

Form 5500 Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.	OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089 2025 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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Part I	Annual Report Identification Information
For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025	
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) _____ ☐ 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
1a	Name of plan EASTERN BANK EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 003
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/2020
2a	Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan) Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box) City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions) EASTERN BANK 125 HIGH STREET BOSTON, MA 02110
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 04-3067724
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 781-598-7908
2d	Business code (see instructions) 522120

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

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

SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	06/25/2026	MARIANNE GAGNON
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	06/25/2026	MARIANNE GAGNON
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN 3c Administrator's telephone number
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN 4d PN
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5 2202
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1) 1473 6a(2) 2058 6b 80 6c 343 6d 2481 6e 10 6f 2491 6g(1) 1890 6g(2) 2100 6h 16
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7

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

2I 2P 3I

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

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

a Pension Schedules

- (1) ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached 0
- (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 _____
- (4) ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) ☐ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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

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

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

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2025 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2025 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 _____

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		2025
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection.

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025		
A Name of plan EASTERN BANK EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EASTERN BANK	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 04-3067724	

Part I	Service Provider Information (see instructions)
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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
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
42-0127290

(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)

(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 ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(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 ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

(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 ☐ No ☐	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

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

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

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury 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
		2025
		This Form is Open to Public Inspection

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025		
A Name of plan EASTERN BANK EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EASTERN BANK	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 04-3067724	

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.			
Assets		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a		
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)		
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)		
(3) Other	1b(3)		
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	1613837	1682580
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)		
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)		
(15) Other	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	254895978	271475409
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)		
1e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e		
1f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	256509815	273157989

Liabilities

1g Benefit claims payable	1g		
1h Operating payables	1h		
1i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
1j Other liabilities	1j	140281076	138157413
1k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	140281076	138157413

Net Assets

1l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	116228739	135000576
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Part II Income and Expense Statement

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

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	5802887	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		5802887
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	121438	
(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)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		121438
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	7514976	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		7514976
(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)		0
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	17376494	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		17376494

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		-42582
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		30773213

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1696850	
(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)		1696850
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		10304526
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		0
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		12001376

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		18771837
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

(1) Name: **WOLF & COMPANY, PC**

(2) EIN: **04-2689883**

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

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

Part IV Compliance Questions

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

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		☒	
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.)		☒	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		☒	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	☒		50000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		☒	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		☒	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	☒		
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)		☒	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		☒	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		☒	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		☒	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

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

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

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

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

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

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2025 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025		
A Name of plan EASTERN BANK EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 EASTERN BANK		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 04-3067724
Part I	Distributions	
All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.		
1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....		1 464061
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): 42-0127290		
Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.		
3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year.....		3
Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)	
4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.		
5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. Date: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.		
6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)		6a
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year		6b
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....		6c
If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.		
7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A		
Part III	Amendments	
9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box..... ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Both ☐ No		
Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.	
10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?		☐ Yes ☒ No
11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?		☐ Yes ☒ No
b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.).....		☐ Yes ☒ No
12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?		☐ Yes ☒ No
For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.		
Schedule R (Form 5500) 2025 v. 250312		

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

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

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer

b EIN

c Dollar amount contributed by employer

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

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

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: ☐ Hourly ☐ Weekly ☐ Unit of production ☐ Other (specify): _____

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

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: ☐ last contributing employer ☐ alternative ☐ reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....

14a

b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....

14b

c The second preceding plan year. ☐ Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....

14c

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

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year.....

15a

b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year.....

15b

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

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

16a

b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers.....

16b

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

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

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

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

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:

Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%

High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:

☐ 0-5 years ☐ 5-10 years ☐ 10-15 years ☐ 15 years or more

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

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

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:

☐ Yes.

☐ No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.

☐ No. Other. Provide explanation.....

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

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

- 21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).

