

# Understanding Your Financial Statements and Budgeting

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International Foundation  
OF EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS 

# Items to Discuss

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**Terminology**

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**How to Read the Plan Financial Statements**

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**Understanding Internal Controls**

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**Creating and Following a Budget for the Plan/Trust**

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# Terminology

# Terminology

## Risk Assessment

/risk/ /ə'sesmənt/

*noun*

Designed To:

- Identify significant audit risk areas,
- Document the risk of material misstatement for each material audit area,
- Assess those risks,
- Select an audit approach that is tailored to respond to the assessed level of risk, and
- Document the linkage of the assessed risk to the audit procedures.

# Terminology

## Risk As·sess·ment

/risk/ /ə'sesmənt/

*noun*

Your Risk Assessments Should Take Into Account:

- Materiality,
- The results of preliminary analytical procedures,
- Information obtained about the plan and its environment
- The consideration of fraud,
- Engagement team discussions,
- Other or prior year engagements performed for the plan sponsor, and
- Any other relevant information.

# Terminology

## In·her·ent Risk

/in 'hirənt, in 'herənt/ /risk/

*noun*

Risk that is inherent in the type of transaction or account

- Cash vs. real estate; Benefit obligations vs. contributions receivable
- Degree of subjectivity in determining its value

## Con·trol Risk

/kən 'trōl/ /risk/

*noun*

Relates to the effectiveness of the plan office's internal controls

- One controller/bookkeeper vs. significant segregation of duties—Levels of review
- Greater controls, less testing

# Terminology

## As-sessed Risk of Ma-te-ri-al Mis-state-ment

/ə 'sɛst/ /risk/ /əv/ /mə 'tirēəl/  
/mis 'steɪtmənt/

*Noun*

Determined by combining **inherent risk** and **control risk**

## Au-dit Ap-proach

/'ôdət, 'ädət/ /ə 'prōCH/

*noun*

Audit team determines road map

- Controls based audit vs. substantive audit

# Risk Assessment Summary

Audit Area	Significant Audit Area? (✓=Yes)	Risks of Material Misstatement		Risk Assessment				Response	
		Identified Risks/ Assertions Affected	Indicate If Significant Risk (S=Significant, F=Fraud)	Assertions	I/R (H,M,L)	C/R (H,M,L)	Assessed RMM (H,M,L) <sup>a</sup>	Audit Approach (L, B, E) <sup>b</sup>	Linkage/ Comments <sup>c</sup>
Investments, Derivatives, and Related Incomes – FULL SCOPE, ALT INVESTMENTS	✓			E/O	L	H	M	B	Investments and related investment income are transaction classes that are significant to <u>the financial statements</u> .
				C	L	H	M		
				R/O	L	H	M		
				V	L	H	M		
				A/CL	L	H	M		
				CO	L	H	M		
								There is complexity of inputs to value alternative investments. Accounting personnel are competent. There have been no prior misstatements for investments, however the investment custodian may report a lag in the fair value for alternative investments. Inherent risk for all assertions are considered to be low except for valuation.	

# **How to Read the Plan Financial Statements**

**BENEFIT FUND**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2023 AND 2022



# Independent Auditor's Report

## Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of \_\_\_\_\_ (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 and of benefit obligations as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related statements of net assets available for benefits and of changes in benefit obligations for the years then ended.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits and of changes in benefit obligations for the years then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

*In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects...*

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets and 2022, and the changes ended, in accordance with

## Basis for Opinion

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

## Independent Auditor's Report

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We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that our audits provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Responsibilities of Management

Management is responsible with accounting principles, implementation, and main financial statements that are

*We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.*

l statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and fair presentation of the financial statements and to be free of error.

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

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments; administering the plan; and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the

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## Independent Auditor's Report

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

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee. Auditing standards will always detect material misstatements resulting from misstatements due to error, but not misstatements resulting from fraud, such as collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misstatements that are concealed, or overrides of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, in the aggregate, they would likely influence the economic decisions of users based on the financial statements.

*..obtain reasonable assurance...the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error...*

In performing an audit in accordance with the generally accepted auditing standards, we:

generally accepted auditing standards, we: of not detecting a material misstatement due to error, or, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misstatements that are concealed, or overrides of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, in the aggregate, they would likely influence the economic decisions of users based on the financial statements.

