

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) _____
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 BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b	Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 003
1c	Effective date of plan 01/01/2000
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) BANK FORWARD 5651 38TH AVE. S. FARGO, ND 58104
2b	Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-0192700
2c	Plan Sponsor's telephone number 701-293-9540
2d	Business code (see instructions) 522110

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.	09/11/2026	AMY OTTERSON
	Signature of plan administrator	Date	Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator
SIGN HERE	Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature.	09/11/2026	AMY OTTERSON
	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	5 283
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) 230 6a(2) 226 6b 22 6c 38 6d 286 6e 4 6f 290 6g(1) 247 6g(2) 269 6h 10
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7

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

2I 2P 2Q 3I

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

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

a Pension Schedules

- (1)** ☒ **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2)** ☐ **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3)** ☐ **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4)** ☐ **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached 0
- (5)** ☐ **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1)** ☒ **H** (Financial Information)
- (2)** ☐ **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3)** ☒ **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 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 BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BANK FORWARD	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-0192700	

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	805734	4	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
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

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

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

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

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

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information

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

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end **4** 0**5** Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end **5** 0**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. Specify nature of costs.	10b	

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 BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BANK FORWARD	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-0192700	

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
MONEY MARKET -INTEREST BEARING CASH
45-0192700

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

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

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

BALLARD SPAHR

23-0382195

(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?
29 50	LEGAL	29719	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

BRADY MARTZ

45-0310328

(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?
10 50	ACCOUNTANT	12075	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

CHARTWELL FINANCIAL ADVISORY, INC.

36-4799908

(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?
16 50	CONSULTANT	24936	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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)

EIDE BAILLY

20-4250161

(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?
10 50	ACCOUNTANT	9843	Yes ☐ No ☒	Yes ☐ No ☐		Yes ☐ No ☐

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

PRINCIPAL FINANCIAL GROUP

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?
15 50	RECORDKEEPER /BOOKKEEPER	19017	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
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(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide
(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

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

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

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

Explanation:

SCHEDULE D (Form 5500) 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 BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	003
C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BANK FORWARD	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-0192700	

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 LIQUID ASSETS SEP ACCT-I3
---	--------------------------------

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a):	PRINCIPAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
--	----------------------------------

c EIN-PN 42-0127290-024	d Entity code P	e Dollar value of interest in MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE at end of year (see instructions) 0
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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)
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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):	
--	--

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:	
---	--

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):	
--	--

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

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
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN**a** Plan name**b** Name of
plan sponsor**c** EIN-PN

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110
		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 BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN	B Three-digit plan number (PN) 003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BANK FORWARD	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-0192700

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)	74619	22246
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	4840403	6518394
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)		
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)		
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)		
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)		
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)		
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)		
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)		
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)		
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)		
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)		
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)		
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)		
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)		
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)		
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)		
(15) Other.....	1c(15)		

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	42147720	50523900
(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	47062742	57064540

Liabilities

1g Benefit claims payable	1g		
1h Operating payables	1h		
1i Acquisition indebtedness	1i		
1j Other liabilities	1j	3945000	5028643
1k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j)	1k	3945000	5028643

Net Assets

1l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	43117742	52035897
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Part II Income and Expense Statement

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

Income

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers	2a(1)(A)	1856399	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)		
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)		
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		1856399
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	178967	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)		
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)		
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		178967
(2) Dividends: (A) Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)		
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		0
(3) Rents	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: (A) Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result	2b(4)(C)		0
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: (A) Real estate	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	6908370	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		6908370

		(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)		
c Other income	2c		2120404
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		11064140

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	2045910	
(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)		2045910
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)	19017	
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)	12758	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	34780	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	29720	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	3800	
(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)		100075
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		2145985

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		8918155
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: **BRADY MARTZ, PLLC**

(2) EIN: **99-2923038**

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?	☒		7000000
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 BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN		B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 003
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 BANK FORWARD		D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 45-0192700
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 ____/____/____ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number_____.

**BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA**

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Bank Forward Audit Committee
Bank Forward Employee Stock Ownership Plan
Fargo, North Dakota

Opinion

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

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of Bank Forward Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

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

Responsibilities of Management

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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 (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 Bank Forward Employee Stock Ownership 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 Bank Forward Employee Stock Ownership Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Other Matters

Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

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

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

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



BRADY MARTZ, PLLC
GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA

September 1, 2026

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

	2025			2024		
	Allocated	Unallocated	Total	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
ASSETS						
Investments at Fair Value	\$ 49,829,494	\$ 7,212,800	\$ 57,042,294	\$ 41,700,623	\$ 5,287,500	\$ 46,988,123
Receivables:						
Interest	22,246	-	22,246	74,619	-	74,619
Total Assets	49,851,740	7,212,800	57,064,540	41,775,242	5,287,500	47,062,742
LIABILITIES						
Loans Payable	-	5,028,643	5,028,643	-	3,945,000	3,945,000
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$ 49,851,740	\$ 2,184,157	\$ 52,035,897	\$ 41,775,242	\$ 1,342,500	\$ 43,117,742

See Notes to the Financial Statements

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

	2025			2024		
	Allocated	Unallocated	Total	Allocated	Unallocated	Total
ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:						
Investment Income						
Net Appreciation in Fair Value						
of Investments	\$ 5,838,380	\$ 1,069,990	\$ 6,908,370	\$ 2,807,305	\$ 480,815	\$ 3,288,120
Employer Contributions	1,856,399	-	1,856,399	1,264,560	-	1,264,560
Dividends and Interest	2,033,363	266,008	2,299,371	2,098,714	212,755	2,311,469
Allocation of 1,250.0000 and 2,070.1589 shares in 2025						
and 2024, respectively, of Security State Bank Holding						
Company Common Stock at Fair Value	494,341	-	494,341	713,103	-	713,103
Total Additions	<u>10,222,483</u>	<u>1,335,998</u>	<u>11,558,481</u>	<u>6,883,682</u>	<u>693,570</u>	<u>7,577,252</u>
DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:						
Benefit Payments	2,045,910	-	2,045,910	2,997,508	-	2,997,508
Administrative Expenses	100,075	-	100,075	61,708	-	61,708
Allocation of 1,250.0000 and 2,070.1589 shares in 2025						
and 2024, respectively, of Security State Bank Holding						
Company Common Stock at Fair Value	-	494,341	494,341	-	713,103	713,103
Total Deductions	<u>2,145,985</u>	<u>494,341</u>	<u>2,640,326</u>	<u>3,059,216</u>	<u>713,103</u>	<u>3,772,319</u>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets Available for Benefits	8,076,498	841,657	8,918,155	3,824,466	(19,533)	3,804,933
Net Assets Available for Benefits:						
Beginning of Year	<u>41,775,242</u>	<u>1,342,500</u>	<u>43,117,742</u>	<u>37,950,776</u>	<u>1,362,033</u>	<u>39,312,809</u>
End of Year	<u>\$ 49,851,740</u>	<u>\$ 2,184,157</u>	<u>\$ 52,035,897</u>	<u>\$ 41,775,242</u>	<u>\$ 1,342,500</u>	<u>\$ 43,117,742</u>

See Notes to the Financial Statements

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

NOTE 1 PLAN DESCRIPTION

General

The following description of the Bank Forward Employee Stock Ownership Plan provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

Security State Bank of North Dakota established an employee stock ownership plan effective January 1, 2000. The plan sponsor was renamed Bank Forward ("Plan Sponsor") as of January 1, 2007 and the Plan became known as the Bank Forward Employee Stock Ownership Plan ("the Plan") thereafter. The Plan operates as a leveraged employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) and is designed to comply with Section 4975(e)(7) and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) of 1986 as amended and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). The Plan is administered by an ESOP Committee appointed by the plan sponsor's Board of Directors. The trustees are employees of and appointed by the Plan sponsor. Principal Trust Company has been engaged to serve as the Plan's trustee.

The Plan originally purchased Security State Bank Holding Company ("the Holding Company") common stock using the proceeds of Holding Company borrowings (see Note 7) and holds the common stock in a trust established under the Plan. As the Plan makes debt payments, an appropriate percentage of stock will be allocated to eligible employees' accounts in accordance with applicable regulations under the IRC.

