

<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: x-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 style="text-align: center;"><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; text-align: center;">2024</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; 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>HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC 401(K) 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>HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC</u></p> <p><u>755 WACO DRIVE</u> <u>SANDERSVILLE, GA 31082</u></p>	<p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>01/01/1993</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>88-4056071</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>478-552-5127</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>484120</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.	09/23/2025	ERIC HOLMES
	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

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	548
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. .... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	523
	<b>6a(2)</b>	518
	<b>6b</b>	1
	<b>6c</b>	20
	<b>6d</b>	539
	<b>6e</b>	1
	<b>6f</b>	540
	<b>6g(1)</b>	206
<b>6g(2)</b>	231	
<b>6h</b>	17	
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....	<b>7</b>	

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

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

**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

<b>a Pension Schedules</b>	<b>b General Schedules</b>
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>R</b> (Retirement Plan Information)	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>H</b> (Financial Information)
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MB</b> (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>I</b> (Financial Information – Small Plan)
(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>SB</b> (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary	(3) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>0</u>
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>DCG</b> (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____	(4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>C</b> (Service Provider Information)
(5) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>MEP</b> (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)	(5) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>D</b> (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
	(6) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>G</b> (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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**11a** If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) .....  Yes  No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

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**11b** Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) .....  Yes  No

**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code \_\_\_\_\_

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<b>SCHEDULE 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 HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC 401(K) PLAN	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 88-4056071	

**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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**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)

ROCKEFELLER CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

82-0309154

(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 51	NONE	31586	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)

SENTINEL BENEFITS GROUP, LLC

20-5916766

(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?
15 50	NONE	8828	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)

(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.

<b>(a)</b> Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	<b>(b)</b> Service Codes (see instructions)	<b>(c)</b> Enter amount of indirect compensation
<b>(d)</b> Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	<b>(e)</b> Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
<b>(a)</b> Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	<b>(b)</b> Service Codes (see instructions)	<b>(c)</b> Enter amount of indirect compensation
<b>(d)</b> Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	<b>(e)</b> Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
<b>(a)</b> Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	<b>(b)</b> Service Codes (see instructions)	<b>(c)</b> Enter amount of indirect compensation
<b>(d)</b> Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	<b>(e)</b> 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: HANCOCK ASKEW & CO., LLP	<b>b</b> EIN: 58-0662558
<b>c</b> Position: AUDITOR	
<b>d</b> Address: 100 RIVERVIEW DRIVE SAVANNAH, GA 31404	<b>e</b> Telephone: 912-234-8243

Explanation: HANCOCK ASKEW & CO., LP MERGED WITH BAKER TILLY US EFFECTIVE 4/1/2025

<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>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>	<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>	<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>HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC 401(K) 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>HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>88-4056071</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>METLIFE STABLE VALUE 2554</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>GREAT GRAY TRUST COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>26-0142858-094</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>646807</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</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)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</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)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</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)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</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)
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:		
<b>b</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)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

**c** EIN-PN

**d** Entity code

**e** Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)



<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>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <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>HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC 401(K) 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>HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>88-4056071</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>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	8490	15701
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>	23154	17400
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>		
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>	668492	646807
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>		
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	10038209	9834909
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>		
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>		

<b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	<b>1d(1)</b>		
(2) Employer real property.....	<b>1d(2)</b>		
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	<b>1e</b>		
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	<b>1f</b>	10738345	10514817
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable.....	<b>1g</b>		
<b>h</b> Operating payables.....	<b>1h</b>		
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness.....	<b>1i</b>		
<b>j</b> Other liabilities.....	<b>1j</b>		
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	<b>1k</b>	0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	<b>1l</b>	10738345	10514817

**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: <b>(A)</b> Employers.....	<b>2a(1)(A)</b>	344079	
<b>(B)</b> Participants.....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>	870440	
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers).....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>	46244	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	<b>2a(2)</b>		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> .....	<b>2a(3)</b>		1260763
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
<b>(1) Interest:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	<b>2b(1)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments.....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants).....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>		
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans.....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>		
<b>(F)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>		
<b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		0
<b>(2) Dividends:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred stock.....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common stock.....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>	381817	
<b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		381817
(3) Rents.....	<b>2b(3)</b>		
<b>(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds.....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result.....	<b>2b(4)(C)</b>		
<b>(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Real estate.....	<b>2b(5)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....	<b>2b(5)(C)</b>		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts .....	<b>2b(6)</b>		15237
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(10)</b>		851792
<b>c</b> Other income .....	<b>2c</b>		83
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2d</b>		2509692

