

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security
Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

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

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

OMB Nos. 1210-0110
1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

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

- A This return/report is for: [] a multiemployer plan [] a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) [x] a single-employer plan [] a DFE (specify) ____
B This return/report is: [] the first return/report [] the final return/report [] an amended return/report [] a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. []
D Check box if filing under: [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: MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC 401(K) PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 02/01/2005
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 47-0948426
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 813-229-1000
2d Business code (see instructions): 541110

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 plan administrator, employer/plan sponsor, and DFE.

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

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN	
	3c Administrator's telephone number	
4 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: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN	
	4d PN	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5	130
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1)	98
	6a(2)	105
	6b	3
	6c	37
	6d	145
	6e	0
	6f	145
	6g(1)	122
	6g(2)	129
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7	

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

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

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	9b 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)

a Pension Schedules

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

b General Schedules

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

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

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.

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 _____

<p>SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)</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>Insurance Information</p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</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>2024</p> <hr/> <p>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

<p>A Name of plan MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC 401(K) PLAN</p>	<p>B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p>001</p>
<p>C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC</p>	<p>D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-0948426</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
TALCOTT RESOLUTION 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
06-0974148	88072	753295-01	128	06/18/2023	12/31/2023

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.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	920426
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	7628173

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

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

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

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

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

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

b Balance at the end of the previous year **7b** 353280

c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)	14650
(2) Dividends and credits.....	7c(2)	0
(3) Interest credited during the year.....	7c(3)	19832
(4) Transferred from separate account	7c(4)	534827
(5) Other (specify below).....	7c(5)	3506

▶ LOAN REPAYMENTS

(6) Total additions **7c(6)** 572815

d Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) **7d** 926095

e Deductions:

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)	2827
(2) Administration charge made by carrier.....	7e(2)	26
(3) Transferred to separate account	7e(3)	2816
(4) Other (specify below).....	7e(4)	0

(5) Total deductions **7e(5)** 5669

f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)..... **7f** 920426

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:

a	Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)		
	(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)		
	(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)		
	(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))		9a(4)	0
b	Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)		
	(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)		
	(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))		9b(3)	0
	(4) Claims charged		9b(4)	
c	Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --			
	(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)		
	(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)		
	(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)		
	(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)		
	(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)		
	(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)		
	(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)		
	(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)	0
	(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.)		9c(2)	
d	Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)	
	(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)	
	(3) Other reserves		9d(3)	
e	Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e	

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a	Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
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.	10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

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

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

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

A Name of plan MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-0948426	

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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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)

MERRILL LYNCH PIERCE FENNER & SMITH

1400 AMERICAN BLVD BLDG #4
PRINCETON PLACE AT HOPEWELL
PENNINGTON, NJ 08534

13-5674085

(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	20096	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)

KB PENSION SERVICES INC

65-0721164

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
13	CONTRACT ADM	975	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3652	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY

84-0467907

(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	626	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.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

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

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) 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)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

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

A Name of plan <u>MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC 401(K) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>47-0948426</u>	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>SEPARATE ACCOUNT 401</u>		
b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>TALCOTT RESOLUTION LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
c EIN-PN <u>06-0974148-000</u>	d Entity code <u>P</u>	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>7628173</u>
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)

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)

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information 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). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
A Name of plan MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-0948426

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
---------------	--------------------------------------

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
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	1153	890
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	1108	1661
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)		
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	39279	98490
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	0	0
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	6530815	7628173
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	353280	920425
(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)		
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	6925635	8649639
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	6925635	8649639

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.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	222043	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	763575	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	450939	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		1436557
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	4586	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		4586
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B).....	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		735127
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		2176270

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	384287	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other.....	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		384287
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)	47883	
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses.....	2i(11)	20096	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		67979
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		452266

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		1724004
l 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: ASSURANCE DIMENSIONS

(2) EIN: 26-3429295

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
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	341963
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

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

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) 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 _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Retirement Plan Information 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). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan <u>MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC 401(K) PLAN</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>MERLIN LAW GROUP, PLLC</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>47-0948426</u>	

Part I	Distributions
---------------	----------------------

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): 84-0467907 06-0974148

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	
---	--

Part II	Funding Information (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.)
----------------	---

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.

