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.)
- [X] 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:
- [X] 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
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

1b Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

1c Effective date of plan 01/01/1997

2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan)
Mailing address (include room, apt., suite no. and street, or P.O. Box)
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code (if foreign, see instructions)
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.

200 VESEY ST
24TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10281

2b Employer Identification Number (EIN) 68-0232575

2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number 212-321-5000

2d Business code (see instructions) 519100

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.	10/01/2026	AMY LARKIN
	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 [X] 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**	625
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	**6a(1)**	213
a(2)	Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year	**6a(2)**	170
b	Retired or separated participants receiving benefits	**6b**	2
c	Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits	**6c**	396
d	Subtotal. Add lines **6a(2)**, **6b**, and **6c**.	**6d**	568
e	Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits.	**6e**	1
f	Total. Add lines **6d** and **6e**.	**6f**	569
g(1)	Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(1)**	612
g(2)	Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item)	**6g(2)**	559
h	Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.	**6h**	0
7	Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	**7**	

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

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

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)		**9b** Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)	
(1) [ ]	Insurance	**(1)** [ ]	Insurance
(2) [ ]	Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	**(2)** [ ]	Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) [X]	Trust	**(3)** [X]	Trust
(4) [ ]	General assets of the sponsor	**(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)** [X] **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)** [X] **H** (Financial Information)
- **(2)** [ ] **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- **(3)** [ ] **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
- **(4)** [X] **C** (Service Provider Information)
- **(5)** [X] **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)	Service Provider Information	OMB No. 1210-0110
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation	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.**	**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
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
68-0232575

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).. . . . . [X] 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

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

04-2647786

(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)

FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL

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 60 64 65	RECORDKEEPER	65738	Yes [X] No [ ]	Yes [X] No [ ]	0	Yes [X] No [ ]

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

STRATEGIC ADVISERS LLC

04-2654524

(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?
27	ADVISOR	10146	Yes [ ] No [X]	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
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(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.
MORLEY SV 50-I 1300 SW FIFTH AVENUE PORTLAND, OR 97201	0.25%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(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.
FEDERATED HERMES MDT SMALL CAP COR 4000 ERICSSON DR WARRENDALE, PA 15086-7515	0.40%

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	**(b)** Service Codes (see instructions)	**(c)** Enter amount of indirect compensation
FIDELITY INVESTMENTS INSTITUTIONAL	60	0

(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.
HARBOR SCV INV 111 S. WACKER DR 34TH FL CHICAGO, IL 60606	0.35%

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

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

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

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

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

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

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.

For calendar plan year 2025 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2025 and ending 12/31/2025

A Name of plan
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan or DFE sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
68-0232575

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)

a Name of MTIA, CCT, PSA, or 103-12 IE: MORLEY SV 50 - I

b Name of sponsor of entity listed in (a): PRINCIPAL GLOBAL INVESTORS TRUST CO

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)
93-6274329-001	C	631845

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)

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

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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
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
68-0232575

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	0	0
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):			
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	0	0
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	0	0
(3) Other	1b(3)	0	0
c General investments:			
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	1621688	1909294
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	0	0
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	0	0
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	0	0
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):			
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	0	0
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	32110	201513
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	0	0
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	0	0
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	0	0
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	190176	199674
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	1106233	631845
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	0	0
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	0	0
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	0	0
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	60818395	66370993
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts)	1c(14)	0	0
(15) Other	1c(15)	0	57

		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
1d Employer-related investments:			
(1) Employer securities	1d(1)	0	0
(2) Employer real property	1d(2)	0	0
1e Buildings and other property used in plan operation	1e	0	0
1f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e)	1f	63768602	69313376
Liabilities			
1g Benefit claims payable	1g	0	0
1h Operating payables	1h	0	0
1i Acquisition indebtedness	1i	0	0
1j Other liabilities	1j	0	0
1k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through1j)	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
1l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f)	1l	63768602	69313376