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	<b>2e(1)</b>	2648137	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other .....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		2648137
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	<b>2f</b>		44669
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	<b>2h</b>		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	<b>2i(3)</b>	8828	
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	<b>2i(4)</b>		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	<b>2i(5)</b>	31586	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	<b>2i(6)</b>		
(7) Actuarial fees .....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
(8) Legal fees .....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
(11) Other expenses .....	<b>2i(11)</b>		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		40414
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	<b>2j</b>		2733220

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		-223528
<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: **BAKER TILLY, US, LP**

(2) EIN: **39-0859910**

**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"/>	168
<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"/>	500000
<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 type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" 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 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 HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC 401(K) PLAN	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HOWARD SHEPPARD, LLC	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 88-4056071	

<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
---	--	---

**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): 58-1428634

**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	
---	--

<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 11 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704235A.

# **Howard Sheppard, LLC 401(k) Plan**

Financial Statements and  
Supplemental Schedules

December 31, 2024 and 2023

## Contents

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<b>Independent Auditors' Report</b>	2 - 5
<b>Financial Statements</b>	
Statements of net assets available for benefits	6
Statement of changes in net assets available for benefits	7
Notes to financial statements	8 - 14
<b>Supplemental Schedules</b>	
Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)	16
Schedule H, Line 4(a) - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions	17

## Independent Auditors' Report

The Plan Administrator and Participants  
Howard Sheppard, LLC 401(k) Plan  
Sandersville, Georgia

### Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of Howard Sheppard, LLC 401(k) 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 then ended, 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 2024 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 (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). 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 (qualified institution), provided that the investment information is prepared and certified to by the qualified institution in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

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

### Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and the procedures performed as described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements section:

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 2024 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 (GAAP); and
- the information in the accompanying 2024 financial statements related to assets held by and certified by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by a qualified institution that management determines meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

## **Basis for Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 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 on the 2024 financial statements.

## **Responsibilities of Management for the 2024 Financial Statements**

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

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

Management is 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.

## **Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audits of the 2024 Financial Statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2024 Financial Statements section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our 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 GAAP.

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

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

#### **Other Matter – 2024 Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedules, Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2024, and Schedule H, Line 4(a) - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions for the year ended 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 DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental 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 its form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

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

### **Other Matter – Auditors’ Report on the 2023 Financial Statements**

Predecessor auditors performed an audit of the 2023 financial statements of the Plan. In accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the prior year audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan that were certified by a qualified institution. Their report, dated August 5, 2024, indicated that (a) the amounts and disclosures in the 2023 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and (b) the information in the 2023 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). Their report also indicated that the form and content of the 2023 supplemental schedule, other than the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule that agrees to or is derived from the certified investment information, were presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA; and the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Baker Tilly US, LLP*

Savannah, Georgia  
September 22, 2025

## Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

<i>December 31,</i>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Investments</b>		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 10,481,716	\$ 10,706,701
<b>Receivables</b>		
Employee contributions	17,400	23,154
Employer contributions	<u>15,701</u>	<u>8,490</u>
<b>Total receivables</b>	<u>33,101</u>	<u>31,644</u>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>10,514,817</b>	<b>10,738,345</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Due to participants	<u>53,611</u>	<u>36,359</u>
<b>Net assets available for benefits</b>	<b><u>\$ 10,461,206</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 10,701,986</u></b>

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements.*

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year ended December 31,

2024

### ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS

#### Contributions

Participant	\$	849,199
Employer		311,709
Rollovers		46,244

**Total contributions** 1,207,152

#### Investment income

Interest and dividends		381,817
Net appreciation in fair value of investments		867,112

**Total investment income** 1,248,929

**Total additions** 2,456,081

### DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS

Benefits paid directly to participants		2,656,289
Administrative expenses		40,572

**Total deductions** 2,696,861

**Net decrease in net assets available for benefits** (240,780)

**Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year** 10,701,986

**Net assets available for benefits, end of year** \$ 10,461,206

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements.*

## Notes to Financial Statements

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### **1. Description of the Plan**

The following brief description of the Howard Sheppard, LLC 401(k) Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more complete information.

#### ***General***

This Plan is an Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 401(k) defined contribution plan and was adopted by Howard Sheppard, LLC (the Company or Employer) effective January 1, 1993, and subsequently restated on January 1, 2022. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as amended.