- 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.

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*Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is **not absolute assurance**...therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.*

In performing an audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB, we:

is, 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.

## Independent Auditor's Report

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

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

# Statement of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
<b>ASSETS</b>		
CASH	\$ 10,739,131	\$ 6,335,331
INVESTMENTS - AT FAIR VALUE		
Short Term Investment Funds	12,559,133	11,853,512
Government Debt Securities	5,613,386	5,121,496
Corporate Debt Securities	11,767,920	11,233,079
Mutual Funds	67,349,888	59,851,077
Common/Collective Trust	7,878,776	10,035,670
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	<u>105,169,103</u>	<u>98,094,834</u>
TOTAL CASH AND INVESTMENTS	<u>115,908,234</u>	<u>104,430,165</u>
RECEIVABLES AND OTHER ASSETS		
Employer Contributions	7,883,429	8,768,008
Participant Contributions	1,722	3,115
Interest and Dividends	185,167	151,594
Prescription Rebates	1,142,940	1,032,189
Stop Loss Reimbursements and Dividends	542,585	649,882
Miscellaneous Receivables	9,589	160,978
Prepaid Insurance	22,457	16,172
TOTAL RECEIVABLES AND OTHER ASSETS	<u>9,787,889</u>	<u>10,781,938</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>125,696,123</u>	<u>115,212,103</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accrued Expenses	243,949	353,216
Accounts Payable - Delinquencies	106,230	62,588
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>350,179</u>	<u>415,804</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	125,345,944	114,796,299
<b>MEMORANDUM:</b>		
Benefit Obligations Other Than Postretirement Benefit Obligations:		
Benefit Obligations	43,954,000	41,459,000
Personal Care Accounts - Note 5	16,532,651	14,049,091
Excess of Net Assets Available For Benefits	<u>\$ 64,859,293</u>	<u>\$ 59,288,208</u>



# Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

	January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023	January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022
<b>ADDITIONS</b>		
<b>INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)</b>		
Dividends and Interest	\$ 539,411	\$ 2,588,552
Net Appreciation (Depreciation) of Investments	6,039,227	(10,765,900)
Less: Investment Fees	(183,015)	(207,218)
<b>NET INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)</b>	<b>6,395,623</b>	<b>(8,384,566)</b>
<b>CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER INCOME</b>		
Employer Contributions	102,106,536	97,094,299
Participant Contributions	4,203,901	4,226,105
COBRA Subsidy	-	110,538
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND OTHER INCOME</b>	<b>106,310,437</b>	<b>101,430,942</b>
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONS</b>	<b>112,706,060</b>	<b>93,046,376</b>
<b>DEDUCTIONS</b>		
<b>BENEFITS PAID</b>		
Claims, Net	88,019,367	81,729,755
Premiums, Net	5,139,276	9,054,436
Administration Fees	2,011,182	2,702,519
<b>NET BENEFITS PAID</b>	<b>95,169,825</b>	<b>93,486,710</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>		
Administration	1,509,530	1,437,026
Legal Fees and Expenses:		
Trust	178,431	217,474
Collection	221,642	170,294
Accounting Fees and Expenses:		
Financial Statements	30,300	30,990
Claims Examination	8,500	-
Payroll Compliance	233,090	239,649
Consulting Fees:		
Consultant One	139,226	145,858
Consultant Two	111,000	66,000
Depository Services	7,140	7,055
Printing, Postage, and Office Expenses	318,085	259,071
Conference and Meeting Expenses	37,825	21,545
Insurance	55,487	31,587
Bank Fees	66,411	64,977
PCORI Fee	38,505	35,966
Medicare Part D Advisory Fees	31,418	38,801
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES</b>	<b>2,966,590</b>	<b>2,766,293</b>
<b>TOTAL DEDUCTIONS</b>	<b>102,156,415</b>	<b>96,253,003</b>
<b>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>10,549,645</b>	<b>(3,206,627)</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>		
<b>BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>114,796,299</b>	<b>118,002,926</b>
<b>END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 125,345,944</b>	<b>\$ 114,796,299</b>

