> Name of plan <b>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</b></p>	<p><b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p><b>001</b></p>
<p><b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>THE CLEARING, INC.</b></p>	<p><b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>26-1287688</b></p>	

**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  
**EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA**

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
84-0467907	68322	475080-01	26	11/30/2024	12/31/2024

**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>(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

(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	

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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	

**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>	72082
<b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	<b>5</b>	0

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

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

<b>b</b> Premiums paid to carrier .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year .....	<b>6c</b>	
<b>d</b> If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. .... Specify nature of costs ▶	<b>6d</b>	

**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 ▶ GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT

**b** Balance at the end of the previous year ..... **7b** 0

<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>	72000
	<b>7c(2)</b>	0
	<b>7c(3)</b>	84
	<b>7c(4)</b>	98661
	<b>7c(5)</b>	0

(6) Total additions ..... **7c(6)** 170745

**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) ..... **7d** 170745

**e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	<b>7e(1)</b>	0
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	<b>7e(2)</b>	0
(3) Transferred to separate account .....	<b>7e(3)</b>	98663
(4) Other (specify below) .....	<b>7e(4)</b>	

(5) Total deductions ..... **7e(5)** 98663

**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 72082

**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>	0
<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>	0
	(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>	0
	(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. ....	<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. ▶

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCHEDULE A</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Insurance Information</b></p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b></p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large;"><b>2024</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<p><b>A</b> Name of plan <b>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</b></p>	<p><b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b></p>	
<p><b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>THE CLEARING, INC.</b></p>	<p><b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>26-1287688</b></p>	

**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  
**EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA**

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
84-0467907	68322	372947-01	0	01/01/2024	11/29/2024

**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>24</b>	<b>(b)</b> Total amount of fees paid <b>0</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  
**ANDREA DYKES** **26 W DRY CREEK CR STE 800**  
**LITTLETON, CO 80120**

(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

(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	

(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>	0
<b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	<b>5</b>	0

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

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

<b>b</b> Premiums paid to carrier .....	<b>6b</b>	
<b>c</b> Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year .....	<b>6c</b>	
<b>d</b> If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. .... Specify nature of costs ▶	<b>6d</b>	

**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 ▶ **GROUP ANNUITY CONTRACT**

**b** Balance at the end of the previous year ..... **7b** 33511

<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>	109013
	<b>7c(2)</b>	
	<b>7c(3)</b>	664
	<b>7c(4)</b>	16291
	<b>7c(5)</b>	181
▶ <b>LOAN REPAYMENT(S)</b>		

(6) Total additions ..... **7c(6)** 126149

**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) ..... **7d** 159660

**e** Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	<b>7e(1)</b>	138091
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	<b>7e(2)</b>	137
(3) Transferred to separate account .....	<b>7e(3)</b>	21432
(4) Other (specify below) .....	<b>7e(4)</b>	0

▶

(5) Total deductions ..... **7e(5)** 159660

**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 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>	0
<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>	0
	(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>	0
	(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. ....	<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. ▶

<b>SCHEDULE C</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>Service Provider Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).  <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 <b>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>001</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>THE CLEARING, INC.</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>26-1287688</b>	

**Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)**

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

**1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation**

**a** Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).....  Yes  No

**b** If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**(b)** Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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**2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation.** Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY O

8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD  
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
64	RECORDKEEPER	49068	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

GLOBAL RETIREMENT PARTNERS, LLC

4340 REDWOOD HWY  
SUITE B60  
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
27	INVESTMENT ADVISOR	13094	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

RETIREMENT BENEFIT SOLUTIONS, LLC

205 VAN BUREN ST  
STE 120  
HERNDON, VA 20170

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
13	CONTRACT ADMIN	1500	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	8927	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation.** Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

EMPOWER ADVISORY GROUP, LLC

8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD  
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
28	INVESTMENT MGMT	9769	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

THE LEADERS GROUP INC

26 W DRY CREEK CIR #575  
LITTLETON, CO 80120

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
55	BROKER/ADVISOR	0	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	5680	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

**Part I Service Provider Information (continued)**

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
RETIREMENT BENEFIT SOLUTIONS, LLC	13	8927

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY O 8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111	TPA ALLOWANCE PAYMENT	

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
THE LEADERS GROUP INC	55	5680

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY O 8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111	OTHER COMMISSIONS	