#### ***Eligibility***

The Plan covers all employees of the Company, excluding union employees, non-resident aliens, leased employees, and security guards. Effective July 1, 2022, the Plan was amended to allow employees to participate in the Plan's deferrals and matching contributions on the first day of the month after attaining age 21 and one month of service. Prior to the amendment, employees became eligible and entered the Plan on the first day of the quarter after attaining age 21 and one year of service. For any nonelective contributions, employees become eligible on the first day of the quarter following age 21 and one year of service.

#### ***Contributions***

Upon entering the Plan, participants may make elective contributions up to the dollar limitation set forth in Section 402(g) of the IRC in effect at the beginning of the Plan year. Eligible employees who have attained age 50 before the close of the Plan year are allowed to make catch-up contributions up to the maximum allowed by the IRC. Participants may designate all or a portion of their elective deferrals as a Roth deferral. Contributions are subject to certain limitations.

Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans (rollovers). Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. A current description of the investments fund may be obtained from the Plan administrator.

The Company may make discretionary matching and profit-sharing contributions. For the year ending December 31, 2024, the Company made a matching contribution of 50% of the first 6% of compensation deferred. The total discretionary matching contribution for 2024 was approximately \$312,000. During 2024, no additional profit-sharing contributions were made.

#### ***Participant Accounts***

Each Participant's account is credited with the Participant's salary deferral contributions, allocations of any Company contributions, and his/her share of the Plan's income (loss). The Plan's income (loss), with respect to each investment fund, is allocated based on the proportion that each Participant's account balance invested in such fund compared to the total of all Participants' account balances invested in such fund.

#### ***Notes Receivable from Participants***

Notes receivable from participants are not permitted by the Plan.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 1. Description of the Plan (cont.)

#### *Vesting*

Participants are immediately vested in their deferrals and rollover contributions, plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's discretionary matching and profit-sharing contribution is based on years of credited service. Based on years of credited service, the vesting schedule is as follows:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Vested Percentage</u>
1	0%
2	20%
3	40%
4	60%
5	80%
6	100%

Participants become fully vested in the event of death or total and permanent disability.

#### *Forfeitures*

Amounts forfeited by participants who terminate from the Plan prior to being 100% vested will be used to pay administrative expenses or used to reduce Company contributions. In 2024, the Plan sponsor used \$9,747 from forfeited non-vested accounts to offset employer matching contributions. The total forfeited balance available on December 31, 2024 and 2023 was \$3,392 and \$0, respectively.

#### *Payment of Benefits*

A participant's contributions and Company contributions may be withdrawn upon retirement (on or after the attainment of normal retirement age), termination of employment, disability, or death. Participants may elect to have distributions paid in a lump-sum, as partial withdrawals or installments are only permitted for participants or beneficiaries who must receive required minimum distributions (RMDs). If a terminated Participant's vested balance is less than or equal to \$7,000, the amount may be automatically distributed in the form of rollover to an individual retirement account designated by the Company. Under certain qualifying circumstances, hardship withdrawals and other in-service withdrawals are permitted under the Plan.

### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### *Basis of Accounting*

The financial statements of the Plan were prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. The Plan follows accounting standards set by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB). The FASB sets accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

#### *Use of Estimates*

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Plan's management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

## Notes to Financial Statements

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### 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont.)

#### *Investment Valuation and Income (Loss) Recognition*

The investments of the Plan are reported at fair value. The fair value is the amount 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 exit price). See Note 4 for information on fair value.

Purchases and sales are recorded on a trade-date basis. Investment income is recorded on the accrual basis. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

#### *Contributions*

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

#### *Benefit Payments*

Benefit payments to participants are recorded upon distribution.

#### *Plan Expenses*

Certain administrative expenses of the Plan are paid by the Plan as provided in the Plan agreement. Certain other administrative expenses of the Plan are paid by the Employer. Investment fees are paid by the Plan in the form of reductions of net investment income earned by Plan participants.

### 3. Certified Information

The Plan administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA for 2024 and 2023. Accordingly, Fidelity Personal Trust Company, FSB (Fidelity), the custodian of the Plan, has certified to the completeness and accuracy of all investments reported in the accompanying Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the supplemental Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2024, and the related investment activity reported in the Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024. Such information was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by a qualified institution.

### 4. Fair Value Measurement

GAAP establishes 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 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs in which little or no market data exists (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB Accounting Standards Certification (ASC) No. 820 are described below:

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 4. Fair Value Measurement (cont.)

