

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Form 5500</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.</b></p>	<p style="font-size: x-small;">OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: large; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">2024</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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**Part I Annual Report Identification Information**  
 For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

**A** This return/report is for:  a multiemployer plan  a multiple-employer plan (Filers checking this box must provide participating employer information in accordance with the form instructions.)

a single-employer plan  a DFE (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

**B** This return/report is:  the first return/report  the final return/report

an amended return/report  a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)

**C** If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. . . . .

**D** Check box if filing under:  Form 5558  automatic extension  the DFVC program

special extension (enter description)

**E** If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. . . . .

**Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information**

<p><b>1a</b> Name of plan <u>401(K) PLAN FOR SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF STATER BROS.</u></p>	<p><b>1b</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ <u>005</u></p>
<p><b>2a</b> Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) <u>STATER BROS. MARKETS</u></p> <p><u>301 SOUTH TIPPECANOE AVE PO BOX 150</u> <u>SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408</u></p>	<p><b>1c</b> Effective date of plan <u>10/01/1991</u></p> <p><b>2b</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>95-2586175</u></p> <p><b>2c</b> Plan Sponsor's telephone number <u>909-733-5000</u></p> <p><b>2d</b> Business code (see instructions) <u>445110</u></p>

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

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

<b>SIGN HERE</b>	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	02/11/2026	MICHAEL REED
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
<b>SIGN HERE</b>			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor		<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
		<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report:		<b>4b</b> EIN	
<b>a</b> Sponsor's name			
<b>c</b> Plan Name		<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year		<b>5</b>	1164
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ).			
<b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year .....		<b>6a(1)</b>	949
<b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year .....		<b>6a(2)</b>	1066
<b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits.....		<b>6b</b>	19
<b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits .....		<b>6c</b>	119
<b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> .....		<b>6d</b>	1204
<b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. ....		<b>6e</b>	3
<b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> .....		<b>6f</b>	1207
<b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) .....		<b>6g(1)</b>	1093
<b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) .....		<b>6g(2)</b>	1117
<b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....		<b>6h</b>	0
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item) .....		<b>7</b>	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCHEDULE A</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p><b>Insurance Information</b></p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ <b>File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b></p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: 24pt;"><b>2024</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</b></p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

<p><b>A</b> Name of plan <span style="color: blue;">401(K) PLAN FOR SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF STATER BROS.</span></p>	<p><b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p><span style="color: blue;">005</span></p>
<p><b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <span style="color: blue;">STATER BROS. MARKETS</span></p>	<p><b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <span style="color: blue;">95-2586175</span></p>	

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

**1 Coverage Information:**

(a) Name of insurance carrier  
EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY

(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
06-1050034	93629	556202-01	1117	01/01/2024	12/31/2024

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>4</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end .....	<b>4</b>	20099795
<b>5</b> Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	<b>5</b>	84316460

**6** Contracts With Allocated Funds:

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

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

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

**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 ▶

**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 ▶

<b>6b</b>	
<b>6c</b>	
<b>6d</b>	

**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>b</b> Balance at the end of the previous year .....	<b>7b</b>	21233175
<b>c</b> Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year .....	<b>7c(1)</b>	1320186
	<b>7c(2)</b>	
	<b>7c(3)</b>	435849
	<b>7c(4)</b>	4193611
	<b>7c(5)</b>	11921
▶ LOAN REPAYMENTS		
(6) Total additions .....	<b>7c(6)</b>	5961567
<b>d</b> Total of balance and additions (add lines <b>7b</b> and <b>7c(6)</b> ) .....	<b>7d</b>	27194742
<b>e</b> Deductions:	<b>7e(1)</b>	3009804
	<b>7e(2)</b>	3020
	<b>7e(3)</b>	4082123
	<b>7e(4)</b>	
(5) Total deductions .....	<b>7e(5)</b>	7094947
<b>f</b> Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line <b>7e(5)</b> from line <b>7d</b> ).....	<b>7f</b>	20099795

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

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

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

**9** Experience-rated contracts:

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

**10** Nonexperience-rated contracts:

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

Specify nature of costs.