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation

(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

**Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information**

**4** Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

<b>(a)</b> Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	<b>(b)</b> Nature of Service Code(s)	<b>(c)</b> Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

**Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)**  
(complete as many entries as needed)

<b>a</b> Name: GRR, PC	<b>b</b> EIN: 52-1392008
<b>c</b> Position: AUDITOR	
<b>d</b> Address: 4550 MONTGOMERY AVE STE 800 BETHESDA, MD 20814	<b>e</b> Telephone: 301-951-9090

Explanation: THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN CONVERTED MERCER WISE RETIREMENT PLAN MANAGEMENT AND ARE NOW USING THEIR PREFERRED AUDITOR.

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>a</b> Name:	<b>b</b> EIN:
<b>c</b> Position:	
<b>d</b> Address:	<b>e</b> Telephone:

Explanation:

<b>SCHEDULE D</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service  Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	<b>DFE/Participating Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <hr/> <b>2024</b>  <hr/> <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2024</u> and ending <u>12/31/2024</u>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) <u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE CLEARING, INC.</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>26-1287688</u>

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)</b> (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>STATE ST TARGET RET 2025 SL CL IV</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>32-6528132-022</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>554596</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>STATE ST TARGET RET 2065 SL CL IV</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>32-6528132-045</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>103582</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER INTERNATIONAL STOCK</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER FUNDS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>81-3158100-010</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>36627</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>US SMALL/MID CAP STOCK INDEX FUND</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER UNITIZED FUNDS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>04-0025081-091</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>138680</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>INVESCO STABLE VALUE TRUST CL B1</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>INVESCO FUNDS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>84-1142974-001</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>18017</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>STATE ST TARGET RET 2060 SL CL IV</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>32-6528132-029</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>849759</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MERCER DIVERSIFIED BOND</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>MERCER FUNDS</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>81-3188218-009</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>C</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>34952</u>

<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>US BOND INDEX FUND</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>MERCER UNITIZED FUNDS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>04-0025081-071</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>1292</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>MERCER SMALL MID/CAP STOCK FUND</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>MERCER FUNDS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>81-3183567-011</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>43389</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2035 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-024</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>512971</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2030 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-023</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>570530</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2020 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-021</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>18135</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2055 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-028</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>1344259</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2050 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-027</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>2253999</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2040 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-025</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>915119</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>STATE ST TARGET RET 2045 SL CL IV</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS COLLECTIVE TRUSTS</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>32-6528132-026</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>1167571</b>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <b>BLACKROCK STRATEGIC COMPLETION NL M</b>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <b>BLACKROCK UNITIZED CIT</b>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>46-3525011-001</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>C</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <b>2718</b>

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: INTERNATIONAL STOCK INDEX FUND

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): MERCER UNITIZED FUNDS

<b>c</b> EIN-PN 90-0337987-282	<b>d</b> Entity code C	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 299184
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: S&P 500 INDEX FUND

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): MERCER UNITIZED FUNDS

<b>c</b> EIN-PN 04-0025081-065	<b>d</b> Entity code C	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 422431
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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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>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <b>001</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>THE CLEARING, INC.</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>26-1287688</b>

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

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>	0	0
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	2668	0
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>	4512	0
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>	0	0
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>	0	0
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>	0	0
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>	0	0
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>	0	0
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>	0	0
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>	0	0
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>	0	0
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>	0	0
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>	0	0
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>	36463	44489
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>	0	0
<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>	0	0
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>	0	0
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	7912152	9287811
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>	33511	72082
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>	0	0

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)	0	0
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e	0	0
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	7989306	9404382
<b>Liabilities</b>			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g	0	0
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i	0	0
j Other liabilities.....	1j	3432	0
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	3432	0
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	7985874	9404382

**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)	452355	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	1015717	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	472505	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		1940577
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)	4723	
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	4796	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)	748	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		10267
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)	0	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	51831	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		51831
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)	0	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)	0	
(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)	0	
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)	0	
(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>		-382784
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(10)</b>		1461233
<b>c</b> Other income .....	<b>2c</b>		5450
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2d</b>		3086574