6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a	
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b	
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	6c	

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?..... Yes No N/A

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? Yes No N/A

Part III	Amendments
-----------------	-------------------

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

Part IV	ESOPs (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:

a 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).....	14a	
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).....	14b	
c 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).....	14c	

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:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	

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

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

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 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702909A.



A S S U R A N C E D I M E N S I O N S

Financial Statements, Supplemental Schedules and
Independent Auditor's Report

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

(EIN): 47-0948426 Plan #001

December 31, 2024 and 2023

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Plan Administrator of the
Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan:

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

We were engaged to perform an audit of the accompanying financial statements of **Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan** (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

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

Opinion on the 2024 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2024 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 ("GAAP").
- the certified information in the accompanying financial statements 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 2024 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 2024 Financial Statements* section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. 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.

ASSURANCE DIMENSIONS, LLCalso d/b/a **McNAMARA and ASSOCIATES, LLC****TAMPA BAY:** 4920 W Cypress Street, Suite 102 | Tampa, FL 33607 | Office: 813.443.5048 | Fax: 813.443.5053**JACKSONVILLE:** 7800 Belfort Parkway, Suite 290 | Jacksonville, FL 32256 | Office: 888.410.2323 | Fax: 813.443.5053**ORLANDO:** 1800 Pembroke Drive, Suite 300 | Orlando, FL 32810 | Office: 888.410.2323 | Fax: 813.443.5053**SOUTH FLORIDA:** 3111 N. University Drive, Suite 621 | Coral Springs, FL 33065 | Office: 754.800.3400 | Fax: 813.443.5053www.assurancedimensions.com



Responsibilities of Management for the 2024 Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern 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 2024 Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

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

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

ASSURANCE DIMENSIONS, LLC

also d/b/a McNAMARA and ASSOCIATES, LLC

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

Other Matter – Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedules, Schedule H, line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) and Schedule H, Line 4a – Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion

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

Compilation

We have compiled the accompanying statement of net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2023 in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A compilation is limited to presenting in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of management. We have not audited or reviewed the accompanying statement of net assets available for benefits and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on it.

Assurance Dimensions

Coral Springs, Florida

October 14, 2025

ASSURANCE DIMENSIONS, LLC

also d/b/a McNAMARA and ASSOCIATES, LLC

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Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
As of December 31, 2024 and 2023

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u> <u>(Unaudited)</u>
Investments, at fair values:		
Pooled separate accounts	\$ 7,628,173	\$ 6,530,815
Total investments, at fair value	<u>7,628,173</u>	<u>6,530,815</u>
Fully benefit-responsive investment contract, at contract value	920,425	353,280
Total investments	<u>8,548,598</u>	<u>6,884,095</u>
Receivables:		
Notes receivable from participants	98,490	39,279
Participant contributions	1,661	1,108
Employer contributions	890	1,153
Total receivables	<u>101,041</u>	<u>41,540</u>
Net assets available for benefits	<u>\$ 8,649,639</u>	<u>\$ 6,925,635</u>

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Investment income:

Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 344,059
Dividends and interest	370,972
Other income	20,096
Net investment income	<u>735,127</u>

Interest income on notes receivable from participants	<u>4,586</u>
---	--------------

Contributions:

Participant	764,072
Employer	221,546
Rollovers	450,939
Total contributions	<u>1,436,557</u>
Total additions	<u>2,176,270</u>

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefits paid to participants	384,287
Administrative expenses	67,979
Total deductions	<u>452,266</u>
Net increase	1,724,004

Net assets available for benefits

Beginning of year	<u>6,925,635</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 8,649,639</u>

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note A – Description of Plan

The following description of the Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan’s provisions.