# Statements of Benefit Obligations

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
AMOUNTS CURRENTLY PAYABLE TO OR ON BEHALF OF PARTICIPANTS, BENEFICIARIES AND DEPENDENTS		
Premiums and Claims Payable	\$ -	\$ -
	-	-
OTHER OBLIGATIONS FOR CURRENT BENEFIT COVERAGE, AT PRESENT VALUE OF ESTIMATED AMOUNTS		
Claims Incurred But Not Reported	12,892,000	13,405,000
Bank Hour Liability	14,624,000	13,005,000
Accumulated Eligibility (Lag Months)	16,438,000	15,049,000
	43,954,000	41,459,000
TOTAL OBLIGATIONS OTHER THAN POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS	43,954,000	41,459,000
POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS*		
Retired	24,306,590	25,511,177
Active Fully Eligible	11,714,140	11,211,741
Active Not Fully Eligible	30,057,803	24,125,664
	66,078,533	60,848,582
PLAN'S TOTAL BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS	\$ 110,032,533	\$ 102,307,582
<p>* The calculation of the postretirement benefit obligations does not imply that there is any legal liability to provide the benefits valued, nor is there any implication that the Plan is required to implement a funding policy to satisfy the projected expense.</p>		

## Statements of Changes in Benefit Obligations

	January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023	January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022
<b>AMOUNTS CURRENTLY PAYABLE TO OR ON BEHALF OF PARTICIPANTS, BENEFICIARIES AND DEPENDENTS</b>		
Premiums and Claims Payable at Beginning of Year	\$ -	\$ -
Net Change During the Year:		
Benefits Reported and Approved for Payment	99,169,825	93,486,710
Benefits Paid	<u>(99,169,825)</u>	<u>(93,486,710)</u>
Premiums and Claims Payable at End of Year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>OTHER OBLIGATIONS FOR CURRENT BENEFIT COVERAGE, AT PRESENT VALUE OF ESTIMATED AMOUNTS</b>		
Balance at Beginning of Year	41,459,000	39,275,000
Net Change During the Year:		
Claims Incurred But Not Reported	(513,000)	545,000
Bank Hour Liability	1,619,000	690,000
Accumulated Eligibility (Lag Months)	<u>1,389,000</u>	<u>949,000</u>
Balance at End of Year	<u>43,954,000</u>	<u>41,450,000</u>
<b>TOTAL OBLIGATIONS OTHER THAN POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS</b>	<u>43,954,000</u>	<u>41,450,000</u>
<b>POSTRETIREMENT BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS*</b>		
Balance at Beginning of Year	60,848,582	81,692,846
Net Changes During the Year:		
Benefits Earned and Other Changes	2,448,297	(43,395)
Assumption Changes	2,691,968	(19,891,280)
Interest	3,194,551	2,246,553
Estimated Net Benefits Paid	<u>(3,104,865)</u>	<u>(3,156,142)</u>
	<u>66,078,533</u>	<u>60,848,582</u>
<b>PLAN'S TOTAL BENEFIT OBLIGATIONS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 110,032,533</u>	<u>\$ 102,307,582</u>
<small>* The calculation of the postretirement benefit obligations does not imply that there is any legal liability to provide the benefits valued, nor is there any implication that the Plan is required to implement a funding policy to satisfy the projected expense.</small>		

## Notes to Financial Statements

### NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Plan") is a multiemployer welfare benefit plan providing medical, dental, prescription, vision, personal care accounts, disability, life and accidental death and dismemberment benefits, subject to certain eligibility requirements. The Plan administers two plans. The Regular Plan covers retirees and most activities, and the lower cost Basic Plan covers activities in certain job classifications. Unlike the Regular Plan, the Basic Plan does not provide dental and vision benefits. The Plan is subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

The Plan was formed in \_\_\_\_\_, under an agreement between the \_\_\_\_\_ Contractors Association (\_\_\_\_) and Local Unions of the \_\_\_\_\_.

The Plan operates under a Trust Agreement incorporated by reference into collective bargaining agreements between local unions and the \_\_\_\_\_ located in the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ contracting companies, either individually or through divisions of \_\_\_\_\_.