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

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

Eligibility

Employees of the plan sponsor are generally eligible to participate in the Plan after they have attained age 21 and have been credited with at least 1,000 hours of service at the end of their first twelve months of consecutive employment with the company. Effective January 1, 2025 the Plan was amended to remove the hours of service requirement to be an eligible participant. Participants who do not have at least 1,000 hours of service during the Plan year or are not employed on the last working day of a Plan year are not eligible for an allocation of plan sponsor contributions for such year. Notwithstanding the foregoing, participants who have at least 1,000 hours of service and are on an authorized leave of absence, deceased, retired on or after normal retirement age, or became disabled during the Plan year remain eligible for an allocation of plan sponsor contributions in accordance with the Plan provisions.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

Contributions

Employer contributions are determined annually by the Board of Directors of the Plan Sponsor subject to limitations imposed under the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan Sponsor is obligated to make contributions in cash to the Plan, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends and interest earnings, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regular scheduled payments due on its term loans. Employee contributions are not permitted.

Participant Accounts

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

Vesting

If a participant's employment with the Plan Sponsor ends for any reason other than retirement, permanent disability or death, the participant will vest in the balance in their account based on total years of service with the Plan Sponsor. Participants vest at a rate of 20% per year of service after they have at least two years of credited service and are fully vested after six years of credited service.

Payment of Benefits

Distributions on account of death, disability, retirement or for other separations from service may be made as soon as administratively feasible in the Plan year following the event. If the value of a terminated participant's vested benefit does not exceed \$7,000, then the participants' vested benefit shall be paid in a lump sum payment as soon as administratively feasible. Benefit payments may be made in cash as direct rollovers, lump sum payments or installments over a period of time. The determination and distribution of benefits shall be made as of the valuation date on or immediately preceding the distribution date.

Voting Rights

Participants in the Plan will be entitled to vote the Holding Company securities allocated to their accounts with respect to merger or consolidation, recapitalization, reclassification, liquidation, dissolution or sale of substantially all of the assets of the Plan Sponsor. Participants are notified by the Trustee or the Plan Sponsor when any such issues arise that will require shareholder approval. For other corporate matters, the Plan Sponsor will direct the Trustee as to how to vote all Plan Sponsor securities in the Plan.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

Administrative Expenses

The Plan permits the payment of Plan expenses to be made from the Plan's assets. Administrative expenses paid using the Plan's assets will generally be allocated among the accounts of all participants in the Plan. Administrative expenses paid by the Plan sponsor are not reflected in the financial statements.

Diversification

Diversification is available to participants close to retirement so they have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in Holding Company stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least age 55 with at least 10 years of Plan participation may elect to diversify a portion of their account by notifying the plan administrator of their desire.

Diversification is offered to eligible participants over a six year period. In each of the first five years, eligible participants may diversify up to 25% of the number of shares of Holding Company stock allocated to their accounts, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the allowable diversification of Holding Company stock shares increases to a maximum of 50%. After the sixth year, eligible participants may continue to diversify a maximum of 10% of their remaining number of shares of Holding Company stock. Participants who elect to diversify are allowed to convert a portion of their Holding Company stock into cash in order to invest in other securities within the Plan.

Forfeitures

Forfeitures of terminated participants are allocated first to restore any forfeitures of reemployed participants and then to participants' accounts in the same manner of the employer contribution for the plan year. Forfeitures may also be used to pay reasonable Plan expenses. For the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, \$41,209 and \$11,470, respectively, of forfeitures were allocated to eligible participants. The balance of non-vested forfeitures as of December 31, 2025 and 2024 was \$-0-.

Dividends

At the sole discretion of the Holding Company, to the extent cash dividends on Holding Company Stock are not used by the Plan for debt service, these funds shall be invested in the Participant's other investments account under provisions of the Plan Document.

Put Option

Under federal income tax regulations, the Holding Company stock that is held by the Plan and its participants and is not readily tradable on an established market, or is subject to trading limitations, includes a put option. The put option is a right to demand that the Holding Company buy any shares of its stock distributed to participants for which there is not market. The put price is representative of the fair market value of the stock. The Holding Company can pay for the purchase with interest over a period of five years. The purpose of the put option is to ensure that the participant has the ultimate ability to obtain cash.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

NOTE 2 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

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

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements are presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, ("GAAP"), as codified by the Financial Accounting Standards Board.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management 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.