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)	912164	
(B) Participants	2a(1)(B)	2312047	
(C) Others (including rollovers)	2a(1)(C)	431235	
(2) Noncash contributions	2a(2)	0	
(3) Total contributions. Add lines **2a(1)(A), (B), (C),** and line **2a(2)**	2a(3)		3655446
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit)	2b(1)(A)	77523	
(B) U.S. Government securities	2b(1)(B)	0	
(C) Corporate debt instruments	2b(1)(C)	0	
(D) Loans (other than to participants)	2b(1)(D)	0	
(E) Participant loans	2b(1)(E)	17791	
(F) Other	2b(1)(F)	0	
(G) Total interest. Add lines **2b(1)(A)** through **(F)**	2b(1)(G)		95314
(2) Dividends: **(A)** Preferred stock	2b(2)(A)	0	
(B) Common stock	2b(2)(B)	1632	
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds)	2b(2)(C)	1273399	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines **2b(2)(A)**, **(B)**, and **(C)**	2b(2)(D)		1275031
(3) Rents	2b(3)		0
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: **(A)** Aggregate proceeds	2b(4)(A)	526589	
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions)	2b(4)(B)	497579	
(C) Subtract line **2b(4)(B)** from line **2b(4)(A)** and enter result	2b(4)(C)		29010
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: **(A)** Real estate	2b(5)(A)	0	
(B) Other	2b(5)(B)	35301	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines **2b(5)(A)** and **(B)**	2b(5)(C)		35301

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		16203
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		0
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		0
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		0
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		9232598
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all **income** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2d		14338903
Expenses			
e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers	2e(1)	8718245	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)	0	
(3) Other	2e(3)	0	
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines **2e(1)** through **(3)**	2e(4)		8718245
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		0
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions)	2g		0
h Interest expense	2h		0
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)	0	
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	0	
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)	65738	
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)	0	
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	10146	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)	0	
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)	0	
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)	0	
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)	0	
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)	0	
(11) Other expenses	2i(11)	0	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines **2i(1)** through **(11)**	2i(12)		75884
j Total expenses. Add all **expense** amounts in column (b) and enter total	2j		8794129
Net Income and Reconciliation			
k Net income (loss). Subtract line **2j** from line **2d**	2k		5544774
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan	2l(1)		0
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		0

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) [X] 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) [X] 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: WITHUMSMITH&BROWN **(2)** EIN: 22-2027092

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.)	**4a**		X	
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.)	**4b**		X	
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.)	**4c**		X	
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.)	**4d**		X	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	**4e**	X		3000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	**4f**		X	
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?	**4g**		X	
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?	**4h**		X	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	**4i**	X		
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.)	**4j**		X	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	**4k**		X	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	**4l**	X		795
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	**4m**		X	
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.	**4n**			

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? [ ] Yes [X] 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
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC. 401(K) PLAN

B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 002

C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500
THE ARENA GROUP HOLDINGS, INC.

D Employer Identification Number (EIN)
68-0232575

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 |

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): 04-6568107

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

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 .

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Financial Statements
December 31, 2025 and 2024
With Independent Auditor's Report

withum
ADVISORY TAX AUDIT

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Table of Contents
December 31, 2025 and 2024

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Plan Administrator of
The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan:

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

We have performed audits of the financial statements of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) 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 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) 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 ("DOL") Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan ("investment information") by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA ("qualified institution").

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and for the year ended December 31, 2025, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 5 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion

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

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

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) 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 ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for at least one year following the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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 GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

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

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

Other Matter - Supplemental Schedule Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule, Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year), as of December 31, 2025 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the DOL'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 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. For information included in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

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

In our opinion:

- The form and content of the supplemental schedule, other than the information in the supplemental schedule that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- The information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified 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).

