

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
--	---	---

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) _____
B	This return/report is: ☐ the first return/report ☐ the final return/report ☐ an amended return/report ☐ a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
C	If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here. ▶ ☐
D	Check box if filing under: ☒ Form 5558 ☐ automatic extension ☐ the DFVC program ☐ special extension (enter description)
E	If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here. ▶ ☐

Part II	Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information
1a	Name of plan HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
1c	Effective date of plan 08/15/2006
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) HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. 1 NORTH B STREET, SUITE 2000 SAN MATEO, CA 94401
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-3113410
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 650-289-3066
2d	Business code (see instructions) 522294

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.	08/24/2026	SETH MEYER
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of employer/plan sponsor	Date	Enter name of individual signing as employer or plan sponsor
SIGN HERE			
	Signature of DFE	Date	Enter name of individual signing as DFE

3a Plan administrator's name and address ☒ 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	5 152
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) 115 6a(2) 126 6b 0 6c 53 6d 179 6e 0 6f 179 6g(1) 150 6g(2) 169 6h 1
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
---	---

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

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

b General Schedules

- (1) ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) ☐ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
- (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 HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HERCULES CAPITAL, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-3113410	

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

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

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

- a** Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions).. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- b** If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(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)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

245 SUMMER STREET
BOSTON, MA 02210

04-2647786

(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?
37 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	27422	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
(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 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 HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HERCULES CAPITAL, INC.	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-3113410	

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)	2327	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	2327	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	2028008	2620708
(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)	125504	122616
(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)	30706064	40289453
(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)	55193	0
(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	32919423	43032777

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	32919423	43032777
--	-----------	----------	----------

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)	2282691	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2953985	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	153238	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		5389914
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	87052	
(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)	9377	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		96429
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	2564	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	1002260	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		1004824
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	54422	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	57756	
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		-3334
(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)		
(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)		4698205
c Other income	2c		
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		11186038

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	1044988	
(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)		1044988
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		
h Interest expense	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)		
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)	27422	
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	274	
(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)		27696
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		1072684

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		10113354
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: GRAY, GRAY & GRAY LLP

(2) EIN: 04-2088368

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 HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 HERCULES CAPITAL, INC.		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 74-3113410
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): 65-0708495		
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 Q702438A.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

Financial Statements and Supplemental Schedule
With Independent Auditor's Report

December 31, 2025

g³ r a y[™]

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT	1
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS.....	5
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	6
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	7
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE	
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(i) – SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR).....	15

Note: Other schedules required by Section 2520.103-10 of the Department of Labor’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) have been omitted because they are not applicable.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees
Hercules Capital, Inc. Retirement Savings 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 **Hercules Capital, Inc. Retirement Savings Plan**, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2025, 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.

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

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2025, and for the year ended December 31, 2025, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the 2025 Financial Statements

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

- The amounts and disclosures in the financial statements referred to above, other than those agreed to, or derived from, the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- The information in the financial statements referred to above 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. 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 **Hercules Capital, Inc. Retirement Savings 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 on the 2025 financial statements.

Responsibilities of Management for the 2025 Financial Statements

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

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2025 Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards 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 generally accepted auditing standards, 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 **Hercules Capital, Inc. Retirement Savings Plan's** internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about **Hercules Capital, Inc. Retirement Savings Plan's** ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

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

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

Other Matters

2025 Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

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 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 included in the supplemental schedule, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. 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, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion—

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

Auditor's Report on the 2024 Financial Statements

We have audited the 2024 financial statements, and in our report dated June 26, 2025, we expressed an unmodified opinion on those 2024 financial statements.

GRAY, GRAY & GRAY, LLP

Gray, Gray & Gray, LLP

Canton, MA
August 11, 2026

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
ASSETS		
Investments, at fair value		
Hercules Capital, Inc. common stock	\$ -	\$ 55,193
Mutual funds	<u>42,910,161</u>	<u>32,734,072</u>
TOTAL INVESTMENTS, AT FAIR VALUE	<u>42,910,161</u>	<u>32,789,265</u>
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	122,616	125,504
Participant contributions receivables	-	2,327
Employer contributions receivables	<u>-</u>	<u>2,327</u>
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	<u>122,616</u>	<u>130,158</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u><u>\$ 43,032,777</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 32,919,423</u></u>