☐ Design-based safe harbor method

☐ "Prior year" ADP test

☐ "Current year" ADP test

☐ N/A

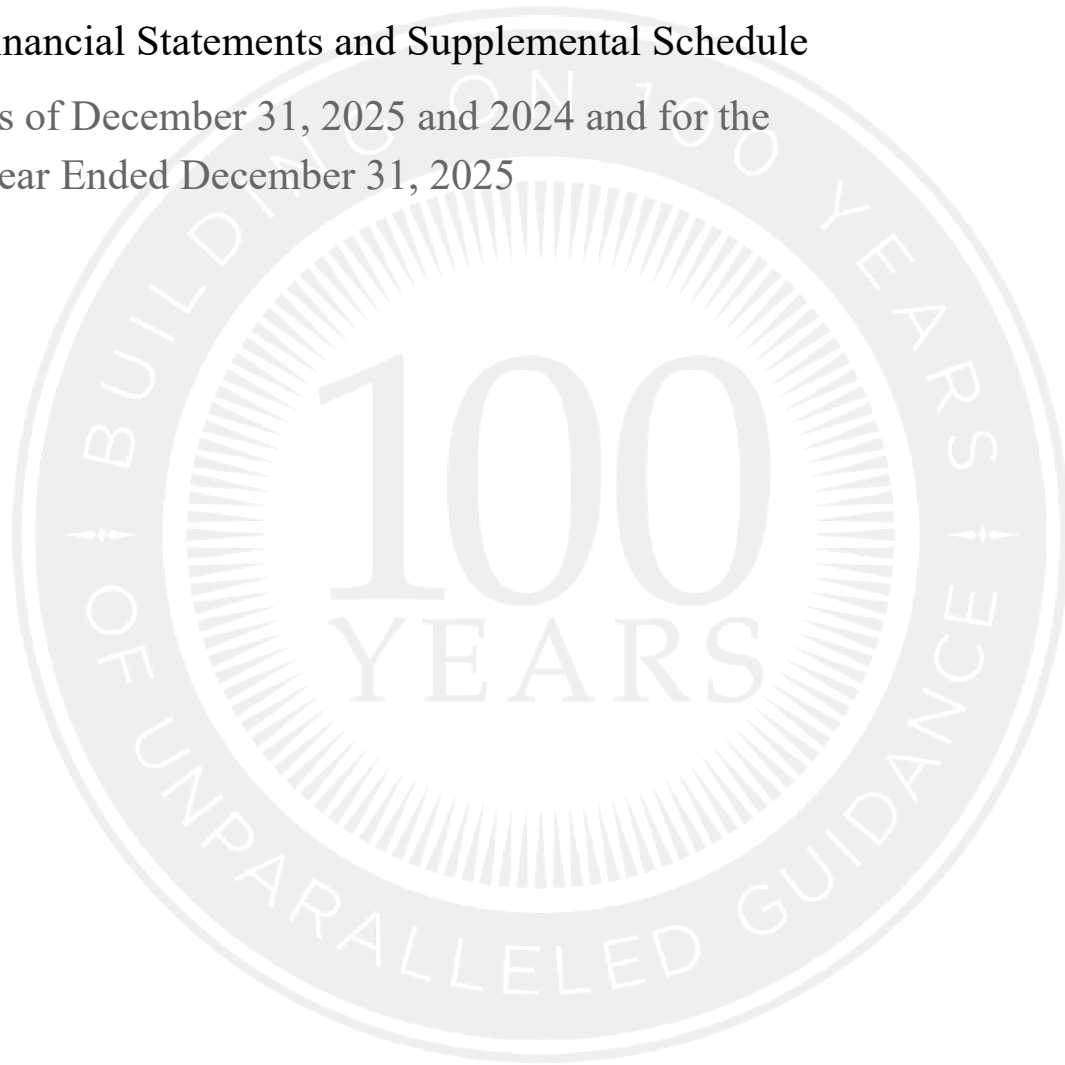
- 22** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter ____/____/____ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number_____.



Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

As of December 31, 2025 and 2024 and for the
Year Ended December 31, 2025



Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

E.I.N. 04-3067724

Plan Number 003

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator of the Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan:

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the Plan), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our 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.

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

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

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.

Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2025 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedule, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedule, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedule is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Wolfe + Company, P.C.

Boston, Massachusetts

June 24, 2026

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025			2024		
	Allocated	Unallocated	Total	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
Assets:						
Cash	\$ -	\$ 1,682,580	\$ 1,682,580	\$ -	\$ 1,613,837	\$ 1,613,837
Investment in common stock of Eastern Bankshares, Inc. at fair value	43,259,808	228,215,601	271,475,409	32,587,214	222,308,764	254,895,978
Total assets	43,259,808	229,898,181	273,157,989	32,587,214	223,922,601	256,509,815
Liabilities:						
Interest payable	-	2,179,374	2,179,374	-	2,502,660	2,502,660
ESOP term loan	-	135,978,039	135,978,039	-	137,778,416	137,778,416
Total liabilities	-	138,157,413	138,157,413	-	140,281,076	140,281,076
Net assets available for benefits	\$ 43,259,808	\$ 91,740,768	\$ 135,000,576	\$ 32,587,214	\$ 83,641,525	\$ 116,228,739