Wilkerson Smith + Brown, PC

September 24, 2026

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits
December 31, 2025 and 2024

	2025	2024
Assets		
Investments at fair value	$ 69,113,702	$ 63,578,426
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	199,674	190,176
Contributions receivable		
Participant contributions	-	70,606
Employer contributions	-	31,646
Total receivables	199,674	292,428
Total assets	69,313,376	63,870,854
Liabilities		
Excess contributions refundable	3,343	-
Net assets available for benefits	$ 69,310,033	$ 63,870,854

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits
Year Ended December 31, 2025

Additions	
Investment income	
Interest and dividends	$ 1,306,764
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	9,358,902
Total investment income	10,665,666
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	17,791
Contributions	
Participant	2,238,098
Employer	880,518
Rollovers	431,235
Total contributions	3,549,851
Total additions	14,233,308
Deductions	
Benefits paid to participants	8,718,245
Administrative expenses	75,884
Total deductions	8,794,129
Net change in net assets available for benefits	5,439,179
Net assets available for benefits	
Beginning of year	63,870,854
End of year	$ 69,310,033

The Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

1. Description of Plan

The following description of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General
The Plan is a defined contribution plan established effective January 1, 1997, as restated March 1, 2022. The Plan covers all employees, excluding leased employees, nonresident aliens with no U.S. sourced income, and interns, of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc., The Arena Media Brands, LLC, and The Arena Platform, Inc. (collectively the "Company"). The Plan requires a participant to be employed as of year end to be eligible to receive nonelective employer contributions. The Plan does not require a participant to be employed as of year end to be eligible to receive the safe harbor or additional employer matching contribution, if elected. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA").

Contributions
Each year, participants may contribute up to 80% of pretax annual compensation, as defined in the Plan document, up to the maximum limits of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"). Participants also may designate all or a portion of their deferral contributions as after-tax contributions into a Roth account. Participants who have attained age 50 before the end of the Plan year are eligible to make catch-up contributions. Participants also may contribute amounts representing distributions from other qualified defined benefit or defined contribution plans (rollover). Participants direct the investment of their contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan.

The Plan includes an automatic enrollment provision whereby all newly eligible employees are automatically enrolled in the Plan unless they affirmatively elect not to participate in the Plan. Automatically enrolled participants have their deferral rate set at three percentage of eligible compensation and their contributions invested in a designated balanced fund until changed by the participant.

The Company makes safe harbor matching contributions of up to 100% of the first 4% percentage of the eligible participant's eligible compensation. Additional discretionary amounts may be contributed by the Company at the option of the Trustees. For the year ended December 31, 2025, there were no discretionary contributions to the Plan.

Contributions are subject to certain Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") limitations.

Participant Accounts
Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions, allocations of the Company's contributions and an allocation of the Plan’s earnings (losses). Participant accounts are charged with an allocation of administrative expenses that are paid by the Plan. Allocations are based on participant earnings, account balances, or specific participant transactions, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

Vesting
Participants are vested immediately in their contributions, safe harbor contributions, additional discretionary matching contributions, and nonelective employer contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Multiple vesting schedules apply to various classifications of participants and various other employer-sourced contributions. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more detailed explanation of the vesting provisions.

Notes Receivable from Participants
Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of $1,000 for up to a maximum equal to the lesser of $50,000 or 50% of their vested account balance. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account. The loan interest rate, determined ratably through payroll deductions, is set at a reasonable rate of interest, as determined by Administrator, based on prevailing rates charged by lending institutions, as defined. Principal and interest are paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions. Terms range up to five years or greater for the purchase of a primary residence.

Payment of Benefits
On termination of service due to death, disability, retirement, or other reasons, a participant may elect to receive a lump sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account. If a terminated participant's vested balance is less than or equal to $1,000, the amount may be automatically distributed in the form of lump sum cash payment. Any distribution greater than $1,000 and less than $5,000 will be rolled over to an individual retirement plan designated by the Plan administrator. In addition, the Plan allows for hardship distributions if certain criteria are met.

Forfeited Accounts
As of December 31, 2025 and 2024, forfeited nonvested accounts totaled $31,770 and $33,671, respectively. These accounts will be used to reduce future employer contributions or to pay plan administrative expenses. During 2025, employer contributions were reduced by $8,751, from forfeited nonvested accounts, in accordance with plan provisions.