*Level 1* - Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities.

*Level 2* - Quoted prices in markets that are not considered to be active or financial instruments for which all significant inputs are observable, either directly or indirectly.

*Level 3* - Prices or valuations that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

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

*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 U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

*Common Trust Fund* - Valued at the net asset value using NAV as the practical expedient based on the last reported sales price of the underlying investments held. The Plan's interest in the common trust fund is based on information reported by the trustee using the audited financial statements of the common trust funds at year-end. The investment income (loss) is allocated to participants based on their proportionate share of the net assets of the fund.

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

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2024 and 2023:

<i>December 31, 2024</i>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>Mutual funds</b>	\$ <u>9,834,909</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <b>9,834,909</b>
<b>Common trust fund measured at NAV*</b>				<u>646,807</u>
<b>Total investments at fair value</b>			\$ <u>10,481,716</u>	
<i>December 31, 2023</i>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ <u>10,038,209</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	10,038,209
Common trust fund measured at NAV*				<u>668,492</u>
Total investments at fair value			\$ <u>10,706,701</u>	

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 4. Fair Value Measurement (cont.)

\* In accordance with subtopic 820-10, certain investments that are measured at fair value using the NAV per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient have not been categorized in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value to the amounts presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Fair value of investments in certain entities that calculate net asset value per share (or its equivalent) follows:

Investment	Fair Value at December 31,		Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period
	2024	2023			
Common trust funds**	\$ 646,807	\$ 668,492	None	Daily	None

\*\* The common trust fund invests in a single, open-ended mutual fund which is generally identified in the name of the common trust fund. The investment strategies of these common trust funds are consistent with each of the mutual funds identified in the name of the fund. The common trust fund is filed as a Direct Filing Entity (DFE).

### 5. Tax Status

The Plan has adopted a Non-Standardized Pre-Approved Profit Sharing/ Money Purchase/ CODA (pre-approved plan) sponsored by Sentinel Benefits Group, Inc. ("Sentinel") The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has opined and informed Sentinel by letter dated November 30, 2020, stating that the form of the pre-approved document was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Although the Plan has been amended since adopting the pre-approved plan document, the Plan administrator believes that 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.

GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate uncertain tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

### 6. Related Parties and Party-In-Interest Transactions

Parties-in-interest are defined under DOL regulations as any fiduciary of the Plan, any part rendering service to the Plan, the Company, and certain others. Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. In addition, certain investments are managed by Fidelity. Some administrative expenses are paid directly by the Company. Usual and customary fees were paid for investment management and recordkeeping services to Sentinel Benefits. These transactions, as defined by the Plan, qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Such transactions are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules.

### 7. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed an intention to do so, the Employer has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participant would become 100% vested in their accounts, and the Plan administrator will facilitate the distribution of account balances under the provisions of the Plan and trust agreement until all assets have been distributed.

## Notes to Financial Statements

### 8. Risks, Uncertainties, and Concentrations

The Plan's investments include funds which invest in various types of investment securities and in various companies within various markets. Investment securities are exposed to several 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 those changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

### 9. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Schedule H of Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits reported on the financial statements to amounts reported on the Form 5500 as of December 31, 2024 and 2023.

<i>December 31,</i>	<b>2024</b>		<b>2023</b>	
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$	<b>10,461,206</b>	\$	10,701,986
Corrective distribution payable		<b>53,611</b>		36,359
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	\$	<b>10,514,817</b>	\$	10,738,345

The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the net loss per Form 5500:

<i>Year ended December 31,</i>	<b>2024</b>	
Net decrease in net assets available for benefits per financial statements	\$	<b>(240,780)</b>
Less: 2023 corrective distributions		<b>(36,359)</b>
Add: 2024 corrective distributions		<b>53,611</b>
Net loss per Form 5500	\$	<b>(223,528)</b>

### 10. Delinquent Participant Contributions

During 2023, employee contributions totaling \$168 were not remitted within the appropriate time period by the Employer. These transactions constitute prohibited transactions as defined by ERISA. The Plan sponsor remitted the contribution to the Plan in 2024 and plans to remit the lost earnings during 2025. The Employer has elected to correct the contribution and lost earnings but not to do so through the Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program (VFCP) given the immateriality of the amounts.

### 11. SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022

The SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 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. Plan management adopted mandatory provisions effective for the year ended December 31, 2024, and continues to evaluate the impact of the adoption and implementation of this legislation on the Plan. The application of SECURE 2.0 Act did not have a material effect on the Plan's financial statements.