**Part IV Provision of Information**

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

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

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>401(K) PLAN FOR SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF STATER BROS.</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>005</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>STATER BROS. MARKETS</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>95-2586175</b>	

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

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

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

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

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

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

**EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

**06-1050034**

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

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

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

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

EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY

8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD  
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
64	RECORDKEEPER	86150	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	0	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

ADVISED ASSETS GROUP, LLC

8515 EAST ORCHARD ROAD  
GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO 80111

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
28	INVESTMENT MGMT	5495	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>a</b> Name: SOREN MCADAM LLP	<b>b</b> EIN: 77-0549163
<b>c</b> Position: AUDITOR	
<b>d</b> Address: 2068 ORANGE TREE LANE SUITE 100 REDLANDS, CA 92374	<b>e</b> Telephone: 909-798-2222

Explanation: AS PART OF CORPORATE DUE DILIGENCE, THE COMPANY CHANGED AUDITOR FIRMS AS A RESULT OF COMPETITIVE BENCHMARKING PROCESS.

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>401(K) PLAN FOR SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF STATER BROS.</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>005</u>
<b>C</b> Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>STATER BROS. MARKETS</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>95-2586175</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs)</b> (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MID CAP VALUE / ROBECO BOSTON PARTN</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-440</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>4921026</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>DRYDEN S&amp;P 500 INDEX FUND (IS PLATF</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-123</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>22066458</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>LARGE CAP GROWTH / MFS FUND</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-350</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>19392053</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>LARGE CAP VALUE (SUB-ADV BY WELLING</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-184</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>10783598</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>SMALL CAP GROWTH II (MGD BY WELLING</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-319</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>2336526</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>MID CAP GROWTH / ARTISAN PARTNERS F</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-185</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>4181747</u>
<b>a</b> Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: <u>INTNL VALUE I (MGD BY CAUSEWAY CAPI</u>		
<b>b</b> Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): <u>EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY</u>		
<b>c</b> EIN-PN <u>06-1050034-080</u>	<b>d</b> Entity code <u>P</u>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) <u>0</u>

**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **SMALL CP VAL / SILVERCREST ASSET MN**

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): **EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>06-1050034-126</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>P</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	<b>2873102</b>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **CORE BOND ENHANCED INDEX / PGIM FUN**

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): **EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>06-1050034-036</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>P</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	<b>2785853</b>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **DAY ONE INCOMEFLEX TARGET BALANCED**

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): **EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>06-1050034-697</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>P</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	<b>3031879</b>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **CORE PLUS BOND / PGIM FUND**

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): **EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>06-1050034-299</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>P</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	<b>2848153</b>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **INTERNATIONAL BLEND II (MANAGED BY**

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): **EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>06-1050034-534</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>P</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	<b>3660147</b>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: **INTERNATIONAL VALUE / LSV ASSET MNG**

**b** Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): **EMPOWER ANNUITY INSURANCE COMPANY**

<b>c</b> EIN-PN <b>06-1050034-415</b>	<b>d</b> Entity code <b>P</b>	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	<b>5435918</b>
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**a** Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>c</b> EIN-PN	<b>d</b> Entity code	<b>e</b> Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)	
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**Part II Information on Participating Plans (to be completed by DFEs, other than DCGs)**

(Complete as many entries as needed to report all participating plans. DCGs must report each participating plan using Schedule DCG.)

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

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**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**a** Plan name

**b** Name of plan sponsor

**c** EIN-PN

**SCHEDULE H  
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**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.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

**2024**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>401(K) PLAN FOR SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF STATER BROS.</b>		<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>005</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>STATER BROS. MARKETS</b>		<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>95-2586175</b>	

**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.

<b>Assets</b>		<b>(a) Beginning of Year</b>	<b>(b) End of Year</b>
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b>		
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b>	<b>6588</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b>		
<b>c</b> General investments:			
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b>		
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>		
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>		
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>		
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>		
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>		
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>		
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1127880</b>
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>		
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>	<b>77861611</b>	<b>84316460</b>
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>		
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>		
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	<b>558807</b>	<b>1554665</b>
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>	<b>21233175</b>	<b>20099795</b>
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>		

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	99660181	107098800
<b>Liabilities</b>			
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
<b>Net Assets</b>			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	99660181	107098800

**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)		
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	6715040	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	140093	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A), (B), (C), and line 2a(2).....	2a(3)		6855133
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(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)	18404	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)	435849	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F).....	2b(1)(G)		454253
(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)	26659	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A), (B), and (C).....	2b(2)(D)		26659
(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)		13446992
(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)		64834
<b>c</b> Other income .....	2c		20058
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	2d		20867929