2. Summary of Accounting Policies

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

Use of Estimates
The preparation of financial statements in accordance with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition
Investments are reported at fair value or net asset value ("NAV"), which approximates 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 investment committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisors, custodians, and insurance company, as applicable. See Note 3 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.

Notes Receivable from Participants
Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on an accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed as incurred.

Excess Contributions Payable
Amounts payable to participants for contributions in excess of amounts allowed by the IRS are recorded as a liability with a corresponding reduction to contributions. The Plan distributed the 2025 excess contributions to the applicable participants in the following Plan year.

Payment of Benefits
Benefits are recorded when paid.

Administrative Expenses
Certain expenses of 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 net appreciation in fair value of investments.

Subsequent Events
The Plan‘s management evaluated events that occurred after December 31, 2025 through September 24, 2026, the date when the financial statements were available to be issued.

3. Fair Value Measurements

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 820, *Fair Value Measurement*, are described as follows:

Level 1 - Inputs to the valuation technique 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 technique include:

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

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

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

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 maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

The following is a description of the valuation techniques used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the techniques used as of 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-end mutual funds that are registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value and to transact at that price. The mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

Investments Measured at Net Asset Value: Consisting of common-collective trusts, valued at the NAV of units of a bank collective trust. NAV, as provided by the trustee, is used as a practical expedient to estimate fair value. NAV is based on the fair value of the underlying investments held by the fund less its liabilities. This practical expedient is not used when it is determined to be probable that the fund will sell the investment for an amount different than the reported NAV. Participant transactions (purchases and sales) may occur daily. Were the Plan to initiate a full redemption of the collective trust, the investment advisor reserves the right to temporarily delay withdrawal from the trust in order to ensure that securities liquidations will be carried out in an orderly business manner.

Self-Directed Brokerage Accounts: Various equities traded on the major U.S. stock exchange valued at closing price reported on the active market on which the individual securities are traded.

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 following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2025 and 2024:

	December 31, 2025			
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
Mutual funds	$ 67,203,004	$ -	$ -	$ 67,203,004
Self-directed brokerage accounts	1,278,853	-	-	1,278,853
Common collective trust fund, at NAV*	-	-	-	631,845
Total investments at fair value	$ 68,481,857	$ -	$ -	$ 69,113,702

	December 31, 2024			
	Level 1	**Level 2**	**Level 3**	**Total**
Mutual funds	$ 61,499,708	$ -	$ -	$ 61,499,708
Self-directed brokerage accounts	972,485	-	-	972,485
Common collective trust fund, at NAV*	-	-	-	1,106,233
Total investments at fair value	$ 62,472,193	$ -	$ -	$ 63,578,426

*In accordance with FASB ASC 820, certain investments that were measured at net asset value per share (or its equivalent) have not been classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value amounts presented in this table are intended to permit reconciliation of the fair value hierarchy to the line items presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Fair Value of Investments that Calculate Net Asset Value
The following table summarizes investments measured at fair value based on NAV per share as of December 31, 2025 and 2024. There are no participant redemption restrictions for these investments; the redemption notice period is applicable only to the Plan.

	December 31, 2025			
	Fair Value	**Unfunded Commitments**	**Redemption Frequency (If Currently Eligible)**	**Redemption Notice Period**
Morley Stable Value Fund	$ 631,845	$ -	Daily	Daily

	December 31, 2024			
	Fair Value	**Unfunded Commitments**	**Redemption Frequency (If Currently Eligible)**	**Redemption Notice Period**
Morley Stable Value Fund	$ 1,106,233	$ -	Daily	Daily

4. Related Party and Party-in-Interest Transactions

Certain Plan investments are managed by the trustee, and therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

Fees incurred by the Plan for the investment management services are included in net appreciation in the fair value of the investment.

