

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security  
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110  
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

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

- A This return/report is for: [ ] a multiemployer plan [ ] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) [x] a single-employer plan [ ] a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_
B This return/report is: [ ] the first return/report [ ] the final return/report [x] 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: [x] Form 5558 [ ] automatic extension [ ] the DFVC program [ ] special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. [ ]

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 05/01/1992
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): HI-LEX
Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box): 152 SIMPSON DRIVE, LITCHFIELD, MI 49252-9601
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 38-2072086
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 248-221-9473
2d Business code (see instructions): 336300

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

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

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

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	1674
<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>	1379
	<b>6a(2)</b>	1085
	<b>6b</b>	34
	<b>6c</b>	245
	<b>6d</b>	1364
	<b>6e</b>	0
	<b>6f</b>	1364
	<b>6g(1)</b>	1354
	<b>6g(2)</b>	1254
<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 2S 2T 3D 3H

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

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>A</b> (Insurance Information) – Number Attached <u>1</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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<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>HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS 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>HI-LEX</b></p>	<p><b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>38-2072086</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  
**PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY**

(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
42-0127290	61271	539814	1734	01/01/2024	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	

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

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	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Investment and Annuity Contract Information</b>	
	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 .....	33431
<b>5</b>	Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	720174
<b>6</b>	<b>Contracts With Allocated Funds:</b>	
<b>a</b>	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>
<b>e</b>	Type of contract: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> individual policies                      (2) <input type="checkbox"/> group deferred annuity (3) <input type="checkbox"/> other (specify) ▶	
<b>f</b>	If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)</b>	
<b>a</b>	Type of contract: (1) <input type="checkbox"/> deposit administration                      (2) <input type="checkbox"/> immediate participation guarantee (3) <input type="checkbox"/> guaranteed investment                      (4) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other ▶ <b>FLEXIBLE INVESTMENT ANNUITY</b>	
<b>b</b>	Balance at the end of the previous year .....	<b>7b</b> 33431
<b>c</b>	Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>
	(2) Dividends and credits.....	<b>7c(2)</b>
	(3) Interest credited during the year.....	<b>7c(3)</b>
	(4) Transferred from separate account .....	<b>7c(4)</b>
	(5) Other (specify below)..... ▶	<b>7c(5)</b>
	(6) Total additions .....	<b>7c(6)</b> 0
<b>d</b>	Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....	<b>7d</b> 33431
<b>e</b>	Deductions:	
	(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year .....	<b>7e(1)</b>
	(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	<b>7e(2)</b>
	(3) Transferred to separate account .....	<b>7e(3)</b>
	(4) Other (specify below)..... ▶	<b>7e(4)</b>
(5) Total deductions .....	<b>7e(5)</b> 0	
<b>f</b>	Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....	<b>7f</b> 33431

**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>HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS 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>HI-LEX</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>38-2072086</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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**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	117057	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)

EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY

711 HIGH ST  
DES MOINES, IA 50392

(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	44856	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)

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	3073	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"/>

**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:	<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>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>	OMB No. 1210-0110  <hr/> <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 <u>01/01/2024</u> and ending <u>12/31/2024</u>	
<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS 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>HI-LEX</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>38-2072086</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>PRINCIPAL U.S. PROPERTY SA-Z</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>42-0127290-027</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>720174</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>PRIN LIFETIME 2040 SEP ACCT-Z</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>42-0127290-078</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>0</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>HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS 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>HI-LEX</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>38-2072086</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>	5376	0
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>	15428	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>	1758237	1760185
<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>	2815669	720174
<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>	61375358	67028915
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	<b>1c(14)</b>	33431	33431
<b>(15)</b> Other.....	<b>1c(15)</b>	0	0

<b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	<b>1d(1)</b>	0	0
(2) Employer real property.....	<b>1d(2)</b>	0	0
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	<b>1e</b>	0	0
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	<b>1f</b>	66003499	69542705
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable.....	<b>1g</b>	0	0
<b>h</b> Operating payables.....	<b>1h</b>		
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness.....	<b>1i</b>	0	0
<b>j</b> Other liabilities.....	<b>1j</b>	0	0
<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>	66003499	69542705