General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan sponsored by Merlin Law Group PLLC (the “Company” or “Employer”). The Plan was formed and adopted February 1, 2005 and most recently restated effective January 1, 2022. The Plan is subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”).

Employees who have attained the age of 21 are eligible to participate in the Plan after completing 90 days of service. Employees may enter the Plan on the first day of the next month following the date eligibility requirements are met. Collectively bargained employees, non-resident aliens and leased employees are excluded from participation in the Plan.

Administration

The Plan is administered by the Company. The Plan’s assets for the year were maintained and administered by Empower Trust Company, LLC (the “Custodian” or “Empower”). The Plan’s recordkeeping services, and maintenance of participant account records are managed by Empower.

Contributions

Participants may contribute up to 100% of pretax annual compensation, as defined in the Plan, subject to Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”) limitations. The maximum participant deferral for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$23,000. A participant who has attained the age of 50 may also make catch up contributions, subject to Internal Revenue Services (“IRS”) limitations of \$7,500 for the year ended December 31, 2024. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or contribution plans as well as Roth contributions.

Each year, the Company may make matching contributions at its discretion. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Company matched contributions at a rate of 25% of elective deferrals for highly compensated participants and 50% of elective deferrals for non-highly compensated participants. The Company may also elect to make a nonelective contribution at the end of the Plan year. There was no nonelective contribution made to the Plan for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Participants direct the investment of their contributions and Employer contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan.

Participant Accounts

Each participant’s account is credited with the participant’s contribution and the Company’s matching contribution and performance sharing amounts, if applicable. Each participant’s account shall be allocated earnings, gains, expenses, and losses with respect to the investments of the participant’s account. Allocations of Plan earnings or losses are based on each participant’s investment fund balance in proportion to the total investment fund balance.

Vesting

Participants are fully vested in their elective contributions, any rollover contributions, as well as Employer matching and nonelective contributions plus or minus any earnings or losses thereon.

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note A – Description of Plan (continued)

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The notes are secured by the balance in the participant's account, or other acceptable collateral, and bear interest at a rate equal to the Prime interest rate plus 1%. The maximum note repayment period is five years. Principal and interest payments with respect to the notes are credited solely to the account of the borrowing participant from which the note was made.

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balances plus any accrued but unpaid interest. In the event of default, the unpaid portion of the participant's loan will be treated as a taxable distribution as of the first day of the second calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which the participant failed to make a required installment payment.

Distribution of Benefits

On termination of service due to death, disability, retirement or termination from the Employer, a participant may elect to receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, as defined in the Plan agreement, less any applicable taxes. If a participant's vested balance is \$5,000 or less, the Company may distribute the entire vested account balance to the participant without their consent. Participants may also request in-service distributions at age 59 ½. Benefits may be received when a participant demonstrates a situation of financial hardship as defined by the IRC.

Forfeitures

Forfeitures occur when an Employer match contribution is calculated incorrectly resulting in an excess match. Forfeitures may be applied to reduce Company contributions and Plan expenses. At December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested accounts totaled approximately \$2,000 and \$1,000, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the Company used approximately \$3,000 of forfeitures to reduce Plan expenses and Company contributions.

Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of termination of the Plan, each participant's account will become fully vested and non-forfeitable. All appropriate accounting provisions of the Plan will continue to apply until the accounts of all participants have been distributed.

Note B – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("U.S. GAAP").

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits and the changes in net assets available for benefits and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note B – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Valuation of Investments

The Plan's investments are stated at fair value, except for the fully benefit-responsive investment contract, which is reported at contract value as described in Note G. Fair value is based on quoted market prices at year-end as reported by the Custodian. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Plan, unless otherwise paid by the Employer. Expenses that are paid by the Employer 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 of fair value of investments.

Fair Value Measurements

The FASB has established a framework for measuring fair value in ASC 820, *Fair Value Measurements*. That framework 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).