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

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
Year Ended December 31, 2025

ADDITIONS

Additions to net assets attributed to:

Investment income

Net appreciation in fair value of investments \$ 4,694,871

Interest and dividend income 1,091,876

TOTAL INVESTMENT INCOME 5,786,747

Interest earned on notes receivable from participants 9,377

Contributions

Participant contributions 2,468,860

Employer contributions 2,282,691

Participant rollover contributions 638,363

TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS 5,389,914

TOTAL ADDITIONS 11,186,038

DEDUCTIONS

Deductions from net assets attributed to:

Benefit payments to participants 1,044,988

Administrative expenses 27,696

TOTAL DEDUCTIONS 1,072,684

NET INCREASE 10,113,354

NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS:

Beginning of year 32,919,423

End of year \$ 43,032,777

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

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of Hercules Capital, Inc. Retirement Savings Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan Agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General: The Plan is a defined contribution plan sponsored by Hercules Capital, Inc. (the "Company"). The Plan is a single-employer plan and exists for the exclusive benefit of its eligible employees who are at least twenty-one years of age and have completed six months of service to the Company. The Plan was formed effective August 15, 2006. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a complete description. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA").

Entrance Date: An employee is eligible to enter the Plan immediately following completion of the eligibility requirements.

Contributions: Each year, participants may contribute from 1% up to 80% of their annual compensation, as defined by the Plan. Participants who have attained the age of 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants may also contribute rollover amounts from other qualified plans. After satisfying the Plan's eligibility and entry requirements, a participant is automatically enrolled at 3%, with no automatic increase thereafter. Participants may designate a portion, or all, of their deferred contributions as Roth contributions.

Effective January 1, 2025, the Plan adopted the "super catch-up" contribution provisions of the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022. Participants between the ages of 60 and 63 are permitted to make elevated catch-up contributions up to the statutory limit of \$11,250 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

Effective February 1, 2025, the Plan also permits participants to make voluntary, non-deductible, after-tax employee contributions.

The Plan allows the Plan Sponsor to make matching contributions to the Plan. The contributions are discretionary as determined by the Company's board of directors. The matching contributions are based on a percentage of the participant's compensation that is contributed to the Plan. For the year ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, the Company matched 100% up to 25%, with a dollar limit of \$23,000.

The Plan also allows for the Plan Sponsor to make non-elective profit-sharing contributions to the Plan. These contributions are permitted at the discretion of the Board of Directors in accordance with the Plan. Participants must be employed on the last day of the year to be eligible for such contributions. For the year ended December 31, 2025, there were no non-elective contributions made to the Plan.

Forfeitures: Forfeited balances from terminated participants' accounts are used to first reduce Plan expenses, then if amounts remain, can be used to reduce employer contributions, and finally, if amounts still remain, can be used as a non-elective contribution. Forfeitures available for future use amounted to \$592 and \$49 at December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1: DESCRIPTION OF PLAN (CONTINUED)

Participant Accounts: Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Plan Sponsor's contributions, if any, and (b) Plan earnings. Allocations are based on participant's qualified compensation or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan. The Company's stock is an investment option under the Plan. The investment is not unitized; participants' accounts are credited with actual shares of the Company's common stock. Dividends paid on the stock are allocated to participants based on the number of shares held.

Notes Receivable from Participants: Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of \$1,000 up to a maximum of \$50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance, whichever is less. All loans are to be repaid over a period not to exceed five years, although an extension of the repayment period may be granted if the loan proceeds are used to purchase a participant's principal residence. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at the local prevailing rates charged by commercial lending institutions in the region in which the employer is located for comparable loans as determined by the Plan Administrator at the time the loan is approved. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions. Should the participant terminate as an employee, the balance of the outstanding loan becomes due and payable, and the participant's vested account will be used to pay the outstanding loan.

Vesting: Participants are immediately vested in their voluntary contributions and actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the Company's contributions is based on years of service. A participant is 100% vested after one year of credited service.

Payment of Benefits: On termination of service due to death, disability or retirement, a participant may elect to (a) receive a lump-sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, (b) elect to have the benefits paid in the form of a direct rollover to an individual retirement account or (c) elect to have the benefit paid to another qualified retirement plan described in Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Service. Withdrawals other than for termination are permitted under certain circumstances provided by the Plan. Benefits are recorded when paid.