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers .....	2e(1)	13319917	
(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)		13319917
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions) .....	2f		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions) .....	2g		
<b>h</b> Interest expense .....	2h		
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances .....	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees .....	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees .....	2i(3)	86150	
(4) IQPA audit fees .....	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees .....	2i(5)	5495	
(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)	17748	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11) .....	2i(12)		109393
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total .....	2j		13429310

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d .....	2k		7438619
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan .....	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan .....	2l(2)		

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

**3** Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

**a** The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1)  Unmodified (2)  Qualified (3)  Disclaimer (4)  Adverse

**b** Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1)  DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2)  DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3)  neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

**c** Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: GRANT THORNTON LLP

(2) EIN: 36-6055558

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

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

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

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

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	452053
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5000000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>A</b> Name of plan <u>401(K) PLAN FOR SALARIED EMPLOYEES OF STATER BROS.</u>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN)	<u>005</u>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>STATER BROS. MARKETS</u>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>95-2586175</u>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
---------------	----------------------

**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

<b>1</b> Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	1	0
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**2** Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):  
 EIN(s): 20-3691708

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

<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....	3	
----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	--

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**4** Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? .....  Yes  No  N/A  
**If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.**

**5** If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
**If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.**

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

<b>Part III</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
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**9** If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box.....  Increase  Decrease  Both  No

<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

**10** Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? .....  Yes  No

**11 a** Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? .....  Yes  No

**b** If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) .....  Yes  No

**12** Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? .....  Yes  No

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**13** Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

<b>a</b> The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14a</b>	
<b>b</b> The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14b</b>	
<b>c</b> The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14c</b>	

**15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

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

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</b> If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers .....	<b>16b</b>	

**17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment .....

**Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment .....

**19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

**a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:  
 Public Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Private Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: \_\_\_\_\_%  
 High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Assets: \_\_\_\_\_% Cash or Cash Equivalents: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%

**b** Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:  
 0-5 years  5-10 years  10-15 years  15 years or more

**20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

**a** Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero?  Yes  No

**b** If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:  
 Yes.  
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. Other. Provide explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

**21a** Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules?  Yes  No

**21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).  
 Design-based safe harbor method  
 "Prior year" ADP test  
 "Current year" ADP test  
 N/A

**22** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 09 / 16 / 2022 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q704336A.

Financial Statements and Report of  
Independent Certified Public  
Accountants

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of  
Stater Bros.**

December 31, 2024 and 2023

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**GRANT THORNTON LLP**

500 108th Ave NE, Suite 2500  
Bellevue, WA 98004

**D** +1 425 284 4454

**F** +1 206 374 2906

**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

Administrative Committee  
401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.

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

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of the 401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros. (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

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

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

**Opinion**

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

- The amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

**Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our 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.

**Responsibilities of management for the financial statements**

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

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

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

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with US GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

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

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

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

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

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

The supplemental schedules, schedule H, line 4a - schedule of delinquent participant contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024 and schedule H, line 4i - schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures. These additional procedures included comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with US GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion

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

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

Predecessor auditors performed an audit of the 2023 financial statements of the Plan. In accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the prior year audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan that were certified by a qualified institution. Their report dated July 16, 2024, indicated that (a) the amounts and disclosures in the 2023 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, were presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and (b) the information in the 2023 financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C). Their report also indicated that the form and content of the 2023 supplemental schedule, other than the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, was presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA; and the information in the 2023 supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determines meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Grant Thornton LLP*

Bellevue, Washington  
October 1, 2025

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**

**December 31,**

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Investments		
Investments, at fair value	\$ 85,871,119	\$ 78,420,413
Investment contract with insurance company, at contract value	<u>20,099,801</u>	<u>21,233,180</u>
Total investments	105,970,920	99,653,593
Employer QNEC contribution receivable	-	6,588
Notes receivable from participants	<u>1,127,880</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	<u>\$ 107,098,800</u>	<u>\$ 99,660,181</u>