**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>	1504082	
<b>(B)</b> Participants.....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>	4770523	
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers).....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>	464214	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	<b>2a(2)</b>	0	6738819
(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>		
<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>	0	145145
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities.....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>	0	
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments.....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>	0	
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants).....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>	0	
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans.....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>	145145	
<b>(F)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>	0	
<b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		
<b>(2) Dividends:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred stock.....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>	0	794977
<b>(B)</b> Common stock.....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>	0	
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>	794977	
<b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		
(3) Rents.....	<b>2b(3)</b>		0
<b>(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:</b>			
<b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds.....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>	0	0
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>	0	
<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>	0	0
<b>(B)</b> Other.....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>	0	
<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 .....	2b(6)	0
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts .....	2b(7)	-61267
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts .....	2b(8)	0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities .....	2b(9)	0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	2b(10)	7128087
<b>c</b> Other income .....	2c	150
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	2d	14745911

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:		
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	2e(1)	10992978
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits .....	2e(2)	0
(3) Other .....	2e(3)	0
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3) .....	2e(4)	10992978
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	2f	0
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	2g	48741
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	2h	0
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:		
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	2i(1)	0
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	2i(2)	0
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	2i(3)	117057
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	2i(4)	0
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	2i(5)	47929
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees .....	2i(6)	0
(7) Actuarial fees .....	2i(7)	0
(8) Legal fees .....	2i(8)	0
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees .....	2i(9)	0
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses .....	2i(10)	0
(11) Other expenses .....	2i(11)	0
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11) .....	2i(12)	164986
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	2j	11206705

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d .....	2k	3539206
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:		
(1) To this plan .....	2l(1)	
(2) From this plan .....	2l(2)	

**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: **MANER COSTERISAN**

(2) EIN: **38-2157642**

**d** The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1)  This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2)  It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

**4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		X	
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		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?		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		X	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

**5a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year?  Yes  No  
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year \_\_\_\_\_.

**5b** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

<b>5b(1)</b> Name of plan(s)	<b>5b(2)</b> EIN(s)	<b>5b(3)</b> PN(s)

**5c** Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) .....  Yes  No  Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>SCHEDULE R</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Retirement Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2024</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS 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>HI-LEX</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>38-2072086</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
---	--	---

**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): 20-3691708 42-0127290

**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>
-----------------	-------------------

**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.
----------------	---

**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 / 14 / 2022 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702518A.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN**

**REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(with supplemental schedule)**

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



**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Page

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT..... 1-4

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

    Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits.....5

    Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits .....6

    Notes to the Financial Statements..... 7-15

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE..... 16

    Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year).....17-18



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To Plan Administration of  
Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings Plan

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

Management has obtained certifications from qualified institutions as of and for the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 7 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

### Opinion on the Financial Statements

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

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

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings 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 these 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 the 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 Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings 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 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 judgement 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 risk 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 Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings 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 Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

## **Other Matters**

### **Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA**

The supplemental schedule, as identified in the table of contents, as of December 31, 2024, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, is 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 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).

*Manes Costeiran PC*

September 22, 2025

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments, at fair value		
Pooled separate accounts	\$ 7,281,577	\$ 9,965,635
Collective trusts	28,829,586	27,147,993
Insurance contract	33,431	33,431
Mutual funds	<u>31,637,926</u>	<u>27,077,399</u>
Total investments, at fair value	<u>67,782,520</u>	<u>64,224,458</u>
Receivables		
Employer contribution	-	5,376
Participants' contribution	-	15,428
Notes receivable from participants	<u>1,760,185</u>	<u>1,758,237</u>
Total receivables	<u>1,760,185</u>	<u>1,779,041</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u>\$ 69,542,705</u>	<u>\$ 66,003,499</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS		
Investment income		
Interest and dividends	\$ 940,122	\$ 385,984
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	<u>7,066,970</u>	<u>7,728,654</u>
Net investment income	<u>8,007,092</u>	<u>8,114,638</u>
Contributions		
Employer	1,504,082	1,443,039
Participants	4,770,523	5,016,654
Rollovers	<u>464,214</u>	<u>243,458</u>
Total contributions	<u>6,738,819</u>	<u>6,703,151</u>
TOTAL ADDITIONS	<u>14,745,911</u>	<u>14,817,789</u>
DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS		
Benefits paid and deemed distributions to participants	11,041,719	13,248,647
Administrative charges	<u>164,986</u>	<u>273,965</u>
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	<u>11,206,705</u>	<u>13,522,612</u>
INCREASE IN NET ASSETS	3,539,206	1,295,177
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS		
Beginning of year	<u>66,003,499</u>	<u>64,708,322</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 69,542,705</u>	<u>\$ 66,003,499</u>

