

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 MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
1c	Effective date of plan 03/01/1997
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) MERIT CRO, INC. 6527 NORMANDY LANE #100 MADISON, WI 53719-1106
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 81-1264583
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 319-329-5927
2d	Business code (see instructions) 518210

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.	07/13/2026	MICHELLE WALLACE
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	07/13/2026	MICHELLE WALLACE
	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	5 144
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) 117 6a(2) 163 6b 0 6c 23 6d 186 6e 0 6f 186 6g(1) 121 6g(2) 148 6h 0
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:

2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 2T 3D

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan 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 1
- (4)** ☒ **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5)** ☒ **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6)** ☐ **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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

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

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

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

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 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 A (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Insurance 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. ▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).	OMB No. 1210-0110 2025 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025		
A Name of plan MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIT CRO, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 81-1264583	

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.
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1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
42-0127290	61271	539605	186	01/01/2025	12/31/2025

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
0	0

3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	0
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end	5	16684

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:**a** State the basis of premium rates ▶**b** Premiums paid to carrier**6b****c** Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year**6c****d** If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount.**6d**

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 ☐**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 ▶**b** Balance at the end of the previous year**7b****c** Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year**7c(1)**

(2) Dividends and credits

7c(2)

(3) Interest credited during the year

7c(3)

(4) Transferred from separate account

7c(4)

(5) Other (specify below)

7c(5)

▶

(6) Total additions

7c(6)**d** Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**)**7d****e Deductions:**

(1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year

7e(1)

(2) Administration charge made by carrier

7e(2)

(3) Transferred to separate account

7e(3)

(4) Other (specify below)

7e(4)

▶

(5) Total deductions

7e(5)**f** Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**)**7f****0**

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information

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

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

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

9 Experience-rated contracts:

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

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

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

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

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

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

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) 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 MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIT CRO, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 81-1264583	

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

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)

PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

42-0127290

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
13 37 50 64	CONTRACT ADMINISTRATOR	36982	Yes ☒ No ☐	Yes ☒ No ☐	0	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
(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

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration	DFE/Participating Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2025 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025		
A Name of plan MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIT CRO, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 81-1264583	

Part I	Information on interests in MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs (to be completed by plans and DFEs) (Complete as many entries as needed to report all interests in DFEs)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	PRIN REAL ESTATE SECS SA-Z
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
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c EIN-PN 42-0127290-095	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 10872
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	PRINCIPAL DIV REAL ASSET SA-Z
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
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c EIN-PN 42-0127290-123	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 5812
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	PRINCIPAL STABLE VALUE Z FUND
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO
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c EIN-PN 93-6274328-001	d Entity code C	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 148667
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	
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c EIN-PN	d Entity code	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions)
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a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE:	
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b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	
--	--

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

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

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**b** Name of
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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 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 MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIT CRO, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 81-1264583

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)		
(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)	700	590
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	86121	148667
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	10290	16684
(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)	6189058	8271861
(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)		
(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	6286169	8437802

Liabilities

1g Benefit claims payable	1g		
1h Operating payables	1h		
1i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
1j Other liabilities	1j		
1k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	0	0

Net Assets

1l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	6286169	8437802
--	-----------	---------	---------

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)	399567	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	918052	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	40314	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		1357933
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	241	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		241
(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)	104441	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		104441
(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)		
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		0

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		4186
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		699
(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)		1118696
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		2586196

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	395678	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other	2e(3)	1902	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		397580
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	36983	
(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)		36983
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		434563

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		2151633
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: VRAKAS, S.C.

(2) EIN: 39-1453055

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?	☒		1000000
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 MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 MERIT CRO, INC.		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 81-1264583
Part I	Distributions	
All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.		
1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....		1 0
2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): 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 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702477A.

MERIT CRO 401(K) PLAN

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND ERISA-REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024
WITH INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**



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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Plan Administrator
Merit CRO 401(k) Plan

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2025 Financial Statements

We have performed an audit of the accompanying financial statements of Merit CRO 401(k) Plan ("the plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) ("ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit"). The financial statements comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2025, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statement ("2025 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 ("DOL")'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 DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA ("qualified institution").

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2025 and 2024 and for the year ended December 31, 2025, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 6 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the 2025 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and the procedures performed as described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2025 Financial Statements section,

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 2025 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP").
- the information in the accompanying 2025 financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion on the 2025 Financial Statements

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2025 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 2025 Financial Statements

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

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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2025 Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2025 Financial Statement section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

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

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the 2025 financial statements and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of GAAP.