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

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**

**Year ended December 31, 2024**

**Additions and (deductions) to net assets attributed to**

Investment income	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 13,511,826
Interest income	435,849
Dividend income	<u>26,659</u>
Net investment income	<u>13,974,334</u>
Participant contributions	6,715,040
Rollover contributions	140,093
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	38,462
Benefits paid to participants	(13,319,917)
Administrative expenses	<u>(109,393)</u>
<b>NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	<u>7,438,619</u>
<b>Net assets available for benefits at beginning of year</b>	99,660,181
<b>Net assets available for benefits at end of year</b>	<u><u>\$ 107,098,800</u></u>

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

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN**

The following description of the 401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros. (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 providing benefits to salaried and hourly employees of Stater Bros. Markets (the Company) who are at least 21 years of age, completed two months of service, are not covered by a collective bargaining agreement, and are not a Puerto Rican employee. Employees are automatically enrolled into the Plan following the satisfaction of the eligibility requirements.

***Contributions***

Under the provisions of the Plan, each active participant may enter into a salary deferral agreement with the Company, deferring up to 25 percent of eligible compensation for the contribution period, up to the maximum allowable amount as determined yearly by the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan includes an auto enrollment provision whereby all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless they affirmatively elect not to participate. Employees are automatically enrolled at a contribution rate of three percent of eligible compensation upon meeting eligibility requirements. Participants are given the opportunity to change this contribution rate 30 days prior to their entry date into the Plan. Participants may also contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans.

The Plan includes automatic escalation provisions for participant deferral contributions which apply to each participant who has a salary deferral agreement in effect to defer at least 1 percent of compensation. Under these provisions, the elective deferral contribution for the participant is increased annually by 1 percent of the participant's compensation up to 10 percent of compensation unless the participant makes a contrary election.

***Participant Account***

An account is maintained for each participant. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and participant's Plan earnings and losses. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's earnings allocations are generally determined based on participants' units in each investment option they have selected. Participants are immediately vested in their contributions, Company Qualified Non-Elective Contributions (QNEC) contributions, plus earnings thereon.

***Investment Options***

Each participant directs employee contributions and Company QNEC contributions to his or her account through investment options offered by the Plan. The investment options are comprised of various pooled separate accounts, mutual funds, and an investment contract option.

***Notes Receivable from Participants***

Participants may borrow from their accounts a minimum of \$2,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. Loan terms range from 1 to 5 years or up to 10 years for the purchase of a primary residence, and are due at various dates through 2029. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at rates commensurate with local prevailing rates at the time the funds are borrowed, as determined by the Plan Administrator. Participants can apply for one

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

loan each calendar year and participants can only have one loan outstanding at any given time. Interest rates range between 8.75% and 9.50% for 2024.

***Payment of Benefits***

On termination of service due to death, disability, or retirement, a participant with an account balance that exceeds \$7,000 may elect to receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's account, or elect to receive installment or ad-hoc payments to satisfy the required minimum distributions, or elect to receive an annuity in accordance with the Plan, tax rules, and regulations. A participant with an account balance of less than \$1,000 will receive a lump sum payment, and a participant with an account balance of \$1,000 through \$7,000 will have their account balance automatically rolled into an individual retirement account.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

***Basis of Accounting***

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

***Investment Valuation and Income Recognition***

Investments are reported at fair value, except for the fully benefit-responsive investment contract, which is reported at contract value. U.S. GAAP requires investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan to be reported at contract value for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan Administrator determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the Trustee. See Note 5 for fair value measurements.

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

***Payment of Benefits***

Benefits are recorded when paid.

***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 statement of net assets available for benefits.

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

***Notes Receivable from Participants***

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent notes receivable from participants are recorded as distributions based on the terms of the Plan document.

***Expenses***

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Company and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of benefit payments are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation in fair value of investments. Plan audit fees and certain recordkeeping fees are paid by the Plan.

**NOTE 3 - INFORMATION CERTIFIED OR PROVIDED BY THE PLAN CUSTODIANS**

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). Under this provision of ERISA, investment information and related activity is certified as accurate and complete by qualified institutions need not be subjected to independent audit. Accordingly, Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America (EAICA) and Empower Trust Company, LLC (Empower), the Custodians of the Plan, have certified that the following data included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedules is complete and accurate.