See notes to financial statements.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN**

The following brief description of the Hi-Lex Employees Retirement Savings Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description and the Plan Document for more complete information.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution savings plan pursuant to Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code covering all employees of Hi-Lex America, Inc., Hi-Lex Controls, Inc., and Daedong Hi-Lex of America, Inc. (collectively, the Company or employer). It is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Beginning October of 2023, the Plan has switched service providers from Principal Trust Company to Empower Retirement. However, due to the nature of some Principal investments, distributions are not yet allowed and funds are still held with Principal. Contributions are no longer allowed into the Principal accounts.

Contributions

Each employee who participates in the Plan is entitled to enter into a compensation reduction agreement with the employer. The amount of reduction shall be contributed by the employer on behalf of the participant in the Plan for allocation to the participant's account. These participant elective contributions are fully vested. Newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan at a 6% deferral rate and a 1% automatic annual increase until a deferral rate of 15% is obtained, unless otherwise elected. Any employees that do not wish to participate in the Plan must opt out of the Plan. Catch-up contributions for those participants age 50 or older, as well as rollover contributions from other qualified plans are accepted by the Plan.

Prior to October 24, 2023, after three months of service, the employer matches participant contributions on a payroll period basis, up to a percentage at the discretion of the employer. After October 24, 2023, there are no service requirements in order for the participant to be eligible for employer contributions. For the years ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, the Company matched 50% of employee deferrals up to 6% of eligible compensation.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the company's contributions, and (b) plan earnings, and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Hardship Withdrawals

A participant may elect to withdraw the balance of their account attributable to their rollover contributions, salary deferral election, and employer matching contributions provided such withdrawal is to meet the immediate and significant financial needs of the participant.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1 - SIGNIFICANT PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN (continued)**

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the employer's matching contributions account is based on number of years of service. A participant shall be vested on a schedule from 40% after two years of service to 100% after five years of service.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Each participant shall be permitted to borrow from his or her account up to \$50,000 depending on the participant's total account balance. Such loans shall be charged an annual rate of interest to be fixed by the plan administrator. Such loans shall be fully repaid on or before five years from the date of disbursement unless the loan proceeds are used in connection with the purchase of a principal residence. A participant can only have one loan at any one time.

Payment of Benefits

Upon attainment of age 59 1/2 or other separation of employment, because of death, disability or financial hardship, a participant may receive their benefits in the form of a lump-sum payment, a series of installments or in a joint survivor annuity. Early retirement benefits are available for participants age 55 with five years of vested service.

Upon termination of employment, if the vested participant account balance does not exceed \$5,000, the entire account balance will be distributed to the participant or rolled over to an IRA.

Forfeited Accounts

At December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled \$309,867 and \$161,373, respectively. These accounts will be used to reduce plan expenses and future employer contributions. Also, for the year ended December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeitures used to reduce plan expense and employer contributions totaled \$112,921 and \$183,042, respectively.

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

Basis of Accounting

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

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments, other than fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, are reported at fair value. 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's Investment Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisor. See Note 8 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the period.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. If a participant ceases to make loan repayments and the plan administrator deems the participant loan to be in default, the participant loan balance is reduced, and a benefit payment is recorded.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Company. Expenses that are paid by the Company are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of notes receivable from participants are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation (depreciation) of fair value of investments.