THE PLAN DOCUMENTS INCLUDE DETAILED RULES FOR EACH SITUATION. PARTICIPANTS SHOULD REFER TO THE PLAN AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS REGARDING SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE PLAN.

## Notes to Financial Statements—Note 2

### NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. Basis of Accounting

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

#### B. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the Plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

#### C. Postretirement Benefits

The postretirement benefit obligation represents the actuarial present value of those estimated future benefits that are attributed to employee service rendered to December 31. Postretirement benefits include future benefits expected to be paid to or for (1) currently retired or terminated employees and their beneficiaries and dependents and (2) active employees and their beneficiaries and dependents after retirement from service with participating employers. Prior to an active employee's full eligibility date, the postretirement benefit obligation is the portion of the expected postretirement benefit obligation that is attributed to that employee's service in the industry rendered to the valuation date.

The actuarial present value of the expected postretirement benefit obligation was determined by actuaries from \_\_\_\_\_ as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 and is the amount that results from applying actuarial assumptions to historical benefit cost data to estimate future annual incurred benefit costs per participant and to adjust such estimates for the time value of money (through discounts for interest) and the probability of payment (by means of decrements such as those for death, disability, withdrawal, or retirement) between the valuation date and the expected date of payment. The significant actuarial assumptions and methods used at

# Notes to Financial Statements—Note 2

## NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### C. Postretirement Benefits (Continued)

December 31, 2023 (2022) were: (a) Discount Rate: 5% (5.25%), (b) Mortality: 105% of the PRI-2012 Blue Collar Mortality Table for male employees and healthy annuitants and 110% (100%) of the PRI-2012 Blue Collar Mortality Table for female employees and healthy annuitants projected forward using the MP-2021 projection scale, (c) Retirement Age: 100% assumed to retire at 66, (d) Administrative Expenses: based on actual administrative expenses for the 2021 plan year, (e) Funding Method: Projected Unit Credit Service Prorate, (f) Health Care Trend Rates: medical 7.2% (6.9%) graded to 4.0%, and prescription drug 8.2% (7.4%) graded to 4%, and (g) other assumptions and methods for retirement rates, mix of type of retiree coverage, trend rates and per capita cost assumptions.

Additional assumption changes include changes in the assumed percentage of participants electing coverage at retirement, retirement rates and withdrawal rates based on recent plan experience.

The health care rate and retiree contribution trend rates have a significant effect on the postretirement benefit obligations. A 1% increase in the health care cost trend rate would increase the net postretirement benefit obligation as of December 31, 2023 and 2022 by \$11,122,094 and \$9,327,758, respectively.

The Plan received Medicare Part D subsidy reimbursements totaling \$125,670 and \$155,203 for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

The foregoing assumptions are based on the presumption that the Plan will continue. Were the Plan to terminate, different actuarial assumptions and other factors might be applicable in determining the actuarial present value of postretirement benefit obligations.

### D. Employer Contributions

Contributions as reported are contributions made for hours worked during the year in accordance with the collective bargaining and participation agreements. Contributions receivable is estimated based on contributions received subsequent to the end of the year. No allowance is provided for uncollectible accounts.

### E. Employer Payroll Compliance Program

Remittance reports were accepted as submitted, without examination or verification of employers' payroll records. The system of internal control provides for examination of employers' records under a separate payroll compliance program.

### F. Tax-Exempt Status

No provision for federal tax is made. The Plan has received tax-exempt status from the federal government under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(9).

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability if the Plan has taken a

## NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### F. Tax-Exempt Status (Continued)

tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by a tax authority. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress.

### G. Plan Termination

Upon the termination of the Plan, per the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, any and all monies remaining in the Plan after payment of all expenses and obligations of the Plan shall be either expended and used for the continuance of purposes of the Plan until such monies have been exhausted, or transferred to another trust or trusts providing similar benefits.

### H. Risks and Uncertainties

Benefit obligations are reported based on certain assumptions pertaining to healthcare inflation rates, participant demographics and other assumptions which are subject to change. Due to the uncertainty of the assumption process it is at least reasonably possible that changes in these assumptions in the near term would be material to the financial statements.