## Notes to Financial Statements

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### 12. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated, for consideration of recognition or disclosure, subsequent events that have occurred through September 22, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and has determined that no significant events occurred after December 31, 2024, but prior to the issuance of these financial statements, that would have a material impact on its financial statements.

# **SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES**

**Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**

**EIN: 88-4056071**

**Plan # 001**

December 31, 2024

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of Issuer	Description of Investment: Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
<b>Common trust funds</b>				
	Wilmington Trust	MetLife GAC Series 25554 F0	**	\$ 646,807
<b>Mutual funds</b>				
	Alliance Bernstein	AB Small Cap Growth Z	**	82,174
	Allspring Global Investments	Allspring Special Small Cap Value R6	**	57,426
	American Funds	American Funds New Perspective R5	**	128,787
	Columbia	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	**	403,012
*	Fidelity	Fidelity Advisor® Total Bond Z	**	347,273
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® 500 Index	**	685,451
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Emerging Markets Fund	**	332
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Emerging Markets Idx Fund	**	18,217
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Mid Cap Index	**	55,805
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Small Cap Index	**	4,015
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® US Bond Index	**	34,262
	MFS Investment	MFS Intl Diversification R6	**	239,156
	MFS Investment	MFS Mid Cap Growth R6	**	223,200
	MFS Investment	MFS Mid Cap Value R6	**	97,941
	Principal	Principal Blue Chip R-6	**	1,378,992
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund	**	572,730
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund	**	1,656,178
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund	**	522,344
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund	**	415,194
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund	**	1,465,168
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund	**	229,109
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund	**	135,731
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Fund	**	118,219
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2065 Fund	**	46,543
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2070 Fund	**	6,189
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund	**	883,716
	Vanguard	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral™	**	27,745
				<u>9,834,909</u>
<b>Total</b>				<u>\$ 10,481,716</u>

\* Party-in-interest, as defined by ERISA.

\*\* The cost of participant-directed accounts is not required to be disclosed.

**Schedule H, Line 4(a) - Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions**

**EIN: 88-4056071**

**Plan # 001**

*Year ended December 31, 2024*

Plan Year	Participant Contributions Transferred Late to the Plan	Total that Constitutes Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PIE 2002-51
	<input type="checkbox"/> Check Here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
2023	\$ 168	\$ 168	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -



**Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)**

**EIN: 88-4056071**

**Plan # 001**

December 31, 2024

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of Issuer	Description of Investment: Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par or Maturity Value	Cost	Current Value
<b>Common trust funds</b>				
	Wilmington Trust	MetLife GAC Series 25554 F0	**	\$ 646,807
<b>Mutual funds</b>				
	Alliance Bernstein	AB Small Cap Growth Z	**	82,174
	Allspring Global Investments	Allspring Special Small Cap Value R6	**	57,426
	American Funds	American Funds New Perspective R5	**	128,787
	Columbia	Columbia Dividend Income Inst3	**	403,012
*	Fidelity	Fidelity Advisor® Total Bond Z	**	347,273
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® 500 Index	**	685,451
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Emerging Markets Fund	**	332
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Emerging Markets Idx Fund	**	18,217
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Mid Cap Index	**	55,805
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® Small Cap Index	**	4,015
*	Fidelity	Fidelity® US Bond Index	**	34,262
	MFS Investment	MFS Intl Diversification R6	**	239,156
	MFS Investment	MFS Mid Cap Growth R6	**	223,200
	MFS Investment	MFS Mid Cap Value R6	**	97,941
	Principal	Principal Blue Chip R-6	**	1,378,992
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2025 Fund	**	572,730
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2030 Fund	**	1,656,178
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2035 Fund	**	522,344
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2040 Fund	**	415,194
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2045 Fund	**	1,465,168
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2050 Fund	**	229,109
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2055 Fund	**	135,731
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2060 Fund	**	118,219
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2065 Fund	**	46,543
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement 2070 Fund	**	6,189
	Vanguard	Vanguard Target Retirement Income Fund	**	883,716
	Vanguard	Vanguard Total Intl Bd Idx Admiral™	**	27,745
				<u>9,834,909</u>
<b>Total</b>				<u>\$ 10,481,716</u>

\* Party-in-interest, as defined by ERISA.

\*\* The cost of participant-directed accounts is not required to be disclosed.