Additionally, the Plan issues loans to participants, which are secured by the participants' account balances. These transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions.

Certain administrative functions of the Plan are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan.

5. Information Certified by Trustee

The Plan administrator has elected the method of compliance permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA for 2025 and 2024. Accordingly, Fidelity Management Trust Company, the Trustee of the Plan, has certified the completeness and accuracy of all investments and notes receivable from participants reported in the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the supplemental Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2025, and the related investment activity and interest income on notes receivable from participants reported in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025.

6. Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of Plan termination, participants would become 100% vested in their employer contributions.

7. Tax Status

The Plan adopted a pre-approved plan offered by FMR LLC. The pre-approved plan received an IRS Opinion Letter dated June 30, 2020, that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with the applicable sections of the IRC. Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the IRS Opinion Letter, the Plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed, and is currently being operated, in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore believes that the Plan is qualified, and the related trust is tax exempt.

Plan management is required to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

8. Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits. As of December 31, 2025 and 2024, two investments represented a concentration of greater than 10% of the Plan's net assets available for benefits.

9. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements at December 31, 2025 and 2024, to Form 5500:

	2025	2024
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	$ 69,310,033	$ 63,870,854
Excess contributions refundable	3,343	-
Participant contributions receivable	-	(70,606)
Employer contributions receivable	-	(31,646)
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	$ 69,313,376	$ 63,768,602

The following is a reconciliation of the change in net assets per the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025, to Form 5500:

Change in net assets per the financial statements	$ 5,439,179
Change in participant contributions receivables	70,606
Change in employer contributions receivable	31,646
Change in excess contributions refundable	3,343
Net income per Form 5500	$ 5,544,774

Supplementary Information

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
EIN: 68-0232575 Plan Number: 002
December 31, 2025

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
*	Fidelity	500 Index Fund	**	$ 7,311,033
*	Fidelity	Blue Chip GR K6	**	1,752,292
*	Fidelity	Emerging Markets Index Fund	**	600,574
*	Fidelity	Extended Market Index Fund	**	279,152
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2010 IPR	**	49
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2015 IPR	**	32,136
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2020 IPR	**	158,523
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2025 IPR	**	892,493
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2030 IPR	**	1,391,099
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2035 IPR	**	4,054,278
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2040 IPR	**	10,036,575
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2045 IPR	**	6,268,605
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2050 IPR	**	4,041,271
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2055 IPR	**	4,559,846
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2060 IPR	**	1,247,448
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2065 IPR	**	559,825
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index 2070 IPR	**	54
*	Fidelity	Global ex U.S. Index Fund	**	36,184
*	Fidelity	Government Money Market	**	471
*	Fidelity	International Bond Index Fund	**	78,095
*	Fidelity	International Index Fund	**	532,524
*	Fidelity	Intermediate Treasury Bond Index Fund	**	316,110
*	Fidelity	Large Cap Growth Index Fund	**	4,909,993
*	Fidelity	Large Cap Value Index Fund	**	1,756,127
*	Fidelity	Long Term Treasury Bond Index Fund	**	28,432
*	Fidelity	Mid Cap Value Index Fund	**	313,828
*	Fidelity	Mid Cap Growth Index Fund	**	2,420,553
*	Fidelity	Mid Cap Index Fund	**	1,092,262
*	Fidelity	Real Estate Index Fund	**	249,590
*	Fidelity	Short Term Treasury Bond Index Fund	**	17,896
*	Fidelity	Small Cap Growth Index Fund	**	459,689
*	Fidelity	Small Cap Index Fund	**	469,196
*	Fidelity	Small Cap Value Index Fund	**	68,010
*	Fidelity	Total International Index	**	655,619
*	Fidelity	Total Market Index Fund	**	5,555,528
*	Fidelity	U.S. Bond Index	**	776,994
*	Fidelity	U.S. Sustainability Index Fund	**	609,903
	Vanguard	Cash Reserves Federal Money Market Fund Admiral Shares	**	1,748,381
	Vanguard	FTSE All World ex US Small Capital Index Fund Admiral Shares	**	637,065
	Vanguard	Inflation Protected Securities Fund Admiral Shares	**	78,486
	Vanguard	International Growth Fund Admiral Shares	**	497,943
	J.P Morgan	JPM Dev International Val R6	**	480,289

See Independent Auditor's Report.