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	<b>2e(1)</b>	1594635	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>	0	
(3) Other .....	<b>2e(3)</b>	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		1594635
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		0
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	<b>2g</b>		0
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	<b>2h</b>		0
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>	1500	
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>	49068	
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	<b>2i(4)</b>	22863	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	<b>2i(5)</b>	0	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>	0	
(7) Actuarial fees .....	<b>2i(7)</b>	0	
(8) Legal fees .....	<b>2i(8)</b>	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	<b>2i(9)</b>	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	<b>2i(10)</b>	0	
(11) Other expenses .....	<b>2i(11)</b>	0	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		73431
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2j</b>		1668066

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		1418508
<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: GRANT THORNTON

(2) EIN: 36-6055558

**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.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4512
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1000000
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<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.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<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?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<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.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**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>THE CLEARING, INC. 401(K) PROFIT SHARING PLAN</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>THE CLEARING, INC.</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>26-1287688</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.**

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

1		0
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**2** Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):  
 EIN(s): 20-3691658 84-0467907

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

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

3	
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<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) .....	<b>6a</b>	
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	<b>6b</b>	
<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).....	<b>6c</b>	

**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<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 08 / 14 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704139A.

Financial Statements and Report of  
Independent Certified Public  
Accountants

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k)  
Profit Sharing Plan**

December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

Plan Administrator and Plan Sponsor  
The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

**Scope and nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit**

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing 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 statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024, and 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 statements.

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

Management has obtained certifications from qualified institutions as of December 31, 2024, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 6 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

**Opinion**

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

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

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

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

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with US 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.

In performing an audit in accordance with US 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 audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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

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

**Other matter – supplemental schedules required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedule of delinquent participant contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024 and schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures. These additional procedures included 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 US GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion

- The form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedules related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

**Other matter - auditor's report on the 2023 financial statements**

The financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2023 and for the year ended December 31, 2023 (not presented herein) were audited by other auditors, who expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements in their report dated October 2, 2024.

*Grant Thornton LLP*

Boston, Massachusetts  
August 12, 2025

The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

As of December 31,

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments at fair value	\$ 9,287,811	\$ 7,912,152
Investments at contract value	<u>72,082</u>	<u>33,511</u>
Receivables		
Employer contribution receivable	-	2,668
Employee contribution receivable	-	4,512
Notes receivable from participants	<u>44,489</u>	<u>36,463</u>
Total receivables	<u>44,489</u>	<u>43,643</u>
Total assets	<u>9,404,382</u>	<u>7,989,306</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Excess contributions payable	<u>-</u>	<u>3,432</u>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	<u><u>\$ 9,404,382</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 7,985,874</u></u>

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

The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Year ended December 31, 2024

**Additions**

Investment income	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 1,078,449
Interest and dividends	<u>62,098</u>
Total investment income	1,140,547
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	5,450
Contributions	
Participant	1,015,717
Employer	452,355
Rollover	<u>472,505</u>
Total contributions	<u>1,940,577</u>
Total additions	<u>3,086,574</u>

**Deductions**

Benefits paid to participants or their beneficiaries	1,594,635
Administrative expenses	<u>73,431</u>
Total deductions	<u>1,668,066</u>

<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>	1,418,508
<b>Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year</b>	<u>7,985,874</u>
<b>Net assets available for benefits, end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 9,404,382</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN**

The following description of The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for more complete information.

***General***

The Plan is a defined contribution plan covering all eligible employees of The Clearing, Inc. (the Plan Sponsor). The Plan was established on January 1, 2010 and qualifies under the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) as a 401(k) Retirement Plan. The Plan was amended and restated effective January 1, 2022 and December 1, 2024, and is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

The Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement 2.0 Act of 2022 (SECURE 2.0) was signed into law on December 29, 2022. This legislation includes a vast array of provisional changes to retirement plans, becoming effective in 2023 and beyond. The most recent Plan document reflects the adoption of certain provision of the SECURE 2.0, as applicable.

***Eligibility***

Prior to December 1, 2024, an employee is eligible to make elective deferrals and participate in the employer match and non-elective contributions, upon reaching age 21 and after completing one month of service with a minimum of 83.3 hours worked. Employees are enrolled on the first day of the subsequent month in which they become eligible. Beginning on December 1, 2024, an employee is eligible to make elective deferrals and participate in the employer match and non-elective contributions, upon reaching age 18 and after completing one month of service.