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

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

ERISA-Required Supplementary Information

The supplemental 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 DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and is derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the 2025 financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion,

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

Report on the 2024 Financial Statement

Plan management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the accompanying 2024 financial statement of the plan, which comprise the statement of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and the related notes to the financial statement, in accordance with GAAP. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the 2024 financial statement nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the 2024 financial statement.



Brookfield, Wisconsin
June 24, 2026

Merit CRO 401(k) Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(2024 compiled - see independent auditors' report)

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
INVESTMENTS AT FAIR VALUE		
Common/collective trust	\$ 148,667	\$ 86,121
Pooled separate accounts	16,684	10,290
Mutual funds	8,271,861	6,189,058
	<u>8,437,212</u>	<u>6,285,469</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENTS AT FAIR VALUE	8,437,212	6,285,469
NOTES RECEIVABLE FROM PARTICIPANTS	<u>590</u>	<u>700</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u><u>\$ 8,437,802</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 6,286,169</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these statements.

Merit CRO 401(k) Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO

Employee elective deferral contributions	\$ 918,052
Employee rollover contributions	40,314
Employer safe harbor matching contributions	399,567
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	1,123,581
Dividends from investments	104,441
Interest income on notes receivables from participants	241

TOTAL ADDITIONS	2,586,196
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DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO

Benefits to participants	397,580
Administrative expenses	36,983

TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	434,563
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NET CHANGES	2,151,633
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NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

Beginning of year	6,286,169
End of year	\$ 8,437,802

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Merit CRO 401(K) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(2024 compiled - see independent auditors' report)

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Method of accounting - The Merit CRO 401(k) Plan ("the plan") follows the accrual method of accounting wherein additions and deductions are reflected in the period earned or incurred.

Accounting estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP") requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Subsequent events - The financial statements include management's evaluation of the events and transactions occurring subsequent to December 31, 2025 through June 24, 2026, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

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

Key parties of the plan - Merit CRO, Inc. is the plan sponsor, employer and the plan administrator. Delaware Charter Guarantee and Trust Company d/b/a Principal Trust Company ("Principal Trust") is the plan trustee. Principal Trust also holds custody of the plan's investment assets, including insurance products made available through Principal Life Insurance Company under a trust agreement between Principal Trust and Principal Life Insurance Company. The two Principal entities are collectively referred to as "Principal". Principal serves as the recordkeeper that maintains participant records, third party administrator that maintains plan documents, and tax counsel that performs various compliance tests. HUB Retirement and Wealth Management is the plan's investment advisor.

Investments - The plan sponsor determines investments available to plan participants. The participants allocate their contributions and transfer existing balances among the available investment options. Earnings on investments bought, sold and held during the year is reflected in the accompanying statement of changes in net assets available for benefits. Participants should refer to the investment account summaries and prospectuses for more information.

Fair value measurements - GAAP establishes a framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical investments (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described as follows.

- Level 1 - Valuation is based upon quoted prices in active markets for identical investments.
- Level 2 - Valuation is based upon other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar investments).
- Level 3 - Valuation is based upon significant unobservable inputs (including the plan's assumptions in determining the fair value of investments).

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

Mutual funds - Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the funds. The mutual funds held by the plan are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, are required to publish their daily net asset value ("NAV") and are deemed to be actively traded.

Merit CRO 401(K) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(2024 compiled - see independent auditors' report)

Common/collective trust and pooled separate accounts - Valued at the NAV based on units of the common/collective trust and pooled separate accounts and are direct filing entities. The NAV is generally based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the common/collective trust and pooled separate accounts less their liabilities. The NAV is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the common/collective trust and pooled separate accounts will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV.

The plan administrator determines by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the plan's investments at fair value as set forth below.

Investments at fair value as of December 31, 2025

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$8,271,861	\$ -	\$ -	\$8,271,861
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	\$8,271,861	\$ -	\$ -	8,271,861
Investments measured at NAV (a)				165,351
Total investments at fair value				\$8,437,212

Investments at fair value as of December 31, 2024

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	\$6,189,058	\$ -	\$ -	\$6,189,058
Total investments in the fair value hierarchy	\$6,189,058	\$ -	\$ -	6,189,058
Investments measured at NAV (a)				96,411
Total investments at fair value				\$6,285,469

- (a) In accordance with GAAP, certain investments that are measured at NAV have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in the above table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the line items presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

The following table summarizes investments for which fair value is measured using NAV. There are no participant redemption restrictions for these investments; the redemption notice period, if any, is applicable only to the plan.