The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| <i>Level 1</i> | 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. |
| <i>Level 2</i> | 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. |
| <i>Level 3</i> | Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement. |

The asset's 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 methodology used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodology used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note B – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Fair Value Measurements (continued)

Pooled separate accounts: Valued at the net asset value (“NAV”) provided by the Custodian. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. The NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying assets owned by the trust, minus its liabilities, divided by the number of units outstanding. 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. There were no unfunded commitments to purchase investments at December 31, 2024 and 2023. Participant-directed redemptions have no restrictions and are recorded at the end of every business day.

The method described above may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future fair values. Furthermore, while the Plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine the fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date. Investments measured using the NAV as a practical expedient are exempt from being presented in the fair value hierarchy. As all of the Plan’s investments are exempt from the fair value hierarchy, the table has been excluded.

Note C – Certified Investments

Certain information related to investments and notes receivable from participants disclosed in the accompanying financial statements and ERISA-required supplemental schedules, including investments and notes receivable from participants held at December 31, 2024, and net appreciation in fair value of investments, interest and dividends, and interest income on notes receivable from participants for the year ended December 31, 2024, was obtained by management and agreed to or derived from information certified as complete and accurate by Empower Trust Company, LLC, a qualified institution. As of December 31, 2024, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, the Plan Administrator instructed the auditors not to perform any auditing procedures with respect to the information certified by Empower Trust Company, LLC, except for comparing such information to the related information included in the financial statements, as permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Note D – Income Tax Status

The underlying volume submitter profit sharing plan has received an opinion letter from the IRS dated June 30, 2020 stating that the written form of the underlying prototype document is qualified under Section 401(a) of IRC, and that any Employer adopting this form of the Plan will be considered to have a plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the IRC. Therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the Code to maintain its qualification. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, the Plan’s Administrator believes the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

The Plan Administrator evaluated the Plan’s tax positions and concluded that the Plan had maintained its tax-exempt status and had taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to the financial statements. Therefore, no provision or liability for income taxes has been included in the accompanying financial statements. The Plan is no longer subject to examination by taxing authorities for years prior to 2021.

Note E – Risks and Uncertainties

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

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note F – Party-In-Interest Transactions

Fees paid during the year for accounting and other services rendered by parties-in-interest were based on customary and reasonable rates for such services. Certain Plan investments and the related transactions as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended December 31, 2024, were in investment funds managed by the Custodian therefore, these investments and transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Notes receivable from participants are also considered to be party-in-interest transactions because they are with Plan participants. Fees paid to parties-in-interest by the Plan for services amounted to approximately \$68,000 during the year ended December 31, 2024.

Note G – Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contracts

Fully benefit-responsive investment contracts, at contract value, on the statements of net assets consist of the following investment(s):

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Investment name</u>	<u>December 31, 2024</u>	<u>December 31, 2023</u> <u>(Unaudited)</u>
Guaranteed Interest Account	General Account	\$ 920,425	\$ 353,280

The Plan invests in a guaranteed interest account (General Account, “the Fund”) provided through a group annuity contract. Under the Fund, a crediting rate is established and is credited with contributions and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses charged by the Custodian of the Fund. The guaranteed interest account issuers are contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specific interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan.

The Plan’s ability to receive amounts due is dependent on the issuer’s ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer’s ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Certain events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include the following: (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan,) (2) changes to the Plan’s prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan sponsor or other Plan sponsor events (for example, divestitures of spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, or (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transactions exempt under ERISA. The Plan Administrator does not believe that any events which would limit the Plan’s ability to transact at contract value with participants are probable of occurring. The guaranteed investment contract does not permit the insurance company to terminate the agreement prior to the scheduled maturity date.

Note H – Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The Plan holds investments in pooled separate accounts, which is how they are reported on Form 5500, Schedule D, DFE/Participating Plan Information. Plan number “000” has been used to report these investments on Schedule D because the Custodian has not filed a Form 5500 directly with the Department of Labor for these investments. As such, the Plan’s interest in such investments cannot be included in Schedule H, line 1c(10). Instead, the Plan’s interest in the underlying assets of the pooled separate accounts must be allocated and reported in the appropriate categories on a line-by-line basis. Therefore, these investments are reflected as mutual funds on Form 5500, Schedule H, line 1c(13) but as pooled separate accounts for financial statement purposes.