***Contributions***

Under the terms of the Plan, participants may make voluntary pre-tax contributions to the Plan of 100% of their annual compensation, subject to the limitations in the IRC. The Plan also allows for Roth contributions and for catch up contributions for participants who are 50 and older, which are also subject to the limitations in the IRC.

The Plan Sponsor makes a safe harbor matching contribution equal to 100% of participant compensation up to 3% plus 50% of participant compensation between 3% and 5%. The Plan Sponsor may also make an additional matching contribution to the Plan and the Plan Sponsor may also make a non-elective discretionary contribution to the Plan. In addition to the contributions described above, the Plan Sponsor may make discretionary Qualified Non-Elective Contributions. The Plan Sponsor only made safe harbor matching contributions to the Plan during the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023.

***Vesting***

Participants are fully vested in their elected contributions, rollover contributions and safe harbor matching contributions, at all times.

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

Vesting in the non-elective employer matching and discretionary contributions are based on years of continuous service. A participant is fully vested after three years of credited service as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested Percentage</u>
Less than 1 year	0%
1-2 years	33%
2-3 years	66%
More than 3 years	100%

***Participant Accounts***

Each participant's account includes (a) investment earnings and losses, (b) the employee's contributions, and (c) the employer's contributions. Participants' accounts are also charged with an allocation of administrative fees that are paid by the Plan. Allocations of investment earnings and losses and administrative fees are based on either a participant's account balance or specific participant transactions, as defined in the Plan document.

***Investment Elections***

Contributions to the Plan are invested according to participant instructions. The Plan Administrator has selected a list of investment options and has provided participants with information describing these investment options.

***Payment of Benefits***

Participants are entitled to receive a distribution of their vested account in the Plan upon termination of their employment; retirement; death or disability and termination of the Plan without the establishment of a successor Plan. A participant may elect to receive a lump sum amount equal to the value of his or her account, or a series of cash payments, in substantially equal installments. Hardship withdrawals are permitted from the Plan if certain conditions are met.

If the total vested value is below \$1,000 in a participant's account at the time of termination, then a distribution will be made to the participant regardless of whether they consent to receive it. If the total vested value is greater than \$1,000, but less than \$5,000, the participant has the option of either 1) rolling over their balance into a qualified individual retirement account, or 2) receiving a distribution. If the vested value is greater than \$5,000, the participant may remain in the Plan. Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan has adopted the SECURE 2.0 provision which increased this limit from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

The Plan also provides for minimum required distributions per Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations by April 1 of the calendar year following the later of the calendar year in which the participant reaches age 73 or the calendar year the participant retires. In addition, participants may elect in-service withdrawals of their vested account balances after reaching age 59½.

***Forfeited Non-Vested Accounts***

Forfeited balances of terminated non-vested participant accounts can be used to pay administrative expenses or restore forfeited accounts or reduce other Employer contributions. The balance of forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$13,345 and \$10,083 as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively. The Plan Sponsor did not use the forfeiture balance during the year ended December 31, 2024.

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

***Notes Receivable from Participants***

Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Repayment terms may not exceed five years for a general purpose note or 15 years for a principal residence note. All notes receivable from participants are secured by the balance in the participant's account. Interest rates on loans to participants range from 5.75% to 9.50% and the loans mature on various dates through 2029.

***Plan Termination***

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

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

***Basis of Accounting***

The Plan's financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

***Use of Estimates***

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of plan assets, liabilities and changes therein and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

***Investment Valuation and Income Recognition***

Investments are reported at fair value (except for the fully-benefit responsive investment contract). Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan Administrator determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisors, the custodian and insurance carrier. See Note 4 for discussion on fair value measurements.

The investment at contract value is a fixed annuity contract, which is fully benefit-responsive. Contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions in accordance with the contract. See Note 3 for discussion on the fixed annuity contract.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

***Notes Receivable from Participants***

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance, plus accrued interest. Delinquent loans are treated as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan document. Delinquent loans are loans for which any scheduled repayment remains unpaid at the end of the period specified in the loan documents and any loans for which there is an outstanding principal balance existing after the last scheduled repayment date.

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

***Contributions***

Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Employer are recorded in the year in which the employee contributions are withheld from compensation.

***Benefit Payments***

Benefits are recorded when paid.

***Administrative Fees***

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Plan Sponsor and some are paid out of the Plan, which are included in these financial statements. Investment-related expenses are included as a reduction in the net appreciation of fair value of investments presented in the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. Expenses that are paid by the Plan Sponsor are excluded from these financial statements.