December 31, 2025	Fair value	Unfunded commitments	Redemption frequency	Redemption notice period
Common/collective trust	\$148,667	n/a	Daily	n/a
Pooled separate accounts	16,684	n/a	Daily	n/a
December 31, 2024	Fair value	Unfunded commitments	Redemption frequency	Redemption notice period
Common/collective trust	\$86,121	n/a	Daily	n/a
Pooled separate accounts	10,290	n/a	Daily	n/a

Merit CRO 401(K) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(2024 compiled - see independent auditors' report)

2. DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following brief description of the plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the plan documents for a more complete description of the plan's provisions.

General - The plan was adopted effective March 1, 1997 as a defined contribution plan with a 401(k) salary deferral arrangement. It is subject to provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA") and subsequent amendments.

Eligibility - Employees are immediately eligible for the plan upon hire as long as they have reached age eighteen. An employee will be allowed to enter the plan on the first day of the month immediately following the date the plan's eligibility requirements are met.

Contributions - Contributions are recorded in the year in which the eligible compensation is paid. Contributions to the plan can be made in the following ways:

- a. Participants may contribute a percentage of their compensation subject to certain limitations (elective deferral contributions). The plan also permits Roth elective deferral contributions.
- b. Rollover contributions are accepted by the plan from other qualified plans.
- c. Safe harbor matching contributions are made equal to 100% of the first 3% of eligible compensation that a participant contributes to the plan and 50% of the next 2% of eligible compensation that a participant contributes to the plan. Such contributions are remitted to the plan coinciding with each payroll.
- d. In addition, nonelective and matching contributions may be made at the employer's discretion on an annual basis. There were no such contributions in 2025.

Participant accounts - Earnings, including the fair value appreciation (depreciation), are allocated to participant accounts on a daily basis based upon the performance of the investment options selected. Each participant's account is credited with the participant's elective deferral and rollover contributions and an allocation of the employer's contributions. Participants are allowed to change their investment options on a daily basis and change their deferral percentage each pay period.

Vesting - Participants are always 100% vested in their elective deferral contributions, rollover contributions, safe harbor matching contributions and related earnings. Participants begin vesting in employer discretionary contributions and related earnings upon two full years of service, at which time they are 20% vested. The participant then vests at the rate of 20% for each year thereafter. Upon death, disability or attainment of normal retirement age (defined as 65) while employed, participants become 100% vested.

Payment of benefits - Benefits are recorded when paid. Benefit payments may commence upon termination of employment, death, disability or attainment of normal retirement age. Distributions may be made in the form of a single lump sum or installment payments. In-service withdrawal can commence upon attaining the age of 59½. Hardship withdrawals are permitted under the plan in certain circumstances.

Administrative expenses - Certain administrative fees of the plan are paid by the employer. Certain other fees are paid by the plan using plan assets and recorded as administrative expenses in the accompanying financial statements. Such expenses include participant directed charges for distribution and loan fees and nonparticipant directed charges for services and administration fees. Nonparticipant directed fees are allocated to participants on an account value basis.

Forfeitures - Forfeited nonvested accounts may be used to reduce the amount of the employer contributions or pay plan fees. Forfeiture activity is insignificant.

Merit CRO 401(K) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(2024 compiled - see independent auditors' report)

Notes receivable from participants - Participants can take out loans against their accounts with the approval of the plan administrator. The minimum loan amount is \$1,000. Participants may not have more than one loan outstanding at any given time. The repayment term generally cannot exceed 5 years except when the loan is for the purchase of a principal residence. As of December 31, 2025, the notes receivable from participants had various repayment schedules through July 2028 with interest rates at 9.50% to 10.25%. The notes receivable from participants are valued at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest, which approximates fair value.

3. PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain plan investments are managed by Principal. Principal holds custody of plan investment assets and executes investment transactions and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

The plan has an administrative service agreement with Principal in which Principal provides certain administrative services to the plan. Principal receives revenue from mutual fund providers for services Principal provides to the funds. The revenue is used to offset certain amounts that would have otherwise been owed to Principal for its administrative services to the plan. The plan pays Principal direct for certain other service fees that are not covered by the revenue sharing provisions per the administrative service agreement. Direct fees paid were \$37,000 in 2025.

Activity related to notes receivable from participants also qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

All of these party-in-interest transactions are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules of ERISA.

4. TERMINATION OF PLAN

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the plan sponsor has the right to terminate the plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in their discretionary employer contributions and related earnings.

5. INCOME TAX STATUS

The plan is operating under a Principal Financial Group Non-Standardized Pre-Approved Profit Sharing Plan, which received a favorable opinion letter on June 30, 2020. The opinion letter received from the Internal Revenue Service stated that the plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. The plan administrator has not obtained a separate Internal Revenue Service opinion or determination letter for the plan, however, the plan administrator and tax counsel believe that the plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, and, therefore, believes the plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax-exempt.