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
EIN: 68-0232575 Plan Number: 002
December 31, 2025

(a)	(b) Identity of Issue, Borrower, Lessor, or Similar Party	(c) Description of Investment Including Maturity Date, Rate of Interest, Collateral, Par, or Maturity Value	(d) Cost**	(e) Current Value
*	Fidelity	Freedom Index Retirement IPR	**	$ 228,583
	Total mutual funds		**	67,203,004
	Morley	Stable Value Fund Class 50-I	**	631,845
*	Fidelity	Self-directed brokerage account	**	1,278,853
	Total investments at fair value		**	69,113,702
*	Notes receivable from participants	Participants loans with maturity through 2030 and interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 9.50%.	**	199,674
			**	$ 69,313,376

*Denotes a party-in-interest.
**Cost information is omitted as all investments are participant directed.

See Independent Auditor's Report.

THE ARENA Group

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September 24, 2026

WithumSmith+Brown, PC

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audits of the financial statements of The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 ("ERISA"), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2025 and 2024, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements.

We elected to have the audit of the Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's ("DOL") Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. We acknowledge that the audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the Plan ("investment information") by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA ("qualified institution"). We have determined that an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is permissible under the circumstances. We have also determined that the investment information is prepared and certified by a qualified institution as described by 29 CFR 2520.103-8, that the certification meets the requirements in 29 CFR 2520.103-5, and that the certified investment information is appropriately measured, presented, and disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The purpose of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is to express an opinion on whether the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and that the assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agree to, or are derived from, in all material respects, the certified investment information.

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered to be material, regardless of size, if they involve an omission or misstatement of accounting information that, in light of surrounding circumstances, makes it probable that the judgment of a reasonable person relying on the information would be changed or influenced by the omission or misstatement.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves as of the date of this letter, the following representations made to you during your audit:

Financial Statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated July 20, 2026, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements (including disclosures) in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
2. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal

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control relevant to
the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

3. We acknowledge our responsibility for administering the Plan and determining that the Plan's transactions that are
presented and disclosed in the ERISA 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.
4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
5. The methods, data, and significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates and their related disclosures are appropriate to achieve recognition, measurement, or disclosure that is reasonable in the context of the applicable financial reporting framework. The methods, data, and significant assumptions used to estimate fair values of financial instruments are as are based on either quoted market prices in active markets, comparable data or non-observable inputs (as applicable) and adequately described in the notes to the financial statements. The methods and significant assumptions used result in a measure of fair value appropriate for financial measurement and disclosure purposes..
6. We are responsible for the estimation methods and assumptions used in measuring assets and liabilities reported or disclosed at fair value, including information obtained from brokers, pricing services, or other third parties. Our valuation methodologies have been consistently applied from period to period. The fair value measurements reported or disclosed represent our best estimate of fair value as of the measurement date in accordance with the requirements of Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") 820, *Fair Value Measurement*. In addition, our disclosures related to fair value measurements are consistent with the objectives outlined in FASB ASC 820.
7. All related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance
with the requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
8. All transactions with parties in interest, as defined in Section 3(14) of ERISA and regulations thereunder, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from, or payable to, related parties have been appropriately disclosed.
9. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which accounting principles generally
accepted in the United States of America requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
10. The effects of all known actual or possible litigation and claims have been accounted for and/or disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
11. We have no intentions to terminate the Plan.
12. The financial statements reflect the impact of new accounting standards, if applicable.
13. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the Plan is contingently liable to a bank or another lending institution have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements.
14. We have properly reported and disclosed amendments to the plan instrument, if any.
15. There are no misstatements, which have not been properly corrected in the financial statements.
16. We have reviewed and approved the audit journal entries proposed in connection with the audit, as presented in the schedule attached to this representation letter, and have recorded such entries in the accounting records and financial statements.