**NOTE 3 - FIXED ANNUITY CONTRACT**

The Fixed Annuity Contract is a general account product and it is benefit-responsive for participant-initiated transactions. The methodology for calculating the interest crediting rate is based on the earnings of the underlying assets in the entire medium long-term new portfolio compared to the minimum interest crediting rate, as stated in the contract, with consideration of prevailing market conditions. The interest crediting rate is reset quarterly. The average yield earned by the Plan for the benefit-responsive fund can be derived by averaging the quarterly gross interest rates for the fund over the year.

Because the fixed annuity contract is fully benefit-responsive, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits. There are no reserves against contract value for credit risk of the contract issuer or otherwise. Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another Plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan Sponsor or other Plan Sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan or (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from Federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA.

The Plan Administrator does not believe that any events that would limit the Plan's ability to transact at contract value with participants are probable of occurring. The investment contracts do not permit the insurance carrier to terminate the agreement prior to the scheduled maturity date.

**NOTE 4 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT**

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3).

Investments at fair value recorded in the statements of net assets available for benefits are categorized based on the inputs to valuation techniques as follows:

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

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets, inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability, or inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

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

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value.

*Collective Trust Funds* - Valued at the net asset value (NAV) of shares held by the Plan at year end based on information reported by the custodian. The NAV, as provided by the custodian, is used as the practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities. As of December 31, 2024, all of the Plan's investments at fair value were comprised of collective trust funds that were measured at NAV using the practical expedient. The redemption notice period could be up to 12 months if the entire interest in the fund is redeemed. The collective trust funds have a daily redemption frequency for participant-directed transactions. There were no unfunded commitments of the collective trust funds as of December 31, 2024.

*Registered Investment Companies (Mutual Funds)* - Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the SEC. Mutual funds are required to publish their daily value and to transact at that price. Mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded. As of December 31, 2023, all of the Plan's investments at fair value were comprised of mutual funds that were determined to be Level 1.

**NOTE 5 - TAX STATUS**

The Company has adopted a pre-approved plan document that has received an opinion letter from the IRS. Prior to December 1, 2024, that pre-approved plan document had an opinion letter dated June 30, 2020. Since December 1, 2024, a new pre-approved plan document has been adopted with an opinion letter dated August 14, 2020. Both opinion letters stated that the form of the respective pre-approved plan document was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. The Plan Administrator believes the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC, and, therefore, believes the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

U.S. GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) 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 and 2023, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) 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.

**NOTE 6 - CERTIFIED INVESTMENT INFORMATION**

Certain information in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedule related to investments and notes receivable from participants held as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and net appreciation in fair value of investments, interest and dividends, and interest income on notes receivables from participants for the year ended December 31, 2024, was obtained by management and

**The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by the insurance carrier, Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America, and the Plan custodian, Empower Trust Company, LLC.

**NOTE 7 - RELATED PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

Certain Plan investments are held by Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America which is a related entity to the recordkeeper and custodian of the Plan. Other certain Plan investments are managed by Mercer Investments LLC who, as of December 1, 2024, serves as the trustee and Plan Administrator. These transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

**NOTE 8 - RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

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

**NOTE 9 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

In preparing these financial statements, the Plan has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through August 12, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no subsequent events that require recognition or additional disclosure in these financial statements.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

SCHEDULE H, LINE 4a, SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS

For the year ended December 31, 2024

EIN: 26-1287688, PLAN #: 001

<u>Participant Contributions Transferred Late to the Plan</u>	<u>Check Here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included</u>	<u>Contributions Not Corrected</u>	<u>Contributions Corrected Outside the VFCP</u>	<u>Contributions Pending Corrections in the VFCP</u>	<u>Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51</u>
Plan years 2019 to 2022		\$ -	\$ 4,512	\$ -	\$ -

The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i - SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)