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan

Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2024 and 2023

Note I – Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through October 14, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

Supplemental Schedules

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan (EIN): 47-0948426 Plan #001
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
As of December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of issuer/ (c) Description of investment	(e) Current value
(i) Mutual funds:		
	BLACKROCK GLOBAL ALLOCATION K	\$ 2,329,426
	FIDELITY 500 INDEX	672,993
	PIMCO REAL RETURN INSTL	529,553
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE RETIRE FUND CL I	445,680
*	INDEXSELECT CONSERVATIVE 2035 FUND CL I	385,854
	GOLDMAN SACHS SMALL/MID CAP GROWTH R6	373,694
	PIMCO INCOME INSTL	364,580
	FRANKLIN GROWTH R6	340,997
	BLACKROCK TOTAL RETURN K	259,621
	MFS VALUE R6	210,875
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE 2045 FUND CL I	195,820
	AMERICAN FUNDS EUROPACIFIC GROWTH R6	190,227
	INVESCO MAIN STREET MID CAP R6	166,926
	AMERICAN FUNDS WASHINGTON MUTUAL R6	163,085
	AMERICAN FUNDS NEW WORLD R6	153,240
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE 2055 FUND CL I	112,491
	INVESCO SMALL CAP GROWTH R6	98,346
*	INDEXSELECT AGGRESSIVE 2055 FUND CL I	91,850
	ISHARES MSCI EAFE INTL IDX K	91,240
	INVESCO SMALL CAP VALUE R6	90,417
	ALLSPRING SPECIAL MID CAP VALUE R6	78,691
	ISHARES US AGGREGATE BOND INDEX K	48,497
	BNY MELLON GLOBAL FIXED INCOME - Y	46,678
	ISHARES RUSSELL MID-CAP INDEX K	45,181
	ISHARES RUSSELL 2000 SMALL-CAP IDX K	31,888
*	INDEXSELECT AGGRESSIVE 2045 FUND CL I	31,687
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE 2035 FUND CL I	28,652
	AMERICAN FUNDS AMERICAN BALANCED R6	24,594
	DWS RREEF REAL ESTATE SECURITIES R6	22,720
*	INDEXSELECT CONSERVATIVE 2045 FUND CL I	2,053
	JPMorgan US Government MMkt Instl	617
	Total mutual funds	<u>7,628,173</u>
(ii) Guaranteed interest account:		
*	GENERAL ACCOUNT	920,425
*	Notes receivable from participants (4.25%-9.50%)	98,490
	Total investments and notes receivable from participants	<u>\$ 8,647,088</u>
* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.		

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan (EIN): 47-0948426 Plan #001
Schedule H, Line 4a — Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Participant Contributions Transferred Late to Plan				Total that Constitutes Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			
Amount Withheld	Date Withheld	Date Remitted	Contributions not corrected	Contributions corrected outside VFCP	Contributions pending correction in VFCP	Total Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51	
Check here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are included: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
\$ 40,634	1/19/2024	2/8/2024	\$ 40,634	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
37,851	3/1/2024	3/18/2024	37,851	-	-	-	
37,626	3/29/2024	4/23/2024	37,626	-	-	-	
33,694	4/26/2024	5/17/2024	33,694	-	-	-	
32,463	6/7/2024	6/28/2024	32,463	-	-	-	
32,356	7/5/2024	7/30/2024	32,356	-	-	-	
33,132	8/30/2024	9/16/2024	33,132	-	-	-	
48,256	11/22/2024	12/16/2024	48,256	-	-	-	
45,952	12/6/2024	12/26/2024	45,952	-	-	-	