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

Year Ended December 31, 2025

	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
Additions to net assets:			
Employer contributions	\$ -	\$ 5,802,887	\$ 5,802,887
Allocation of 504,632 shares of common stock of Eastern Bankshares, Inc. at fair value	9,300,371	-	9,300,371
Net appreciation in fair value of Eastern Bankshares, Inc. Common Stock	2,126,704	15,207,208	17,333,912
Dividend and interest income	942,369	6,694,045	7,636,414
Total additions	<u>12,369,444</u>	<u>27,704,140</u>	<u>40,073,584</u>
Deductions from net assets:			
Interest expense	-	10,304,526	10,304,526
Allocation of 504,632 shares of common stock of Eastern Bankshares, Inc. at fair value	-	9,300,371	9,300,371
Distributions	<u>1,696,850</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,696,850</u>
Total deductions	<u>1,696,850</u>	<u>19,604,897</u>	<u>21,301,747</u>
Net increase	10,672,594	8,099,243	18,771,837
Net assets available for benefits:			
Beginning of year	<u>32,587,214</u>	<u>83,641,525</u>	<u>116,228,739</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 43,259,808</u>	<u>\$ 91,740,768</u>	<u>\$ 135,000,576</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

As of December 31, 2025 and 2024 and for the Year Ended December 31, 2025

1. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The following brief description of the Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the “Plan”) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan document for more complete information.

General information

Eastern Bank (“the Bank”) established the Plan effective as of January 1, 2020. The Plan operates as a leveraged employee stock ownership plan (“ESOP”) and is designed to comply with Section 4975(e)(7) and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (IRC), and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The Plan is administered by a committee comprised of two or more individuals selected by the Bank (the “Committee”). The Custodian of the Plan is Delaware Charter Guarantee & Trust Company, conducting business as Principal Trust Company (“Principal”).

Eastern Bankshares, Inc., the parent company of Eastern Bank, common stock began trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market on October 15, 2020. On that date, the Plan purchased 14,940,652 shares of Eastern Bankshares, Inc. common stock with a loan of \$149,406,520.

The Plan purchases Eastern Bankshares, Inc. common stock using the proceeds of borrowings and holds the stock in the Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan Trust (the “Trust”) established under the Plan. The borrowing will be repaid over a period of thirty years by fully tax deductible Bank contributions to the Trust.

The borrowing is collateralized by the unallocated shares of common stock. The lender has no rights against shares of common stock once they are allocated to participants in accordance with the terms of the ESOP. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to:

- a. the accounts of employees with rights in allocated common stock (allocated), and
- b. common stock not yet allocated to employees (unallocated).

Eligibility

Employees of Eastern Bankshares, Inc., including its sole subsidiary, Eastern Bank (collectively, “Eastern” or the “Company”) who have attained 21 years of age and completed an Eligibility Year are generally eligible to participate in the Plan.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

An Eligibility Year is defined as an applicable eligibility period in which the eligible employee has completed 1,000 hours of service for the Company, for this purpose: (i) an employee's first "eligibility period" is the 12-consecutive month period beginning on the first day on which the employee has an hour of service, including any years before the effective date of the Plan, and (ii) an employee's subsequent eligibility periods shall commence on each subsequent anniversary of the date on which the employee first performs an hour of service.

Participants who do not have at least 1,000 hours of service during such Plan year or are not employed on the last working day of a Plan year (except upon retirement, death or disability of the participant) are generally not eligible for an allocation of Company contributions for such year.

On November 1, 2025, Eastern completed its acquisition of HarborOne Bancorp, Inc. ("HarborOne"). Former HarborOne employees who met the eligibility requirements and were retained subsequent to the acquisition were permitted to enter in the Plan.

Plan purpose

The purpose of the Plan is to recognize the contribution of effort made by the Company's employees. The Plan is designed to accomplish this without any deductions from participants' compensation and without calling upon them to invest their personal savings. A primary purpose of the Plan is to enable participants to acquire a proprietary interest in the Company. Therefore, the Trust assets held under the Plan are invested primarily in the common stock of Eastern Bankshares, Inc.

All assets acquired under this Plan as a result of borrowings, Company contributions, income and other additions to the Trust are administered, distributed, forfeited and otherwise governed by the provisions of the Plan. The Plan is administered by the Committee for the exclusive benefit of participants in the Plan and their beneficiaries.

Contributions

The Company is obligated to make contributions in cash to the Plan which, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends and interest earnings, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payments of principal and interest due on its term loan. Employee contributions are not permitted.

