Financial Statements

December 31, 2017 and 2016

(With Independent Auditors' Report Thereon)

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Independent Auditors' Report	1 - 2
Management's Discussion and Analysis	3 - 6
Financial Statements: Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits	7
Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits	8
Notes to Financial Statements	9 - 15

* * * * *



6390 Main Street, Suite 200 Williamsville, NY 14221

- P 716.634.0700
- TF 800,546,7556
- F 716.634.0764
- w EFPRgroup.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Deferred Compensation Board Nassau County Deferred Compensation Plan:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Nassau County Deferred Compensation Plan (the Plan), which comprise the statement of fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits as of December 31, 2017, and the related statement of changes in fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Plan's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits of Nassau County Deferred Compensation Plan as of December 31, 2017, and the changes in fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

2016 Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Plan as of December 31, 2016, were audited by other auditors whose report dated June 20, 2017, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 3 through 6 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

EFPR Group, CPAS, PLLC

Williamsville, New York August 8, 2019

Management's Discussion and Analysis December 31, 2017 and 2016

This section presents management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) of Nassau County Deferred Compensation Plan's (the Plan) financial position and performance for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. This section is presented as a narrative overview and analysis. Please read the MD&A in conjunction with the financial statements and notes to financial statements to better understand the financial condition and performance of the Plan during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016.

Financial Highlights

- The Plan's net assets at December 31, 2017 and 2016 are \$1,438,369,251 and \$1,258,082,867, respectively. The net assets represent participant contributions and net investment income.
- The Plan's net assets for the year ended December 31, 2017 increased by \$180,286,384 or approximately 14.3% from the prior year. The Plan's net assets for the year ended December 31, 2016 increased by \$81,448,391 or approximately 6.9% from 2015.
- The Plan had investment income of \$172,634,623 in 2017, compared to \$65,836,351 in 2016.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Plan's financial statements, which comprise the following:

- Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
- Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits
- Notes to Financial Statements

Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits - These statements present information regarding the Plan's assets, liabilities and resulting net assets held in trust for Plan benefits. These statements reflect the Plan's investments, receivables and liabilities at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits - These statements present how the Plan's net assets held in trust changed during the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016. These statements present contributions by participants along with net investment income during the period from individual participant-directed investing activities. Deductions for participant benefit payments and administrative expenses are also presented.

Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

Notes to Financial Statements - The notes to financial statements are an integral part of the financial statements and provide additional detailed information and schedules that are essential to better understand the Plan's financial statements.

Net assets

Condensed Financial Information

			Net asset	S	
	Increase (decrease)				ecrease)
<u>Description</u>		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Assets:					
Investments, at fair value:					
Mutual funds	\$	629,681,689	517,715,508	111,966,181	21.6%
Pooled separate accounts		283,160,574	227,313,976	55,846,598	24.6%
Self-directed brokerage accounts		1,296,716	1,010,663	286,053	28.3%
Total investments, at fair value		914,138,979	746,040,147	168,098,832	22.5%
Investments, at contract value -					
stable value fund		507,368,003	496,492,446	10,875,557	2.2%
Total investments		1,421,506,982	1,242,532,593	178,974,389	14.4%
Receivables:					
Revenue sharing receivable		515,844	407,778	108,066	26.5%
Notes receivable from participants	_	16,384,425	15,184,996	1,199,429	7.9%
Total receivables	_	16,900,269	15,592,774	1,307,495	8.4%
Total assets	_	1,438,407,251	1,258,125,367	180,281,884	14.3%
Liabilities - accrued expenses		38,000	42,500	(4,500)	-10.6%
Total fiduciary net assets					
available for plan benefits	\$	1,438,369,251	1,258,082,867	180,286,384	14.3%
			Changes in net	assets	
			_	Increase (de	ecrease)
<u>Description</u>		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>Amount</u>	Percentage
Fiduciary net assets available for plan					
benefits at beginning of year	\$	1,258,082,867	1,176,634,476	81,448,391	6.9%
Additions:					
Contributions		64,099,495	62,794,228	1,305,267	2.1%
Net investment income	_	172,634,623	65,836,351	106,798,272	162.2%
Total additions		236,734,118	128,630,579	108,103,539	84.0%
Deductions:					
Benefits paid to participants		55,736,702	46,525,680	9,211,022	19.8%
Deemed distributions		393,018	518,074	(125,056)	(24.1%)
Administrative expenses		318,014	138,434	179,580	129.7%
Total deductions	_	56,447,734	47,182,188	9,265,546	19.6%
Increase		180,286,384	81,448,391	98,837,993	121.4%
					
Fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits at end of year	\$	1,438,369,251	1,258,082,867	180,286,384	14.3%

Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

InvestmentsInvestments consisted of the following at December 31, 2017 and 2016:

	Market value		
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	
Prudential Stable Value Fund	\$ 507,368,003	496,492,446	
SA/T. Rowe Price Growth Stock Strategy Fund	192,234,979	149,990,323	
American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund R5E	119,410,232	-	
Core Plus Bond/PGIM Fund	90,925,595	77,323,653	
Invesco Growth and Income Fund	88,207,451	74,865,593	
Vanguard Institutional Index Fund	82,286,265	64,338,700	
Janus Henderson Triton I	40,447,504	-	
Vanguard Mid-Cap Index Fund	38,181,337	30,487,312	
American Funds American Balanced Fund	32,485,158	29,123,702	
Hartford Mid Cap Fund	30,706,271	23,337,567	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2025 Fund	28,837,896	24,199,845	
Vanguard Small Cap Index Fund	27,643,941	23,159,958	
Prudential QMA Mid-Cap Value Fund	26,629,325	22,689,724	
ClearBridge Appreciation Fund	25,569,377	22,490,498	
Delaware Small Cap Value	23,349,670	-	
Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund	11,245,713	11,592,633	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2055 Fund	10,117,712	9,023,999	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2030 Fund	7,038,549	4,925,320	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2010 Fund	6,557,643	5,809,520	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2020 Fund	6,322,862	5,843,968	
Vanguard REIT Index Fund	6,056,433	8,324,021	
Oppenheimer Developing Markets Fund	5,466,910	2,781,192	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2015 Fund	3,674,651	3,498,636	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2035 Fund	3,551,323	2,852,838	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2040 Fund	3,491,774	2,104,001	
T. Rowe Price Retirement Balanced Fund	1,579,068	1,408,722	
Self Directed Brokerage Accounts	1,296,716	1,010,663	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2045 Fund	663,038	483,370	
T. Rowe Price Retirement 2050 Fund	161,586	86,003	
American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund R4	-	91,831,346	
ClearBridge Small Cap Growth Fund	-	32,901,279	
AllianzGI NFJ Small-Cap Value Fund	 	19,555,761	
	\$ 1,421,506,982	1,242,532,593	

Management's Discussion and Analysis, Continued

Contributions and Distributions

The Plan had contributions of \$64,099,495 during the year ended December 31, 2017 compared to \$62,794,228 during the year ended December 31, 2016.

The Plan had benefits paid to participants of \$55,736,702 during the year ended December 31, 2017 compared to \$46,525,680 during the year ended December 31, 2016. Increase in benefits paid relate to several significant distributions in 2017.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of Nassau County Deferred Compensation Plan. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to Nassau County Deferred Compensation Board, One West Street, Mineola, New York 11501.

Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits December 31, 2017 and 2016

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Assets:		
Investments, at fair value:		
Mutual funds	\$ 629,681,689	517,715,508
Pooled separate accounts	283,160,574	227,313,976
Self-directed brokerage accounts	1,296,716	1,010,663
Total investments, at fair value	914,138,979	746,040,147
Investments, at contract value - stable value fund	507,368,003	496,492,446
Total investments	1,421,506,982	1,242,532,593
Receivables:		
Revenue sharing receivable	515,844	407,778
Notes receivable from participants	16,384,425	15,184,996
Total receivables	16,900,269	15,592,774
Total assets	1,438,407,251	1,258,125,367
Liabilities - accrued expenses	38,000	42,500
Fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits	\$ 1,438,369,251	1,258,082,867

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Statements of Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets Available for Plan Benefits

Years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016

		<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Additions to fiduciary net assets attributed to:			
Contributions:			
Plan participants - deferrals of compensation	\$	61,326,630	57,020,782
Rollovers, transfers, revenue sharing and			
other adjustments, net		2,772,865	5,773,446
Total contributions		64,099,495	62,794,228
Investment income:			
Interest and dividends		9,049,254	8,272,902
Capital gains		22,008,472	8,884,771
Net appreciation in fair value of investments		141,576,897	48,678,678
Total investment income		172,634,623	65,836,351
Total additions to fiduciary net assets		236,734,118	128,630,579
Deductions from fiduciary net assets attributed to:			
Benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries		55,736,702	46,525,680
Deemed distributions		393,018	518,074
Administrative expenses		318,014	138,434
Total deductions from fiduciary net assets		56,447,734	47,182,188
Increase in fiduciary net assets available for benefits		180,286,384	81,448,391
Fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits:			
Beginning of year	1,	258,082,867	1,176,634,476
End of year	\$ 1,	438,369,251	1,258,082,867