GAAP requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize tax liabilities (or assets) if the plan has taken any uncertain positions that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the applicable authorities. Plan management analyzed the requirements for accounting for uncertain positions taken and determined that the plan was not required to recognize any tax liabilities (or assets) related to uncertain positions taken as of December 31, 2025 and 2024. The plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits in progress.

Merit CRO 401(K) Plan
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
(2024 compiled - see independent auditors' report)

6. INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY PRINCIPAL

Management has obtained certifications from Principal, a qualified institution under the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, that state the following information with respect to assets held for investment of the plan is complete and accurate.

- a. Investments held, and the fair values of such, and notes receivable from participants as of December 31, 2025 and 2024;
- b. Dividends from investments, net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments and interest income on notes receivable from participants during 2025 and
- c. Contributions to, withdrawals from, administrative expenses, purchases, sales and inter-fund transfers between accounts during 2025.

ERISA-REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Merit CRO 401(k) Plan

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

Employer ID No: 81-1264583 Plan No: 001

As of December 31, 2025

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
	Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor, or similar party	Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	Cost	Current value
		Common/collective trust		
*	Principal	Stable Value	**	\$ 148,667
		Pooled separate accounts		
*	Principal	Real Estate Securities Separate Account	**	10,872
*	Principal	Diversified Real Asset Separate Account	**	5,812
		Mutual funds		
	Baird	Core Plus Bond Fund	**	134,711
	Pimco	Income Institutional Fund	**	82,313
	American Funds	2010 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	504
	American Funds	2015 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	337
	American Funds	2020 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	28,340
	American Funds	2025 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	462,285
	American Funds	2030 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	362,219
	American Funds	2035 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	302,069
	American Funds	2040 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	1,699,369
	American Funds	2045 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	629,734
	American Funds	2050 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	1,034,016
	American Funds	2055 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	563,832
	American Funds	2060 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	397,679
	American Funds	2065 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	150,011
	American Funds	2070 Target Date Retirement Fund	**	2,208
	AllianceBernstein	Large Cap Growth Fund	**	318,140
	Fidelity	500 Index Fund	**	1,727,180
	Putnam	Large Cap Value Fund	**	6,916
	Fidelity	Mid Cap Index Fund	**	137,107
	Fidelity	Small Cap Index Fund	**	61,302
	Fidelity	International Index Fund	**	171,589
*	Participants	Notes receivable from participants - various repayment schedules through July 2028 with interest rates from 9.50% to 10.25%	-	590

This schedule was prepared from information certified by Delaware Charter Guarantee and Trust Company d/b/a Principal Trust Company ("Principal").

* Party-in-interest

** The cost information is omitted because the plan is an individual account plan where the participants or beneficiaries direct the investment of the assets allocated to their accounts.

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

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

MERIT CR0 401() P

EIN 81 1264583

PLAN NUMBER 001

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
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2020 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 28,340.09
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2025 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 462,285.39
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2030 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 362,218.74
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2035 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 302,069.01
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2040 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,699,368.65
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2045 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 629,734.03
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2050 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,034,015.85
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2055 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 563,832.38
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2060 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 397,678.51
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company Am Fds 2065 Trgt Dte Rtm R6 Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 150,010.94
	Alliance Bernstein	Registered Investment Company AB Large Cap Growth Z Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 318,139.56
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company AM FDS 2010 TRGT DTE RTM R6 FD	\$ 0.00	\$ 503.63
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company AM FDS 2015 TRGT DTE RTM R6 FD	\$ 0.00	\$ 336.61
	American Funds Service Company	Registered Investment Company AM FDS 2070 TRGT DTE RTM R6 FD	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,208.05
	Baird	Registered Investment Company Baird Core Plus Bond I Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 134,710.69

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

MERIT CR0 401() P

EIN 81 1264583

PLAN NUMBER 001

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
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity International Idx Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 171,591.18
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity Mid Cp Index Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 137,106.89
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity Sm Cap Index Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 61,301.97
	Fidelity Investments	Registered Investment Company Fidelity 500 Index Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,727,179.64
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Prin Real Estate Secs SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 10,872.22
*	Principal Life Insurance Company	Pooled Separate Accounts Principal Div Real Asset SA-Z	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,812.12
*	Principal Global Investors Trust Co	Common/Collective Trust Principal Stable Value Z Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 148,667.00
	Putnam Investments	Registered Investment Company Putnam Large Cap Value R6 Fund	\$ 0.00	\$ 6,916.29
	PIMCO Funds	Registered Investment Company PIMCO Income Institutional Fd	\$ 0.00	\$ 82,312.82
*	Participant Loans	Range of Interest Rates Rates Range From 9.50% To 10.25%	\$ 0.00	\$ 590.00