- Investments and notes receivable from participants as of December 31, 2024 and 2023
- Plan transactions related to investment income, securities transactions, and interest income on notes receivable from participants for the year ended December 31, 2024
- Schedule H, line 4i – schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024

**NOTE 4 - FULLY BENEFIT-RESPONSIVE INVESTMENT CONTRACT**

The Plan holds a guaranteed investment annuity contract with EAICA, the parent company of Empower, at December 31, 2024 and 2023, which consists of one fully benefit-responsive guaranteed investment contract. This investment is reported at contract value. EAICA maintains the contributions in a general account. The account is credited with earnings on the underlying investments and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The guaranteed investment contract issuer is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specified interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan. The crediting rate is based on a formula established by the contract issuer but may not be less than 1.50 percent. The crediting rate is reviewed on an annual basis for resetting. The crediting rate was 2.05% from January to June 2024 and 2.10% from July to December 2024. There are no events that allow the issuer to terminate the contract or require the Plan Sponsor to settle at an amount different than contract value. The crediting interest rate is reset per contract provisions. Past interest rates are not indicative of future interest rates. Key factors that could influence future interest crediting rates are changes in economic and market conditions, interest rates, and default or credit failures of the securities in the insurer's general assets.

Because the investment contract is fully benefit-responsive, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits attributable to the investment contract, because this is the amount received by participants if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan. Contract value, as reported to the Plan by EAICA, represents contributions made under

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals, and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value. There are no reserves against the contract value for credit risk of the contract issuer or otherwise.

The investment contract issuer is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specified 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 might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include (1) amendments to the Plan document (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan Sponsor or other Plan Sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spin-offs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA, or (5) premature termination of the contract. No events are probable of occurring that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and also would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants.

In addition, certain events allow the issuer to terminate the contract with the Plan and settle at an amount different from contract value. Such events include (1) the contract holder notifies in writing that the contract will be discontinued, (2) a breach of material obligation under the contract, (3) the class of business to which the contract belongs to is no longer commercially feasible, (4) a material misrepresentation, and (5) a material amendment to the agreement without the consent of the issuer.

**NOTE 5 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under the Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 820 are described below:

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

Level 2 - Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs, other than quoted prices, that are observable for the asset or liability;
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

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

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

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 methodologies used for investments measured at fair value. There were no changes in valuation methodologies as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, except for the reclassification of pooled separate accounts. The 2023 ASC 820 fair value hierarchy leveling table was revised to report certain separate account investments (totaling approximately \$78 million) using NAV as a practical expedient for fair value. These investments were previously reported in Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy investments within the table. There was no impact to investments at fair value presented in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

*Pooled separate accounts:* Valued at the net asset value (NAV) of the underlying assets held by the separate account. The NAV, as provided by the Administrator of the fund, is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities, and then divided by the number of shares outstanding. The fair value has been established under the practical expedient approach and, therefore, is not assigned to a level in the hierarchy table. There are no unfunded commitments with respect to these investments. Participant-directed purchases and redemptions of these investments may occur daily and have no restrictions.

*Mutual funds:* Valued based on closing NAV per share as quoted in active markets.

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

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

	2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ 1,554,666	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,554,666
Investments measured at NAV				84,316,453
Total investments at fair value				\$ 85,871,119
	2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$ 558,807	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 558,807
Investments measured at NAV				77,861,606
Total investments at fair value				\$ 78,420,413

**401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

**December 31, 2024 and 2023**

**NOTE 6 - RELATED-PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

The Plan invests in units of pooled separate accounts and an investment contract managed by EAICA and Empower Retirement, LLC (ER). EAICA and ER act as Custodians for only those investments as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions which are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules. Fees incurred by the Plan for investment management services are paid by the Plan. The Company directly pays any other fees related to the Plan's operations. Notes receivable from participant also represent party-in-interest transactions

**NOTE 7 - 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 to terminate the Plan, subject to the provisions of ERISA.

**NOTE 8 - TAX STATUS**

The Plan obtained an opinion letter dated September 16, 2022, in which the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter, the Plan Administrator and the Plan's tax counsel believe that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the Plan's financial statements.

U.S. GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

**NOTE 9 - PROHIBITED TRANSACTIONS**

During 2023, the Plan Sponsor inadvertently failed to deposit \$452,053 of participant contributions within the required timeframe, as stated by the United States Department of Labor regulations. The Plan Sponsor deposited the lost earnings to correct the untimely remittances, including the posting of lost earnings to participants, in November 2023.

**NOTE 10 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Plan evaluated its December 31, 2024 financial statements for subsequent events through October 1, 2025, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no material subsequent events or transactions that required recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.