Subsequent Events

The Plan evaluates events and transactions that occur after period end for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. These subsequent events have been considered through September 22, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**NOTE 3 - 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 participant's account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 4 - INCOME TAX STATUS**

The Company adopted a Prototype Non-standardized Profit Sharing Plan with Principal Life Insurance Company with a cash or deferral arrangement which received a determination letter on June 30, 2020, in which the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, 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 that the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

As of October 24, 2023, the Plan has adopted the Defined Contribution Pre-Approved Plan document of Empower Trust Company, LLC, which received a determination letter on November 14, 2022, in which the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, 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 that the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain tax position that more than likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain tax 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 period in progress.

**NOTE 5 - PLAN TERMINATION**

Although they have not expressed any intent to do so, the Company reserves the right under the Plan to terminate the Plan in whole or in part, subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants will become 100% vested in their account balances.

**NOTE 6 - TRANSACTIONS WITH PARTIES-IN-INTEREST**

Fees paid during the period for administrative services rendered by parties-in-interest are, in the opinion of the Trustees, based on customary and reasonable rates for such services.

The Plan's investments are managed by the Principal Life Insurance Company and Empower Trust Company, LLC. Principal Life Insurance Company and Empower Trust Company, LLC, are custodians as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest. Fees incurred by the Plan for investment management services are included in net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of the investment, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment.

The plan sponsor absorbs certain administrative costs incurred by the Plan.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 7 - CERTIFIED FINANCIAL INFORMATION BY THE CUSTODIANS (UNAUDITED)**

The following is a summary of Plan financial information and data certified as complete and accurate by Principal Life Insurance Company, Empower Trust Company, LLC and Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America, the custodians, in accordance with Section 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosures under ERISA.

Statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Investments, at fair value		
Pooled separate accounts	\$ 7,281,577	\$ 9,965,635
Collective trust	28,829,586	27,147,993
Insurance contract	33,431	33,431
Mutual funds	<u>31,637,926</u>	<u>27,077,399</u>
Total certified investments	67,782,520	64,224,458
Notes receivable	<u>1,760,185</u>	<u>1,758,237</u>
Total certified assets	<u><u>\$ 69,542,705</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 65,982,695</u></u>

Statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for years ended December 31:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Interest and dividends	\$ 940,122	\$ 385,984
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	<u>7,066,970</u>	<u>7,728,654</u>
Total certified investment income	<u><u>\$ 8,007,092</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 8,114,638</u></u>

The supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) is derived from such certified information.

**NOTE 8 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

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 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements).

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 8 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described 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.

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;
- 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 assets 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 used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

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 December 31, 2023.

- *Insurance Contract:* The Principal Pension Builder account is reported at fair value based on the lower of contract value (return of premiums) or an adjusted contract value that takes into account the current interest rate and mortality factors.
- *Pooled Separate Accounts:* Valued at the net asset value (NAV) of the units of each pooled separate account. The NAV, as provided by the custodian, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the pooled separate account less its liabilities. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. There are no restrictions for a full redemption of each pooled separate account.
- *Collective Trust (Stable Value Fund):* Valued at the net asset value (NAV) of the units of the collective trust. The NAV, as provided by the custodian, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the collective trust less its liabilities. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. There are no restrictions for a full redemption of each pooled separate account. The Stable Value Fund is designed to remain stable regardless of stock and bond fluctuations.

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 8 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

- *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 and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

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

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

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets in the fair value hierarchy				
Mutual funds	\$ 31,637,926	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,637,926
Insurance contract	-	-	33,431	33,431
	<u>\$ 31,637,926</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 33,431</u>	31,671,357
Investments measured at net asset value				<u>36,111,163</u>
Total investments, at fair value				<u>\$ 67,782,520</u>
	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Assets in the fair value hierarchy				
Mutual funds	\$ 27,077,399	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,077,399
Insurance contract	-	-	33,431	33,431
	<u>\$ 27,077,399</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 33,431</u>	27,110,830
Investments measured at net asset value				<u>37,113,628</u>
Total investments, at fair value				<u>\$ 64,224,458</u>