Benefits

Distributions on account of death, disability, or retirement are made in a lump sum or installments. Distributions for other separations from service are made in a lump sum or installments. The amount to be distributed is based upon the immediately preceding valuation date. Distributions are made in cash or, if a participant elects, in the form of Company common stock plus cash for any fractional share of common stock. Under the provisions of the Plan, the Company is obligated to repurchase participant shares, which have been distributed under the terms of the Plan if the shares are not publicly traded or if the shares are subject to trading limitations.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Administrative expenses

As provided in the Plan agreement, administrative expenses may be paid either by the Plan or by the Company. The Company has historically paid the operating expenses for the Plan.

Voting rights

Each participant is entitled to exercise voting rights attributable to the shares allocated to his or her account and is notified by the Trustee prior to the time that such rights are to be exercised. The Trustee is permitted to vote any share for which instructions have not been given by a participant and any unallocated shares. These shares shall be voted in a manner calculated to most accurately reflect the instructions the Trustee has received from participants regarding voting shares of allocated Company stock.

Participant accounts

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant's account is credited as of the last day of each Plan year with an allocation of shares of the Company's common stock released by the Trustee from the unallocated account and forfeitures of terminated participants' non-vested accounts. Except as otherwise described below, only those participants who are eligible employees of the Company as of the last day of the Plan year will receive an allocation. Allocations are based on a participant's eligible compensation, relative to total eligible compensation. Plan earnings are allocated to each participant's account based on the ratio of the participant's account balance.

Vesting

If a participant's employment with the Company ends for any reason other than retirement, permanent disability or death, they will vest in the balances in their account based on total eligible years of service with the Company. Participants do not vest until they have 3 years of service at which time they become 100% vested.

Diversification

Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in Company stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least age 55 with at least 10 years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a six-year period. In each of the first five years, a participant may diversify up to 25 percent of the number of shares allocated to their account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50 percent. Participants who elect to diversify receive a cash distribution.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Forfeitures

Plan forfeitures are allocated to each participant's account based upon the relation of the participant's eligible compensation to total eligible compensation for the Plan year. Forfeitures allocated to participants during 2025 totaled \$18,999. The amount of forfeited non-vested accounts to be allocated to participant accounts in future years as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, was \$492 and \$22,604, respectively.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of presentation

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

Use of estimates

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

Allocations

The financial statements of the Plan present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to (a) the accounts of employees with rights in allocated stock ("allocated") and (b) stock not yet allocated to employees ("unallocated"), including shares that are committed to be released. Shares are released from collateral and become allocated generally in the period in which debt service is actually paid.

Investment valuation and income recognition

The shares of Company common stock are reported at fair value. See Note 4 for a discussion of the fair value measurements. Dividend income is accrued on the ex-dividend date. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from security transactions are reported on the average cost method. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Payment of benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

3. INVESTMENTS

The Plan's investment in Eastern Bankshares, Inc. common stock is as follows:

	December 31, 2025		December 31, 2024	
	Allocated	Unallocated	Allocated	Unallocated
Number of shares	2,347,249	12,382,832	1,889,114	12,887,465
Cost	\$ 24,217,197	\$ 123,828,324	\$ 19,283,821	\$ 128,874,646
Fair value	\$ 43,259,808	\$ 228,215,601	\$ 32,587,214	\$ 222,308,764

4. 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) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

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

Level 2: Inputs to the valuation methodology include:

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

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

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

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

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

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

Eastern Bankshares, Inc. common stock: Valued at the closing price reported on the NASDAQ Global Select Market (“NASDAQ”) on the last business day of the Plan year.

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

Investments at fair value on a recurring basis

The following table summarizes the valuation of the Plan’s investment measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2025 and 2024:

	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>
<u>December 31, 2024</u>				
Eastern Bankshares, Inc. common stock	<u>\$ 254,895,978</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 254,895,978</u>
<u>December 31, 2025</u>				
Eastern Bankshares, Inc. common stock	<u>\$ 271,475,409</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 271,475,409</u>

5. ESOP TERM LOAN

On October 15, 2020, the Plan entered into a \$149,406,520 ESOP Term Loan Agreement with Eastern Bankshares, Inc. The proceeds of the loan were used to purchase Company common stock. Unallocated shares are collateral for the loan. Shares are released from collateral and allocated to participants as payments of principal and interest are made. The number of shares released in any year is the number of shares held as collateral, times the ratio of the current year payments divided by the total of the year's payments, plus all future years’ principal and interest payments. This resulted in 504,632 shares being released and allocated for the plan year ended December 31, 2025.