Plan investments are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market fluctuations and credit risk. Some estimated values may differ from values that would have been used had a ready market existed for the investment. Due to the level of risk associated with investments and the level of uncertainty with respect to changes in value of investments, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in risks in the near term would materially affect the amounts reported in the financial statements.

### I. Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Accounting standards establish a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes valuation inputs into three levels based on the extent to which inputs used in measuring fair value are observable in the market:

Level 1 – Inputs are quoted prices in active markets.

Level 2 – Inputs are based on quoted prices for similar instruments and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant assumptions are observable in the market or can be corroborated by observable market data.

Level 3 – Inputs are generally unobservable and typically reflect management's estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability.

The following table represents the Plan's fair value hierarchy for its financial assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2023:



# Notes to Financial Statements—Note 2

## NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

### I. Investment Valuation and Income Recognition (Continued)

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Short Term Investment Funds	\$ -	\$ 12,559,133	\$ -	\$ 12,559,133
Government Debt Securities	4,566,945	1,046,441	-	5,613,386
Corporate Debt Securities	-	11,767,920	-	11,767,920
Mutual Funds	67,349,888	-	-	67,349,888
	<u>\$ 71,916,833</u>	<u>\$ 25,373,494</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 97,290,327</u>
Investments Measured at Net Asset Value <sup>a</sup>				<u>7,878,776</u>
				<u>\$ 105,169,103</u>

The following table represents the Plan's fair value hierarchy for its financial assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis as of December 31, 2022:

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Short Term Investment Funds	\$ -	\$ 11,853,512	\$ -	\$ 11,853,512
Government Debt Securities	4,673,360	248,136	-	5,121,496
Corporate Debt Securities	-	11,233,079	-	11,233,079
Mutual Funds	59,851,077	-	-	59,851,077
	<u>\$ 64,724,437</u>	<u>\$ 23,334,727</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 88,059,164</u>
Investments Measured at Net Asset Value <sup>a</sup>				<u>10,035,670</u>
				<u>\$ 98,094,834</u>

<sup>a</sup> Investments measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) practical expedient 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 amounts to the amounts presented in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Level 1 investments include mutual funds and U.S. government debt securities valued based on quoted prices in an active market.

Level 2 investments include money market funds and non U.S. government and corporate debt securities valued using matrices of trades in similar securities.

The common/collective trust is valued at net asset value; the unfunded commitments and significant terms of redemption are as follows.

	Fair Value	Unfunded Commitments	Redemption Frequency	Redemption Notice Period
Real Estate Fund, LP	\$7,878,776	None	Quarterly	30 Days

Unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of investments is reported as net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of investments. Investment income, realized gains and losses on sale of investments, and other investment income and expenses are reported on the accrual basis.

## NOTE 3 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Plan shares collection, employer compliance and other common expenses with two related trust funds (\_\_\_\_\_ Pension Fund and \_\_\_\_\_ Annuity Plan) and other related organizations. The Pension Fund pays these expenses and each entity reimburses it for its own share of these costs based on an allocation method periodically approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Plan reimburses the \_\_\_\_\_ for administrative work performed on behalf of the Plan's depository account services.

## NOTE 4 - RECONCILIATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

	December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022
Net Assets Available for Benefits Per the Financial Statements	\$ 125,345,944	\$ 114,796,259
Less: Plan's Total Benefit Obligations Other Than Postretirement Benefit Obligations	<u>(43,954,000)</u>	<u>(41,459,000)</u>
Net Assets Per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 81,391,944</u>	<u>\$ 73,337,259</u>

The following is a reconciliation of net benefits paid per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

	January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023
Net Benefits Per the Financial Statements	\$ 99,169,825
Add: Benefit Obligations Other Than Postretirement Benefit Obligations at December 31, 2023	43,954,000
Less: Benefit Obligations Other Than Postretirement Benefit Obligations at December 31, 2022	<u>(41,459,000)</u>
Benefits Paid Per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 101,664,825</u>

Amounts currently payable to or for participants, dependents, and beneficiaries are reported on the Form 5500 for benefits that have been earned prior to December 31 but not yet paid as of that date.