Plan Termination: Although they have not expressed any intent to do so, the Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan at any time.

NOTE 2: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting: The financial statements of the Plan are prepared under the accrual method of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). The financial statements and supplemental schedule have been prepared to satisfy the reporting and disclosure requirements of ERISA.

Contributions: Contributions from Plan participants and the matching contributions from the Plan Sponsor are recorded in the year in which the employee contributions are withheld from compensation.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 2: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Payment of Benefits: Benefit payments to participants are recorded when paid.

Use of Estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States requires the Plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition: Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan's management determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisers, trustees, and other parties involved with the Plan. See Note 8 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

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

Risks and Uncertainties: The Plan utilizes various investment instruments. Investment securities, in general, are exposed to various risks such as interest rates, credit, and overall market volatility. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances, and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Uncertain Tax Positions: GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more-likely-than-not would not be sustained upon examination. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2025, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan Administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2022.

NOTE 3: PARTICIPANT-DIRECTED INVESTMENTS

Participant contributions held in the Plan are participant-directed accounts. That is, individual participants decide how funds held in trust for them are allocated among various investment options.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 4: TRANSACTIONS WITH PARTIES-IN-INTEREST

Certain Plan investments were shares of registered investment companies managed and held by Fidelity Investments ("Custodian" or "Fidelity"). Sentinel provided certain accounting and administrative services to the Plan for which the fees were charged to the Plan. Fidelity also provided broker related services to the Plan for which commissions were charged to the Plan.

Plan investments are managed by Fidelity Management Trust Company and held by Fidelity Investments. Fidelity Investments, under terms of an investment contract, serves as the Custodian and holds all the Plan's investment assets and executes transactions therein. Fidelity is the Custodian as defined by the Plan and, therefore, the related transactions qualify as party-in-interest.

Fidelity Management Trust Company provides certain accounting and administrative services to the Plan in exchange for fees charged to the Plan. Fidelity Management Trust Company also provides broker related services to the Plan for which commissions are charged to the Plan.

The Plan was charged fees related to maintaining custody of the Plan's assets and various Plan management services which amounted to approximately \$27,700 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

The Company provides certain accounting and administrative services to the Plan for no fee.

Participants may invest in the Company's common stock. Participants are subject to restrictions on trading during blackout periods and other reporting requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The ability to invest in the Company's common stock was discontinued as of August 1, 2025.

At December 31, 2025, the Plan held 0 shares of the Hercules Capital, Inc. common stock. At December 31, 2024, the Plan held 2,694.185 shares of Hercules Capital, Inc., common stock, with a fair value of \$54,126 or \$20.09 per share. Additionally, there is \$1,066 in a money market fund to account for partial shares of the Company's common stock as of December 31, 2024. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Plan received dividend income of \$3,691 from the Hercules Capital, Inc. common stock. The investment of the Plan in the Company's common stock is considered a party-in-interest transaction.

All of these transactions are exempt from the prohibited transaction rules.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 5: TAX STATUS

The Plan has received a favorable opinion letter from the Internal Revenue Service dated June 30, 2020, stating the Plan is qualified under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"). Although the Plan has not been issued an individual determination letter and has been amended since receiving the opinion letter, the Plan Administrator believes the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

NOTE 6: ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Administrative expenses paid from the Plan represent fees relating to the Plan which amounted to \$27,696 for the year ended December 31, 2025.

NOTE 7: CERTIFICATION OF QUALIFIED INSTITUTION

The Plan Administrator has elected the method of annual reporting compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's ("DOL") Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Accordingly, Fidelity Management Trust Company, the Trustee, has certified that the following data included in the accompanying financial statements and supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) are complete and accurate.

	<u>December 31,</u> 2025
Mutual funds	\$ 42,910,161
Notes receivable from participants	\$ 122,616
	<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u> 2025
Interest and dividend income	\$ 1,091,876
Interest earned on notes receivable from participants	\$ 9,377
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	\$ 4,694,871

The Plan's independent auditors did not perform auditing procedures with respect to this information, except for comparing such information to the related information included in the financial statements and supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year).