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 8 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

Changes in Fair Value of Level 3 Assets and Related Gains and Losses

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the years ended December 31:

	2024	2023
	Insurance Contract	Insurance Contract
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 33,431	\$ 13,366
Total gains (realized and unrealized) included in changes in net assets available for benefits	-	11,330
Purchases	-	8,735
Balance, end of year	\$ 33,431	\$ 33,431
The amount of total gains for the year included in changes in net assets attributable to the change in realized and unrealized gains relating to assets still held at year-end.		
	\$ -	\$ 11,330

Quantitative Information about Significant Unobservable Inputs Used in Level 3 Fair Value Measurements

The following table represents the Plan's level 3 financial instruments, the valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of those financial instruments as of December 31, 2024 and December 31, 2023, respectively, and the significant unobservable inputs and the ranges of values for those inputs:

December 31, 2024					
Instrument	Fair Value	Principal Valuation Technique	Unobservable Inputs	Range of Significant Input Values	Weighted Average
Insurance contract	\$ 33,431	Discounted cash flow	Long duration interest rate Mortality rate	6.85%	n/a
December 31, 2023					
Instrument	Fair Value	Principal Valuation Technique	Unobservable Inputs	Range of Significant Input Values	Weighted Average
Insurance contract	\$ 33,431	Discounted cash flow	Long duration interest rate Mortality rate	6.26%	n/a

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 8 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

In estimating fair value of the investments in level 3, the Plan Sponsor may use third-party pricing sources or appraisers.

Investments Measured Using the Net Asset Value Per Share Practical Expedient

The following table summarizes investments for which fair value is measured using the net asset value per share practical expedient as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, respectively. There are no participant redemption restrictions for these investments; the redemption notice period is only applicable to the Plan.

<u>December 31, 2024</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Frequency (if currently eligible)</u>	<u>Redemption Notice Period</u>
Pooled separate accounts	\$ 7,281,577	n/a	Daily	None
Collective trusts	28,829,586	n/a	Daily	None
<u>December 31, 2023</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Unfunded Commitments</u>	<u>Redemption Frequency (if currently eligible)</u>	<u>Redemption Notice Period</u>
Pooled separate accounts	\$ 9,965,635	n/a	Daily	None
Collective trusts	27,147,993	n/a	Daily	None

**SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE**

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
EIN: 38-2073086, PN: 001, FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i  
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

(a)	(b) Identity of Party	(c) Description	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	Fidelity Investments	Advisor International Growth Z	N/R	\$ 34,331
	Fidelity Investments	Advisor Focused Em Mkts Z	N/R	1,195,603
	Fidelity Investments	International Index	N/R	793,149
	Fidelity Investments	Advisor Intl Small Cap Z	N/R	1,350,257
	Fidelity Investments	Small Cap Index	N/R	1,092,587
	Fidelity Investments	Small Cap Growth K6	N/R	1,390,690
	Fidelity Investments	Mid Cap Index	N/R	1,183,612
	Fidelity Investments	500 Index	N/R	8,286,162
	Fidelity Investments	Large Cap Growth Index	N/R	483,554
	Fidelity Investments	Large Cap Value Index	N/R	127,798
	Fidelity Investments	US Bond Index	N/R	413,721
	Fidelity Investments	Stock Selector Small Cap Z	N/R	54
	DFA	Real Estate Securities I	N/R	1,573,941
	DFA	US Targeted Value I	N/R	818,927
	American Century	Mid Cap Value R6	N/R	1,279,789
	Clearbridge	Select IS	N/R	2,650,028
	JP Morgan	U.S. Value R6	N/R	871,107
	JP Morgan	Large Cap Growth R6	N/R	4,463,400
	American Funds	American Balanced R6	N/R	1,707,641
	JP Morgan	Government Bond R6	N/R	511,308
	Loomis Sayles	Core Plus Bond N	N/R	1,301,694
	Pimco	Real Return Instl	N/R	57,685
	PGIM	High Yield R6	N/R	39,379
	Dodge & Cox	International Stock X	N/R	11,509
	U.S. Property	Sept Acct	N/R	720,175