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Notes to Financial Statements December 31, 2017 and 2016

(1) Description of Plan

The following description of Nassau County Deferred Compensation Plan (the Plan) is provided for general informational purposes. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

(a) General

The Plan is a defined contribution plan which permits employees and elected officials of Nassau County (the "County") who participate in the Plan to defer a portion of their current salary until future years. The County does not make any contributions to the Plan. Participants do not pay income taxes on their contributions or investment returns while these funds remain in the Plan. The active Plan membership was approximately 6,000 and 6,500 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively. Inactive Plan membership was approximately 3,800 and 3,300 at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

The assets of the Plan are being held in trust for the exclusive benefit of Plan members and their beneficiaries as required by Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 457.

The Plan, created in accordance with IRC Section 457, is available to all County employees.

The Plan has entered into an agreement with Prudential Retirement and Insurance and Annuity Company (Prudential) to administer the Plan.

(b) Contributions

Participants can elect to defer a minimum of \$10 per pay period up to the lesser of \$18,000 annually or 100% of includable compensation. If an employee is age 50 or older, the employee is permitted to contribute up to \$24,000 in a calendar year. A participant may rollover an existing 457 deferred compensation plan, retirement plan, or a traditional IRA into the Plan at any time.

(c) Investment Options

Upon enrollment in the Plan, a participant may direct his or her contributions into a variety of investment options offered by Prudential. Participants may change their investment options throughout the Plan year.

(d) Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their accrued benefit balance in accordance with applicable Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations. The maximum amount a participant may borrow is equal to the lesser of (a) 50% of their account balance or (b) \$50,000. Interest rate on outstanding loans were 4.25% to 5.25% at December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(1) Description of Plan, Continued

(e) Participant Accounts and Vesting

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and investment earnings. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account. Each participant's account balance is invested in accordance with the investment option(s) selected by the participant. Participants are 100% vested in their account balance at all times.

(f) Payment of Benefits

A participant of the Plan or beneficiary may receive a distribution of assets under the Plan upon a participant's retirement, termination of service, disability, death or the attainment of age 70½. A participant may elect to receive a lump sum amount equal to the value of his or her account, or periodic payments in monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual installments. In addition to these regular periodic payments, a participant may also request a nonscheduled distribution of at least \$500 no more than twelve times a year.

Participants also have the right to redirect the timing, the amount, and the method of payment of the distribution. In connection with a participant's severance from employment, the participant may elect to have all or a portion of his/her account rolled over into another qualified retirement account.

Certain eligible participants are entitled to a full distribution ("inactive account distribution") of their account prior to separation from service if the total amount payable does not exceed \$1,000 and there have been no deferrals to the Plan by the participant in the prior two years. Participants are not eligible for an inactive account distribution if they have taken a prior inactive account distribution election.

A distribution is also permitted in the case of an unforeseen emergency, as defined by IRC 457(b) regulations. Participants, after approval from the third party administrator or the Plan's Board, may receive an unforeseen emergency withdrawal which may not exceed the lesser of the amount reasonably needed to meet the financial need created by such unforeseeable emergency or the value of the participant's plan balance as of the most recent valuation date. All payments shall be made in one lump cash sum within sixty days after approval of the request.

A participant may also elect to receive a in-service distribution if the participant has not made deferrals into the Plan for 24 consecutive months and the total value of the participant's account does not exceed \$5,000.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(2) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis and present fiduciary net assets available for plan benefits and changes therein.

(b) Use of Estimates

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

(c) Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are presented at fair value, except for investments in the stable value fund which are presented at contract value. See note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

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

(d) Notes Receivable From Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan agreement. The loans are collateralized by the vested balance in the participant's account and bear interest rates charged by local financial institutions for similar loans. Principal and interest is paid ratably through payroll deductions.

(e) Subsequent Events

Plan management has evaluated subsequent events through the date of the report which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

(3) Fair Value Measurements

Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) No. 820, <u>Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures</u>, provides the framework for measuring fair value. That framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

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

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(3) Fair Value Measurements, Continued

- Level 2 Inputs to the valuation methodology include:
 - Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
 - Quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets:
 - Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
 - Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.
- Level 3 Inputs to the valuation methodology 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 used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2017 and 2016.