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 8: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under the Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification 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 can access at the measurement date.

Level 2 - inputs other than quoted market prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, such as:

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

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

Level 3 - inputs that are unobservable for the asset or liability.

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

The following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There has been no change in the methodologies used at December 31, 2025 and 2024.

Mutual Funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-ended mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value ("NAV") and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Hercules Capital, Inc. Common Stock: Valued at fair value based upon the closing price reported in an active market where such shares are traded.

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 8: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (CONTINUED)

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

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

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

2025				
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Mutual funds	\$ 42,910,161	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,910,161
Total investments, at fair value	<u>\$ 42,910,161</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 42,910,161</u>
2024				
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Hercules Capital, Inc. common stock	\$ 55,193	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 55,193
Mutual funds	32,734,072	-	-	32,734,072
Total investments, at fair value	<u>\$ 32,789,265</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 32,789,265</u>

NOTE 9: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The date to which events occurring after December 31, 2025, the date of the most recent statement of financial position, have been evaluated for possible adjustment to the financial statements or disclosure is August 11, 2026, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

HERCULES CAPITAL, INC. RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE REQUIRED BY ERISA AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
December 31, 2025
PLAN NUMBER: 002 EIN: 74-3113410

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

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
<u>Identity of issuer, borrower, lessor or similar party</u>	<u>Description of investment including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Current value</u>	
Vanguard	Total Stock Market Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	10,182,890
Vanguard	500 Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	8,219,596
* Fidelity	Government Money Market Fund Class K6	**	\$	2,620,708
iShares MSCI	EAFE International Index Fund Class K	**	\$	2,429,499
John Hancock	Funds III U.S. Growth Fund - Class R6	**	\$	2,274,549
Vanguard	Value Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	1,620,906
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2060 Fund	**	\$	1,556,319
Vanguard	Intermediate-Term Bond Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	1,409,038
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2065 Fund	**	\$	1,200,248
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2055 Fund	**	\$	1,070,998
Vanguard	Mid-Cap Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	879,570
* Fidelity	U.S. Bond Index Fund	**	\$	817,706
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2050 Fund	**	\$	760,806
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2045 Fund	**	\$	738,592
Vanguard	Small Cap Value Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	734,316
Vanguard	Small-Cap Growth Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	715,812
Vanguard	Equity-Income Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	714,305
American Funds	New Perspective Fund® Class R-6	**	\$	657,273
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2030 Fund	**	\$	630,745
Vanguard	Information Technology Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	589,852
Vanguard	Consumer Staples Index Fund Class Admiral Shares	**	\$	468,817
BlackRock	Health Sciences Opportunities Portfolio Class K	**	\$	418,219
Dimensional Fund Advisors	Global Equity Portfolio Institutional Class	**	\$	276,342
Vanguard	Short-Term Bond Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	254,848
MFS	International Growth Fund Class R6	**	\$	242,001
Vanguard	Inflation-Protected Securities Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	214,447
GQG Partners	Emerging Markets Equity Fund R6 Shares	**	\$	208,270
Vanguard	Real Estate Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	186,390
Vanguard	Materials Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	139,537
* Fidelity	Total Bond K6 Fund	**	\$	130,372
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2070 Fund	**	\$	126,792
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2035 Fund	**	\$	115,517
Vanguard	Pacific Stock Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	\$	101,820
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2040 Fund	**	\$	81,325
John Hancock	Disciplined Value International Fund Class R6	**	\$	64,033
Vanguard	Target Retirement 2025 Fund	**	\$	57,703
* Participant Loans	Interest ranging from 4.25% - 9.5% maturing through 2036	\$ -	\$	122,616