**HI-LEX EMPLOYEES  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
EIN: 38-2073086, PN: 001, FORM 5500, SCHEDULE H, PART IV, LINE 4i  
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)  
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

(a)	(b) Identity of Party	(c) Description	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	T Rowe Price	Target 2015 Trust A	N/R	\$ 138,457
	T Rowe Price	Target 2020 Trust A	N/R	607,152
	T Rowe Price	Target 2025 Trust A	N/R	2,127,653
	T Rowe Price	Target 2030 Trust A	N/R	5,730,174
	T Rowe Price	Target 2035 Trust A	N/R	4,664,449
	T Rowe Price	Target 2040 Trust A	N/R	3,714,425
	T Rowe Price	Target 2045 Trust A	N/R	2,967,403
	T Rowe Price	Target 2050 Trust A	N/R	2,987,163
	T Rowe Price	Target 2055 Trust A	N/R	3,509,631
	T Rowe Price	Target 2060 Trust A	N/R	1,663,528
	T Rowe Price	Target 2065 Trust A	N/R	719,551
	Putnam	Stable Value Fund	N/R	6,561,402
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Guaranteed Interest Contract Pension Builder (Sm) Z	N/R	33,431
*	Participants	Notes receivable, interest range from 5.25% to 10.50%, due 2025 to 2029	0	<u>1,760,185</u>
Total assets held for investment purposes per financial statements				<u><u>\$ 69,542,705</u></u>

\* - Denotes party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.  
N/R = Not required since all investments are self-directed by the participants.



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

**HI-LEX Employees Retirement Savings Plan**

01-JAN-24 to 31-DEC-24

11-JAN-25 15:53:25

INVESTMENT OPTION      MATURITY DATE      INTEREST RATE      COST OF ASSETS      CURRENT VALUE

LEGEND

INVESTMENT OPTION:

ITRP15A	T Rowe Price Target 2015 Trust A	ITRP20A	T Rowe Price Target 2020 Trust A
ITRP25A	T Rowe Price Target 2025 Trust A	ITRP30A	T Rowe Price Target 2030 Trust A
ITRP35A	T Rowe Price Target 2035 Trust A	ITRP40A	T Rowe Price Target 2040 Trust A
ITRP45A	T Rowe Price Target 2045 Trust A	ITRP50A	T Rowe Price Target 2050 Trust A
ITRP55A	T Rowe Price Target 2055 Trust A	ITRP60A	T Rowe Price Target 2060 Trust A
ITRP65A	T Rowe Price Target 2065 Trust A	IDOXFX	Dodge & Cox International Stock X
IFZAJX	Fidelity Advisor International Growth Z	IFZAEX	Fidelity Advisor Focused Em Mkts Z
IFSPSX	Fidelity International Index	IFIQJX	Fidelity Advisor Intl Small Cap Z
IDFREX	DFA Real Estate Securities I	IDFFVX	DFA US Targeted Value I
IFSSZX	Fidelity Advisor Stock Selector Sm Cp Z	IFSSNX	Fidelity Small Cap Index
IFOCSS	Fidelity Small Cap Growth K6	IAMDVX	American Century Mid Cap Value R6
ILCSSX	ClearBridge Select IS	IFSMDX	Fidelity Mid Cap Index
IFXAIX	Fidelity 500 Index	IFSPGX	Fidelity Large Cap Growth Index
IFLCOX	Fidelity Large Cap Value Index	IVGINX	JP Morgan U.S. Value R6
IJLGMX	JPMorgan Large Cap Growth R6	IRLBGX	American Funds American Balanced R6
IFXNAX	Fidelity US Bond Index	IOGGYX	JPMorgan Government Bond R6
INERNX	Loomis Sayles Core Plus Bond N	IPRRIX	PIMCO Real Return Instl
IPHYQX	PGIM High Yield R6	IPCSV25	Putnam Stable Value 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