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 <div style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">2024</div> This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I Annual Report Identification Information	
For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning <u>01/01/2024</u> and ending <u>12/31/2024</u>	
A This return/report is for:	<input type="checkbox"/> a multiemployer plan <input type="checkbox"/> a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a single-employer plan <input type="checkbox"/> a DFE (specify) _____
B This return/report is:	<input type="checkbox"/> the first return/report <input type="checkbox"/> the final return/report <input type="checkbox"/> an amended return/report <input type="checkbox"/> a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.	<input type="checkbox"/>
D Check box if filing under:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 5558 <input type="checkbox"/> automatic extension <input type="checkbox"/> the DFVC program <input type="checkbox"/> special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here.	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information		
1a Name of plan Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan	1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) Merlin Law Group, PLLC 777 South Harbour Island Boulevard Tampa FL 33602	1c Effective date of plan 02/01/2005	2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 47-0948426
		2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 813-229-1000
		2d Business code (see instructions) 541110

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.

SIGN HERE	 Signature of plan administrator	10/2/2025 Date	Keona Williams Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN
	3c Administrator's telephone number

4 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: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN
	4d PN

5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5	130
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6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d).	
a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year	6a(1) 98
a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	6a(2) 105
b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	6b 3
c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	6c 37
d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c	6d 145
e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits	6e 0
f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e	6f 145
g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	6g(1) 122
g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	6g(2) 129
h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested	6h 1

7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	7
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8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
2A 2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D

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

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

a Pension Schedules

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

b General Schedules

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

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

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.

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 _____

Merlin Law Group, PLLC 401(k) Plan (EIN): 47-0948426 Plan #001
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
As of December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of issuer/ (c) Description of investment	(e) Current value
(i) Mutual funds:		
	BLACKROCK GLOBAL ALLOCATION K	\$ 2,329,426
	FIDELITY 500 INDEX	672,993
	PIMCO REAL RETURN INSTL	529,553
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE RETIRE FUND CL I	445,680
*	INDEXSELECT CONSERVATIVE 2035 FUND CL I	385,854
	GOLDMAN SACHS SMALL/MID CAP GROWTH R6	373,694
	PIMCO INCOME INSTL	364,580
	FRANKLIN GROWTH R6	340,997
	BLACKROCK TOTAL RETURN K	259,621
	MFS VALUE R6	210,875
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE 2045 FUND CL I	195,820
	AMERICAN FUNDS EUROPACIFIC GROWTH R6	190,227
	INVESCO MAIN STREET MID CAP R6	166,926
	AMERICAN FUNDS WASHINGTON MUTUAL R6	163,085
	AMERICAN FUNDS NEW WORLD R6	153,240
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE 2055 FUND CL I	112,491
	INVESCO SMALL CAP GROWTH R6	98,346
*	INDEXSELECT AGGRESSIVE 2055 FUND CL I	91,850
	ISHARES MSCI EAFE INTL IDX K	91,240
	INVESCO SMALL CAP VALUE R6	90,417
	ALLSPRING SPECIAL MID CAP VALUE R6	78,691
	ISHARES US AGGREGATE BOND INDEX K	48,497
	BNY MELLON GLOBAL FIXED INCOME - Y	46,678
	ISHARES RUSSELL MID-CAP INDEX K	45,181
	ISHARES RUSSELL 2000 SMALL-CAP IDX K	31,888
*	INDEXSELECT AGGRESSIVE 2045 FUND CL I	31,687
*	INDEXSELECT MODERATE 2035 FUND CL I	28,652
	AMERICAN FUNDS AMERICAN BALANCED R6	24,594
	DWS RREEF REAL ESTATE SECURITIES R6	22,720
*	INDEXSELECT CONSERVATIVE 2045 FUND CL I	2,053
	JPMorgan US Government MMkt Instl	617
	Total mutual funds	<u>7,628,173</u>
(ii) Guaranteed interest account:		
*	GENERAL ACCOUNT	920,425
*	Notes receivable from participants (4.25%-9.50%)	98,490
	Total investments and notes receivable from participants	<u>\$ 8,647,088</u>
* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.		