Allocations

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

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. The fair value of the Holding Company common stock is based on an annual independent third party appraisal. 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. See Note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are reflected on a trade date basis. Income is recorded as earned on an accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation (depreciation) includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year and are reflected in the statements of changes in net assets available for benefits.

Payment of Benefits

Benefit payments are recorded when paid.

Income Taxes

The Plan's policy is to evaluate the likelihood that its uncertain tax positions will prevail upon examination based on the extent to which those positions have substantial support within the Internal Revenue Code and Regulations, Revenue Rulings, court decisions, and other evidence.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

NOTE 3 INVESTMENT IN HOLDING COMPANY STOCK

The Plan's investment in Holding Company stock, at December 31, is presented in the following table:

	2025		2024	
	Allocated	Unallocated	Allocated	Unallocated
Security State Bank Holding Company Common Stock				
Number of Shares	<u>88,390.0000</u>	<u>14,720.0000</u>	<u>87,140.0000</u>	<u>12,500.0000</u>
Cost	<u>\$ 14,621,033</u>	<u>\$ 5,028,643</u>	<u>\$ 14,236,866</u>	<u>\$ 3,945,000</u>
Estimated Fair Value	<u>\$ 43,311,100</u>	<u>\$ 7,212,800</u>	<u>\$ 36,860,220</u>	<u>\$ 5,287,500</u>

NOTE 4 FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures*, 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 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 FASB ASC 820 are described below:

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

Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:
Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability;
Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

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

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

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

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

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in methodologies used at December 31, 2025 and 2024.

Interest-Bearing Cash: Valued at cost plus interest earned.

Common Stock: The fair value of Security State Bank Holding Company common stock held by the Plan is valued at estimated fair value based upon an independent appraisal. This appraisal was based upon a combination of the market and earnings valuation techniques.

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2025:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Security State Bank Holding				
Interest-Bearing Cash	\$ 6,518,394	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,518,394
Company Common Stock	-	-	50,523,900	50,523,900
Total Assets in the Fair Value Hierarchy	<u>\$ 6,518,394</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 50,523,900</u>	<u>\$ 57,042,294</u>

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2024:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Security State Bank Holding				
Interest-Bearing Cash	\$ 4,840,403	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,840,403
Company Common Stock	-	-	42,147,720	42,147,720
Total Assets in the Fair Value Hierarchy	<u>\$ 4,840,403</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 42,147,720</u>	<u>\$ 46,988,123</u>

There were Level 3 purchases of 3,470 and 5,000 shares in Holding Company common stock for the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively. There were no sales, nor transfers in or out during the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024.

NOTE 5 PLAN TERMINATION

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

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

NOTE 6 INCOME TAX STATUS

The Plan has received a determination letter from the IRS dated March 3, 2017 stating that the Plan is qualified under the IRC and, therefore the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. The Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter. However, the Plan administrator believes the Plan is currently designed, and being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC. Therefore, they believe that the Plan is qualified, and the related trust was tax-exempt as of the financial statement date.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by taxing authorities. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

NOTE 7 LOANS PAYABLE

On May 1, 2015, the Plan entered into a \$1,000,000 loan agreement with the Holding Company and used the proceeds to purchase additional Holding Company common stock. Multiple principal advances on the loan are allowed up to the maximum \$1,000,000 for the first year. Principal advances on the loan totaled \$1,000,000. On September 30, 2015, the Plan entered into a \$1,000,000 loan agreement with the Holding Company and used the proceeds to purchase additional Holding Company common stock. Multiple principal advances on the loan are allowed up to the maximum \$1,000,000 for the first year. Principal advances on the loan totaled \$960,329. As of December 31, 2024, the loan has been paid off.

On August 4, 2021, the Plan entered into a \$2,660,000 loan agreement with the Holding Company and used the proceeds to purchase additional Holding Company common stock. The original loan was structured to be amortized over five years with a final payment date of April 15, 2026. On July 24, 2024, the loan was modified. The terms of the note were updated to bear a zero percent interest rate and change the maturity date to April 15, 2033. On January 1, 2026, the loan was modified. The terms of the note were updated to bear a three percent interest rate. Principal payments are due annually. The Plan Sponsor is obligated to make contributions to the Plan that, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payment due on the note.