The loan has a maturity date of October 14, 2050 and provides for the loan to be repaid in thirty annual installments beginning October 15, 2021. Interest is charged based on the Wall Street Journal Prime interest rate on the closing date of the loan and adjusted on the first day of any succeeding calendar year. The interest rate at December 31, 2025 was 7.50%.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

Following is a summary of the remaining principal balance on the debt owed at December 31, 2025:

<u>Years Ending December 31,</u>	<u>Amount</u>
2026	\$ 2,000,328
2027	2,150,353
2028	2,311,629
2029	2,485,002
2030	2,671,377
Thereafter	<u>124,359,350</u>
	<u>\$ 135,978,039</u>

6. INCOME TAXES

The Bank intends this Plan to be a tax-qualified employee stock ownership plan within the meaning of Section 407(d)(6) of ERISA and Sections 409 and 4975(e)(7) of the IRC. The Plan has received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”) dated July 22, 2021, stating that the Plan is qualified, under the IRC and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The Plan administrator believes that the Plan is currently designed, and being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, no provision for income taxes is included in the Plan’s financial statements.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS or the U.S. Department of Labor (“DOL”). The Plan’s administrator, Eastern Bank, has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, there are no uncertain tax positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability 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. The Plan Administrator believes it is no longer subject to examinations for years prior to December 31, 2022.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

7. PLAN TERMINATION

The Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon such termination of the Plan, the interest of each participant in the Trust will become fully vested and non-forfeitable and will be distributed to such participant or their beneficiary under terms prescribed by the Plan. Upon termination of the Plan, the Committee directs the Trustee to pay all liabilities and expenses of the ESOP and to sell shares of financed common stock held as collateral to the extent it determines such sale to be necessary in order to repay the loan. Subsequently, the interest of each participant in the trust fund will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the IRC.

8. RISK AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan investments consist primarily of the Company's common stock, which is exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with the investment in the common stock and to uncertainties inherent in estimates and assumptions, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the value of the common stock will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

9. PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

The Plan invests in Company common stock and has indebtedness guaranteed by the Company. These are related party and party in interest transactions. As described in Note 1, the Company pays all plan expenses. The Plan has a number of service providers. Such providers are parties in interest under ERISA.

At December 31, 2025, the Plan held 14,730,081 shares of common stock of the Company, with a cost basis of \$148,045,521. During 2025, the following transactions occurred involving the Company common stock: (i) dividend income of \$7,514,977 was recognized, (ii) 55,932 shares of Company stock were reinvested with a fair value of \$942,369, (iii) 28,494 shares of Company common stock were distributed to participants with a fair value of \$464,061, and (iv) 73,934 shares of Company common stock were sold with a fair value of \$1,232,789. Such transactions are permitted under ERISA.

10. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Plan has evaluated events subsequent to June 24, 2026, the date these financial statements were available to be issued, and has determined there are no material subsequent events requiring adjustment to or disclosure in the financial statements.

Eastern Bank Employee Stock Ownership Plan

E.I.N. 04-3067724

Plan Number 003

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

December 31, 2025

<u>a</u>	<u>b</u>	<u>c</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>e</u>
	Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	Description of investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	Cost	Current value
*	Eastern Bankshares, Inc.	14,730,081 shares of common stock, \$0.01 par value	\$ 148,045,521	\$ 271,475,409
		Total investments	<u>\$ 148,045,521</u>	<u>\$ 271,475,409</u>

* Party in interest to the Plan.

There were no investment assets which were both acquired and disposed of during the plan year.

See independent auditor's report.

SCHEDULE H, line 4j - SCHEDULE OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS

E B E S O P

EIN 04 3067724
PLAN NUMBER 003
PLAN YEAR 01/01/2025 TO 12/31/2025

DESCRIPTION OF ASSET	(A) Total Number of Purchases	(B) Total Number of Sales	(C) Total Value of Purchases	(D) Total Value of Sales	(E) Net Gain/(Loss)
Employer Security EASTERN BANKSHARES STOCK	26		\$ 10,404,807.04		\$ 0.00
Employer Security EASTERN BANKSHARES STOCK		134		\$ 1,859,126.77	\$ 43,494.49-

* Schedule is prepared using the alternative way of reporting (iii) series transactions under DOL Regulation 2520.103-6(d)(2).

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

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

E B E S O P

EIN 04 3067724
PLAN NUMBER 003
PLAN YEAR 01/01/2025 TO 12/31/2025

(A)	(B) Identity of issuer, 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
	Eastern Bank	Interest Bearing Cash Eastern Bankshares ESOP Cash	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,682,579.51
*		Employer Security EASTERN BANKSHARES STOCK	\$ 40,666,476.37	\$271,475,408.97