* Party-in-interest

** Cost omitted for participant-directed investments

SUMMARY OF NET TRUST ASSETS

Total Plan Assets as of 12/31/2025

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Share Balance 12/31/2025</u>	<u>Historical Cost</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total Market Value</u>
VANG TARGET RET 2055	16,187.994	\$898,713.19	\$66.16	\$1,070,997.68
VANG TARGET RET 2065	29,983.706	\$1,019,939.74	\$40.03	\$1,200,247.75
JH DSCPL VAL INTL R6	3,841.207	\$61,629.32	\$16.67	\$64,032.92
BLKRK HLTH SCI OPP K	5,926.303	\$407,435.00	\$70.57	\$418,219.20
VANG TARGET RET 2030	14,900.672	\$558,803.29	\$42.33	\$630,745.45
VANG TARGET RET 2040	1,628.127	\$72,149.86	\$49.95	\$81,324.94
VANG TARGET RET 2050	12,834.109	\$652,920.53	\$59.28	\$760,805.98
GQG EMRG MKTS EQ R6	11,700.571	\$202,485.91	\$17.80	\$208,270.16
VANG VALUE IDX ADM	21,754.210	\$1,291,981.25	\$74.51	\$1,620,906.19
VANG 500 INDEX ADM	13,008.983	\$6,566,913.56	\$631.84	\$8,219,595.82
VANG TARGET RET 2070	3,984.668	\$115,555.28	\$31.82	\$126,792.14
VANG PAC STK IDX ADM	908.295	\$88,689.41	\$112.10	\$101,819.87
VANG EQUITY INC ADM	7,688.136	\$681,771.18	\$92.91	\$714,304.72
VANG TOT STK MKT ADM	62,395.162	\$7,539,127.91	\$163.20	\$10,182,890.44
JH US GROWTH R6	74,746.937	\$1,965,812.77	\$30.43	\$2,274,549.29
VANG MIDCAP IDX ADM	2,447.601	\$724,263.06	\$359.36	\$879,569.90
VAN REAL EST IDX ADM	1,486.483	\$185,805.92	\$125.39	\$186,390.10
VANG INTM BD IDX ADM	133,431.646	\$1,376,720.73	\$10.56	\$1,409,038.18
VANG ST BOND IDX ADM	24,646.820	\$250,617.67	\$10.34	\$254,848.12
IS MSCI EAFE INTL K	125,361.140	\$2,089,377.74	\$19.38	\$2,429,498.89
VANG TARGET RET INC	0.000		\$13.87	\$0.00
VANG TARGET RET 2025	2,892.335	\$54,756.29	\$19.95	\$57,702.08
VANG TARGET RET 2035	4,219.035	\$95,637.74	\$27.38	\$115,517.18
VANG TARGET RET 2045	21,260.550	\$590,952.47	\$34.74	\$738,591.51
VANG INFL PROT ADM	9,335.966	\$218,216.05	\$22.97	\$214,447.14
MFS INTL GROWTH R6	5,096.898	\$225,054.42	\$47.48	\$242,000.72
DFA GLBL EQUITY INST	6,969.523	\$228,613.35	\$39.65	\$276,341.59
AF NEW PERSPECT R6	9,300.599	\$534,261.06	\$70.67	\$657,273.33
VANG INFO TEC IDX AD	1,528.707	\$433,331.66	\$385.85	\$589,851.60
VANG CSM STP IDX ADM	4,503.094	\$433,550.94	\$104.11	\$468,817.12
VANG MATERIAL IDX AD	1,319.998	\$132,831.96	\$105.71	\$139,536.99
VANG TARGET RET 2060	25,521.794	\$1,257,657.88	\$60.98	\$1,556,319.00
VANG SMCP GR IDX ADM	6,745.308	\$582,842.18	\$106.12	\$715,812.08
VANG SMCPVL IDX ADM	8,067.635	\$639,869.12	\$91.02	\$734,316.14
HERCULES CAPITAL			\$19.32	\$0.00
FID US BOND IDX	77,434.278	\$802,608.25	\$10.56	\$817,705.98
FID TOTAL BOND K6	14,599.369	\$130,055.97	\$8.93	\$130,372.37

SUMMARY OF NET TRUST ASSETS

Total Plan Assets as of 12/31/2025

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Share Balance</u> <u>12/31/2025</u>	<u>Historical Cost</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Total Market Value</u>
FID GOVT MMKT K6	2,620,708.370	\$2,620,708.37	\$1.00	\$2,620,708.37
OUTSTANDING LOAN BALANCE				\$122,616.44

			NET ASSETS 12/31/2025:	\$43,032,777.38
				=====

Assets are presented at fair value with the exception to fully benefit responsive investment contracts which are presented at contract value as in previous years. See Chapter 7 of the Fidelity Auditor's Guide for financial statement presentation and disclosure information.