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1 - 2025

To reverse the previous year receivables

Type:Normal

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan

3100.1 Net Assets Available for Benefit, Beginning	(102,252.00)
4300.200.1 Employer Safe Harbor Match	31,646.00
4300.100.1 Employee Deferral	70,606.00

2 - 2025

To record current year failed 402g test corrections

Type:Normal

The Arena Group Holdings, Inc. 401(k) Plan

4300.100.1 Employee Deferral	3,343.00
2100.100.1 Excess contribution payable	(3,343.00)

ERISA-Required Supplemental Schedule(s)

1. We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of the ERISA-required supplemental schedule in accordance with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. We believe that the ERISA-required supplemental schedule, including its form and content, is presented in conformity with the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Information Provided

1. We have provided you with:
    a. access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements such as records, documentation, and other matters;
    b. additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit;
    c. unrestricted access to persons within the Plan from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
    d. all minutes of the meetings of or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared;
    e. the most current plan instrument for the audit period, including all plan amendments; and
    f. a draft of the Form 5500 that is substantially complete.
2. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
3. Financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk and financial instruments with concentrations of credit risk have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements.
4. The Plan or Trust has satisfactory title to all owned assets that are recorded at fair value, and all liens, encumbrances, or security interest requiring disclosure in the financial statements have been properly disclosed.
5. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
6. We have evaluated the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of one year from the date of this letter and have determined that there is not a substantial doubt about the Plan's

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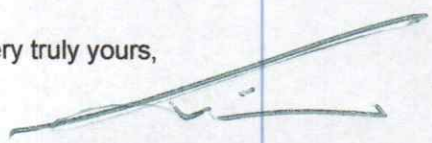
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ability to meet its obligations as they come due.

7. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Plan and involves:
   a. management;
   b. employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
   c. others when the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
8. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Plan's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, participants, regulators, beneficiaries, service providers, third- party administrators, or others.
9. There have been no communications from regulatory agencies concerning noncompliance with, or deficiencies in, financial reporting practices that could have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
10. We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements, and we have not consulted legal counsel concerning litigation, claims, or assessments.
11. There are no other matters (for example, breach of fiduciary responsibilities, nonexempt transactions, loans or loans in default, or events that may jeopardize the tax status) that legal counsel has advised us must be disclosed.
12. We have disclosed to you the identity of the Plan's related parties and parties in interest and all the related party and party-in-interest relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
13. We have apprised you of all communications, whether written or oral, with regulatory agencies concerning the operation of the Plan.
14. The Plan has complied with all aspects of debt and other contractual agreements that would have a material effect
    on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance.
15. All required filings with the appropriate agencies have been made.
16. The Plan (and the Trust established under the Plan) is qualified under the appropriate section of the Internal Revenue Code and intends to continue as a qualified plan (and trust). The Plan sponsor(s) has operated the Plan and Trust or insurance contract in a manner that did not jeopardize this tax status.
17. The Plan has complied with the fidelity bonding requirements of ERISA.
18. We have obtained the SOC 1 report(s) from our service organizations, Fidelity and ADP Workforce Now. We have reviewed such report(s) including the complementary user entity controls. We have implemented the relevant user controls, and they were in operation for the year ended December 31, 2025.
19. The Plan has not received complaints during the year from participants regarding the participant's underlying allocation of investments.
20. There are no:
    a. nonexempt party-in-interest transactions (as defined in ERISA Section 406–408 and regulations thereunder) that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedule or financial statements;
    b. investments in default or considered to be uncollectible that were not disclosed in the supplemental
       schedule; or
    c. reportable transactions (as defined in ERISA Section 103(b)(3)(H) and regulations under that section) that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedule.

Very truly yours,



Amy Larkin, Head of HR