- Mutual funds Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-ended mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price.
- Pooled separate accounts Valued at the NAV of units held by the Plan at year-end. The
 pooled separate accounts invest in various mutual funds or other marketable securities.
 The mutual funds or other marketable securities are open-ended mutual funds or other
 marketable securities that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.
 These funds and other marketable securities are required to publish their daily NAV and
 to transact at that price.
- Self-directed brokerage accounts Invested in equity securities and money market accounts. Equity securities are valued at the closing prices reported in the active markets in which the individual securities are traded.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(3) Fair Value Measurements, Continued

The following tables set forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the Plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2017 and 2016:

	2017				
	<u>Level 1</u>	Level 2	Level 3	<u>Total</u>	
Mutual funds Pooled separate accounts Self-directed brokerage accounts	\$ 629,681,689 - 1,296,716	283,160,574	- - -	629,681,689 283,160,574 1,296,716	
Total investments at fair value	\$ 630,978,405	283,160,574		914,138,979	
	2016				
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	<u>Total</u>	
Mutual funds Pooled separate accounts Self-directed brokerage accounts	\$ 517,715,508 - 	227,313,976	- - 	517,715,508 227,313,976 1,010,663	
Total investments at fair value	\$ <u>518,726,171</u>	227,313,976		746,040,147	

(4) Guaranteed Interest Account

The Plan maintains a guaranteed interest account (stable value fund) with Prudential. The guaranteed interest account provides a stable rate of return by investing in a combination of a group annuity contract issued by Prudential and an investment in the Prudential Core Intermediate Bond Fund of Prudential's Collective Trust. Prudential is contractually obligated to repay the principal and a specified interest rate that is guaranteed to the Plan. In advance of each calendar quarter, Prudential establishes a rate of return for that quarter for the investment. The rate in effect at December 31, 2017 and 2016 was 2.26% and 2.70%, respectively.

Because the guaranteed interest account is fully benefit-responsive, contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the fiduciary net assets available for benefits attributable to the guaranteed interest account. Contract value, as reported to the Plan by Prudential, represents contributions made under the contract, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all or a portion of their investment at contract value.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(4) Guaranteed Interest Account, Continued

No events limit the ability of the Plan to transact at the contract value so long as the guaranteed interest account contract remains in force. Except for events which may result in termination for cause, as outlined in the contract (for example, Plan termination or merger, early retirement incentive, layoffs, etc.), Prudential may not cause the contract to be terminated at an amount other than contract value.

(5) Recordkeeping and Administrative Expenses

The Board represents the County in all matters concerning administration of the Plan.

Expenditures for recordkeeping and administrative expenses rendered in connection with the administration of the Plan are paid with funds received by the Plan from the service provider pursuant to the revenue sharing agreement.

Effective January 1, 2017 the Board has renewed the service provider agreement with Prudential (the Provider) for an additional five years. Under the arrangement, the Provider is to pay the Plan a portion of revenues earned from the assets held by the Plan. The arrangement calls for the Plan to receive a guaranteed payment of \$200,000 annually, payable in equal quarterly payments within thirty days of the end of each quarter (\$150,000 annually in 2016). However, when the Provider's revenue from administering the Plan exceeds 0.04% of Plan assets, the excess amount will be payable to the Plan in the form of an Allowance (0.05% in 2016).

Additional amounts may be payable to the Plan as a result of the Provider's failure to meet the performance standards set forth in Appendix A of the Agreement.

For the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, the Plan earned approximately \$678,945 and \$370,000, respectively, in revenue sharing payments from the Provider. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, the shared revenue account balance was approximately \$423,000 and \$699,000, respectively.

At the March 23, 2017 meeting of the Board, it was decided to transfer (distribute) \$750,000 from the revenue sharing account to participants on a pro-rata basis, with certain exceptions based on their June 1, 2017 balances with the account crediting occurring in June 2017.

(6) Related Party Transactions

Prudential Bank & Trust Company ("PB&T") is the Plan's trustee. The Plan's investments in the stable value fund and a mutual fund are with this related party.

Notes to Financial Statements, Continued

(7) Plan Termination

The County reserves the right to amend, suspend, or terminate the Plan and any deferrals thereunder, the trust agreement and any investment fund, in whole or in part and for any reason and without the consent of any employee, participant, beneficiary, or other person. Upon termination of the Plan, all amounts deferred shall be payable as provided in the Plan agreement.

(8) Risks and Uncertainties

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

(9) Tax Status

The IRS has determined and informed the Plan that the Plan and related trust are designed in accordance with Section 457(b) of the IRC and, as such, are not subject to tax under present income tax law. The Plan administrator believes that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.