## Notes to Financial Statements—Notes 5 to 7

### NOTE 5 - PERSONAL CARE ACCOUNTS (PCA)

The Plan includes a benefit called the Personal Care Account (PCA), which is a health-care reimbursement account designed to permit an active employee to obtain reimbursement of medical care expenses, COBRA premiums and retiree self-payments on a non-taxable basis.

### NOTE 5 - PERSONAL CARE ACCOUNTS (PCA) (Continued)

The following reflects the activity in the PCA program:

	January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023	January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022
Beginning Balance	\$ 14,049,091	\$ 11,353,021
Add: Contributions	8,325,112	7,290,242
Less: Benefits	<u>(5,841,552)</u>	<u>(4,594,172)</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 16,532,651</u>	<u>\$ 14,049,091</u>

Forfeitures totaled \$264,931 and \$21,392 during the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

### NOTE 6 - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the Plan maintained bank accounts with cash balances in excess of the federally insured limit of \$250,000 per bank. The amount in excess of the limit was subject to the risk if the financial institution did not perform. The Plan has not incurred any losses on the uninsured balances.

### NOTE 7 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, the date on which the financial statements were available to be issued. There were no material subsequent events that require recognition or additional disclosures in these financial statements.

\_\_\_\_\_ **BENEFIT FUND**  
FORM 5500  
SCHEDULE H - LINE 4  
E.I.N. \_\_\_\_\_; PLAN NO. \_\_\_\_\_

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES REQUIRED BY  
THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

# Independent Auditor's Report of Supplemental Schedules Required by the Department of Labor

Board of Trustees

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Members of the Board:

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The supplemental schedules of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2023 and reportable transactions for the year ended December 31, 2023 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards.

# **Independent Auditor's Report of Supplemental Schedules Required by the Department of Labor**

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

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

MILLER KAPLAN ARASE LLP  
North Hollywood, California  
\_\_\_\_\_, 2024

# **Understanding Internal Controls**

# Plan Management Acknowledgements

Before finalizing financial statements—“Plan management” is required to sign off on:

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## Statement of Fulfilled Responsibilities

*We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated month XX, 202X, including our responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.*

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## Conformity with GAAP

*The financial statements referred to above are fairly presented in conformity with U.S. GAAP, the notes include all disclosures required by laws and regulations to which the Plan is subject, including the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.*

# Plan Management Acknowledgements

## Acknowledgements of Responsibility

*We acknowledge our responsibility 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.*

*We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.*

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## Statement of Fraud Analysis

*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*

# Creating and Preparing a Budget for the Plan/Trust

**Auditor can NOT prepare budget per current audit standards—  
Auditor can't be "part of management"**

## **Apprenticeships**

- Operating and/or capital expenditures
- Outside funding opportunities

## **Investment Earnings**

- Include or not include

## **Benefit Plans**

- Health care spending
- Investment modeling to meet anticipated health care spending requirements

## **Pension Plans**

- Investment modeling to meet actuarial cash flow expectations

# Annual Tax Filings

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## Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of  
Employee Benefit Plan

Due within 7 months after year end;  
One 2.5-month extension.

- Pension (Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution)
- Health and Welfare
- Training—Rarely
- Vacation/Supplemental etc.

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## Form 990-T

Exempt Organization  
Business Income Tax Return

Due within 4.5 months after year end; One 6-month  
extension.

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## Form 990

Return of Organization  
Exempt from Income Tax

Due within 4.5 months after year end; One 6-month  
extension.

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# Annual Tax Filings

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## **8955-SSA**

Annual Registration  
Statement Identifying  
Separated Participants with  
Deferred Vested Benefits

Due within 7 months after year end; One 2.5-month extension.

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## **Form 5330**

Return of Excise Taxes  
Related to Employee  
Benefit Plans

Practically due as soon as possible.

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## **Summary Annual Report**

Due within 2 months of filing Form 5500.

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Required when file Form 5500 except Defined Benefit Plans

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# Key Takeaways

- Significant work happens before the auditors "show up" at the Administrative office.
- Auditors do not review every transaction; audits are not designed to detect fraud.
- Trustees are responsible for the audited financial statements.

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Please Scan  
This QR Code.**

Session Evaluation