December 31, 2024

EIN: 26-1287688, PLAN #: 001

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
	<b>Fixed annuity contract:</b>			
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Key Guaranteed Portfolio Fund		\$ 72,082
	<b>Collective trust funds:</b>			
	BlackRock Institutional Trust Company, N.A.	BLACKROCK STRATEGIC COMPLETION NL M		2,718
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2020 SL CL IV		18,135
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2025 SL CL IV		554,596
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2030 SL CL IV		570,530
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2045 SL CL IV		1,167,571
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2050 SL CL IV		2,253,999
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2055 SL CL IV		1,344,259
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2060 SL CL IV		849,759
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2065 SL CL IV		103,582
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2035 SL CL IV		512,971
	State Street Global Advisors (SSGA)	STATE ST TARGET RET 2040 SL CL IV		915,119
*	Mercer Investments LLC	MERCER INTERNATIONAL STOCK		36,627
*	Mercer Investments LLC	INTERNATIONAL STOCK INDEX FUND		299,184
*	Mercer Investments LLC	MERCER SMALL MID/CAP STOCK FUND		43,389
*	Mercer Investments LLC	US SMALL/MID CAP STOCK INDEX FUND		138,680
*	Mercer Investments LLC	S&P 500 INDEX FUND		422,431
*	Mercer Investments LLC	MERCER DIVERSIFIED BOND		34,952
*	Mercer Investments LLC	US BOND INDEX FUND		1,292
	Invesco Trust Company	INVESCO STABLE VALUE TRUST CL B1		18,017
*	Notes receivable from participants	Loans with interest rates ranging from 5.75% to 9.50%, with various maturities through 2029	-	44,489
				<u>\$ 9,404,382</u>

\* Denotes a party-in-interest to the Plan as defined by ERISA.

\*\* Cost information is omitted as investments are fully participant-directed.



**SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)**

GA

The Clearing, Inc. 401(k) Profit Sharing Plan

02-DEC-24 to 31-DEC-24

11-JAN-25 08:34:13

INVESTMENT OPTION	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	COST OF ASSETS	CURRENT VALUE
1BRSCNM			2,719.28	2,718.45
1SSTC20			18,467.95	18,134.74
1SSTC25			567,844.33	554,595.65
1SSTC30			589,103.58	570,529.67
1SSTC45			1,216,925.49	1,167,571.04
1SSTC50			2,353,828.38	2,253,999.37
1SSTC55			1,404,622.91	1,344,258.77
1SSTC60			887,728.37	849,759.13
1SSTC65			108,134.36	103,582.04
1SSTC35			532,322.67	512,971.06
1SSTC40			951,872.53	915,118.84
1MERINS			37,611.26	36,627.40
1MERSSE			310,773.90	299,184.06
1MERSMD			46,110.84	43,389.17
1MERSSR			148,981.53	138,679.85
1MERS55			435,659.55	422,431.27
1MERDBD			35,645.56	34,951.54
1MERS5B			1,308.00	1,291.97
1IVSVB1			4,672.08	4,672.08
1KGPf		1.450	72,000.01	72,082.16
			<b>9,726,332.58</b>	<b>9,346,548.26</b>
PARTICIPANT LOANS	VARIOUS	5.750-9.500	44,488.73	44,488.73
FORFEITURES			13,344.86	13,344.86

Attachment to Form 5500, Schedule H, Part 4, Item I  
EIN # 26-1287688

## LEGEND

## INVESTMENT OPTION:

1BRSCNM	BlackRock Strategic Completion NL M	1SSTC20	State St Target Ret 2020 SL CI IV
1SSTC25	State St Target Ret 2025 SL CI IV	1SSTC30	State St Target Ret 2030 SL CI IV
1SSTC45	State St Target Ret 2045 SL CI IV	1SSTC50	State St Target Ret 2050 SL CI IV
1SSTC55	State St Target Ret 2055 SL CI IV	1SSTC60	State St Target Ret 2060 SL CI IV
1SSTC65	State St Target Ret 2065 SL CI IV	1SSTC35	State St Target Ret 2035 SL CI IV
1SSTC40	State St Target Ret 2040 SL CI IV	1MERINS	Mercer International Stock
1MERSSE	International Stock Index Fund	1MERSMD	Mercer Small Mid/Cap Stock Fund
1MERSSR	US Small/Mid Cap Stock Index Fund	1MERS55	S&P 500 Index Fund
1MERDBD	Mercer Diversified Bond	1MERS5B	US Bond Index Fund
1IVSVB1	Invesco Stable Value Trust CI B1	1KGPf	Key Guaranteed Portfolio Fund

COST OF ASSETS: The original cost of the assets in each investment option as of the last day of the plan year

CURRENT VALUE: The value of all assets in each investment option as of the last day of the plan year