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

Year ended December 31, 2024

EIN: #95-2586175, PLAN #: 005

Year	Participant Contributions Transferred Late to Plan	Check Here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included	Total That Constitutes Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
			Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
2023	\$ 452,053		\$ -	\$ 452,053	\$ -	\$ -

401(k) Plan for Salaried Employees of Stater Bros.

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

December 31, 2024

EIN: #95-2586175, PLAN #: 005

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
<b>Pooled separate accounts</b>				
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Dryden S&P 500 Index Fund	**	\$ 22,066,458
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Large Cap Growth/MFS Fund	**	19,392,052
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Large Cap Value/Wellington	**	10,783,598
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Dayone Incomeflex Target Balanced	**	3,031,879
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Mid Cap Value/Robeco	**	4,921,026
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Mid Cap Growth/Artisan Partner	**	4,181,747
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	International Value / LSV Asset Management	**	5,435,917
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	International Bld II Fund	**	3,660,146
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Core Plus Bond/PGIM Fund	**	2,848,152
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Core Bond Enhanced Index/PGIM Fund	**	2,785,852
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Small Cap Value/Silvercrest	**	2,873,101
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Small Cap Growth Fund II/Wellington	**	2,336,525
	Total assets held in pooled separate accounts			84,316,453
<b>Mutual funds</b>				
	Fidelity Advisors	Fidelity International Index Fund	**	816,290
	Fidelity Advisors	Fidelity Extended Market Index Fund	**	738,376
	Total assets held in mutual funds			1,554,666
<b>Investment contract with insurance company</b>				
*	Empower Annuity Insurance Company of America	Guaranteed Income Fund	**	20,099,801
				105,970,920
<b>Notes receivable from participants</b>				
*		Notes receivable from participant loans, interest rates ranging from 8.75% to 9.50%, maturing 2029		1,127,880
				\$ 107,098,800

\* A party-in-interest as defined by ERISA.

\*\* Cost omitted for participant-directed investments.

**SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)**  
**STATER BROS. MARKETS 401K**  
**01-JAN-24 to 31-DEC-24**

INVESTMENT OPTION	MATURITY DATE	INTEREST RATE	COST OF ASSETS	CURRENT VALUE
IP0147A			2,313,522.13	3,031,879.37
IFSPSX			815,672.26	816,289.53
IP0116A			5,671,612.67	5,435,917.38
IP0130A			3,124,991.67	3,660,146.14
IP0083A			1,945,234.18	2,873,101.87
IP0105A			1,592,651.17	2,336,526.25
IFSMAX			670,842.14	738,375.68
IP0095A			2,791,512.34	4,181,746.63
IP0119A			3,014,045.51	4,921,025.97
IP0069A			8,341,416.85	22,066,457.57
IP0089A			6,013,680.81	10,783,597.53
IP0111A			7,311,635.16	19,392,051.97
IP0087A			2,746,309.95	2,785,851.97
IP0107A			2,705,221.37	2,848,151.63
IP1032A			17,617,028.74	20,068,416.16
			<b>66,675,376.95</b>	<b>105,939,535.65</b>
PARTICIPANT LOANS	VARIOUS	8.750-9.500	1,131,271.62	1,127,879.71
FORFEITURES			30,869.09	31,384.59

Attachment to Form 5500, Schedule H, Part 4, Item I  
EIN # 952586175

## LEGEND

## INVESTMENT OPTION:

IP0147A	Day One IncomeFlex Target Balanced	IFSPSX	Fidelity International Index
IP0116A	International Value / LSV Asset Mngmnt	IP0130A	International Blend II (managed by MFS)
IP0083A	Small Cp Val / Silvercrest Asset Mngmnt	IP0105A	Small Cap Growth II (mgd by Wellington)
IFSMAX	Fidelity Extended Market Index	IP0095A	Mid Cap Growth / Artisan Partners Fund
IP0119A	Mid Cap Value / Robeco Boston Partners	IP0069A	Dryden S&P 500 Index Fund (IS Platform)
IP0089A	Large Cap Value (sub-adv by Wellington)	IP0111A	Large Cap Growth / MFS Fund
IP0087A	Core Bond Enhanced Index / PGIM Fund	IP0107A	Core Plus Bond / PGIM Fund
IP1032A	Guaranteed Income Fund		

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

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