On September 19, 2024, the Plan entered into a \$1,657,500 loan agreement with the Holding Company and used the proceeds to purchase additional Holding Company common stock. The loan is structured to bear no interest and to be amortized over 12 years with a final payment date of September 19, 2036. On January 1, 2026, the loan was modified. The terms of the note were updated to bear a three percent interest rate. Principal payments are due annually. The Plan Sponsor is obligated to make contributions to the Plan that, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payment due on the note.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

On October 10, 2024, the Plan entered into a \$292,500 loan agreement with the Holding Company and used the proceeds to purchase additional Holding Company common stock. The loan is structured to bear no interest and to be amortized over 12 years with a final payment date of September 19, 2036. Principal payments are due annually. The Plan Sponsor is obligated to make contributions to the Plan that, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payment due on the note.

On September 26, 2025, the Plan entered into a \$1,467,810 loan agreement with the Holding Company and used the proceeds to purchase additional Holding Company common stock. The loan is structured to bear no interest and to be amortized over 12 years with a final payment date of September 26, 2037. On January 1, 2026, the loan was modified. The terms of the note were updated to bear a three percent interest rate. Principal payments are due annually. The Plan Sponsor is obligated to make contributions to the Plan that, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payment due on the note.

The scheduled principal amortization of the loans for the next five years and thereafter is as follows:

2026	\$	506,485
2027		506,485
2028		506,485
2029		506,485
2030		506,485
Thereafter		2,496,218
		<u>\$ 5,028,643</u>

Collateral for each of the loans consisted of all unallocated Holding Company common stock and any income generated from the loans collateral. Shares are released from collateral and allocated to participants as payments are made. The number of shares released in any year is the number of shares held as collateral, times the current year payment divided by the total of this year's payments, plus all future year's payments. This resulted in 1,250.0000 and 2,070.1589 shares being released and allocated for the Plan years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively.

NOTE 8 COMPANY DIVIDENDS

The Company paid dividends to the ESOP of \$20.56 per share or \$2,120,404 and \$21.12 per share or \$2,103,952 during the years ended December 31, 2025 and 2024, respectively. In 2025, \$266,008 was applied to debt service and the remaining was allocated to participants. In 2024, \$212,755 was applied to debt service and the remaining was allocated to participants.

NOTE 9 RELATED PARTIES

The Plan invests in Holding Company common stock and has indebtedness guaranteed by the Plan Sponsor. These are related party and party-in-interest transactions. As described in Note 1, certain plan expenses are paid by the Plan Sponsor. The Plan's recordkeeper, Principal Life Insurance Company, is also a party-in-interest under ERISA. The Plan has a number of service providers. Such providers are parties in interest under ERISA.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AND 2024

NOTE 10 RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

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

NOTE 11 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

On January 1, 2026, the outstanding notes payable with the Holding Company were modified. The terms of the loans were updated to bear three percent interest rates. The principal and interest of the loans outstanding are payable in arrears in accordance with the amended amortization schedules. No other significant events occurred subsequent to the Plan's year end. Subsequent events have been evaluated through September 1, 2026, which is the date these financial statements were available to be issued.

BANK FORWARD EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
FORM 5500 ANNUAL REPORT – SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(i)
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
EIN NUMBER: 45-0192700, PLAN NUMBER: 003
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025

Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor or Similar Party	Number of Shares/ Units	Description of Investment	Cost	Current Value
Common Stock:				
* Security State Bank Holding Company Common Stock	88,390.0000 Allocated	Plan Sponsor Stock	\$ 14,621,033	\$ 43,311,100
Common Stock:				
* Security State Bank Holding Company Common Stock	14,720.0000 Unallocated	Plan Sponsor Stock	5,028,643	7,212,800
* Interest-Bearing Cash		Interest-Bearing Cash	<u>6,518,394</u>	<u>6,518,394</u>
* Party-in-interest as defined by ERISA		Total	<u>\$ 26,168,070</u>	<u>\$ 57,042,294</u>