EJ FOOTWEAR LLC

Human Resource Department

December 17, 2003

Barbara [redacted]h
RD #4 Box 162
Montrose, PA 18801

Dear Ms. [redacted]n:

As a terminated vested member of the Pension Plan for EJ FOOTWEAR Employees, your monthly benefit at age 65, in the form of a Straight Life Annuity *with contributions remaining in the plan* is $469.07. You have more than 20 years of credited service under the plan and therefore are eligible for early retirement. You are eligible to draw your pension benefit any time after age 60. There is a 70% reduction in your benefit if you draw as early as age 60.

You have contributed to the pension plan. As of January 1, 2004 your contributions ($61.46) plus interest ($183.26) will total $244.72. Your benefit in the form of a Straight Life Annuity *with contributions withdrawn from the plan* would be approximately $464.95 at age 65.

Complete the enclosed form to leave your contributions in the plan or the form to take a refund of your contributions. Return the form to me in the enclosed envelope.

Under the Straight Life Annuity option, you will receive monthly benefits for your lifetime only.

If you are married at the time your benefit is due to begin, you automatically receive a reduced benefit in the form of a 50% Joint and Survivor Annuity. You may reject this option in writing before your benefit commences. If rejected, the payments can be made in the form of a Single Life Annuity as described above. However, the law requires that your spouse indicates knowledge of and consents to this election by signing the appropriate papers in the presence of a Notary Public. The 50% Joint and Survivor Annuity and other optional forms of payment are not quoted because they are based, in part, on a floating interest rate.

In the event that you should die before benefit payments begin and were married for at least on year prior to your death, your spouse will retain rights to a portion of your pension benefit.

Under a 50% Joint and Survivor Annuity, you will receive a reduced benefit during your lifetime with the provision that after your death your spouse, if he/she survives you, will receive one-half of the reduced benefit payable to you for the remainder of his/her lifetime. Your benefit is reduced in order to provide continuing payments to your spouse.

Be aware that if you are not married and should die before your commencement date, there is no retirement benefit payable from the plan.

Contact us three to four months before your retirement date. At that time we will begin the process to outline the various options available and request you make a specific benefit election.

Keep the Benefits Department at EJ Footwear informed of any future changes in your address so that we will be able to contact you. .

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me 1-800-847-5510.

Sincerely,

Eileen Meseke
Mgr., Compensation & Compliance

Form 1099-R | CORRECTED (if checked) OMB No. 1545-0119 **2004**

1 Gross distribution $ 6,552.59	2a Taxable amount $ 6,552.59	Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.
2b Taxable amount not determined ☐	Total distribution ☐	

PAYER'S name, street address, city, state, and ZIP code

MERRILL LYNCH TRUST COMPANY, FSB
STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES SAVINGS &
PO BOX 1551
PENNINGTON NJ 08534

PAYER'S Federal identification number 22-3513863	RECIPIENT'S identification number 081-50-6175		
3 Capital gain (included in box 2a)	4 Federal income tax withheld $ 1,310.52		5 Employee contributions or insurance premiums
6 Net unrealized appreciation in employer's securities	7 Distribution code 1	IRA/SEP/SIMPLE	8 Other %
9a Your percentage of total distribution %	9b Total employee contributions		

RECIPIENT'S name, street address (incl. apt. no.), city, state, and ZIP code

[redacted]N, BARBARA J
RD#4 BOX 162
MONTROSE PA 18801

Account number (optional) 609774		10 State tax withheld
11 State/Payer's state no. PA		12 State distribution
13 Local tax withheld	14 Name of locality	15 Local distribution

Copy B Report this income on your Federal tax ... Department of the Treasury

Form 1099-R | CORRECTED (if checked) OMB No. 1545-0119 2004

1 Gross distribution 247.27	2a Taxable amount 246.74	Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.
2b Taxable amount not determined ☐	Total distribution X	

PAYER'S name, street address, city, state, and ZIP code

EJ FOOTWEAR CORPORATION
STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES
THE BANK OF NEW YORK-EBT-TTEE
111 SANDERS CREEK PKWY
EAST SYRACUSE,NY 13057

PAYER'S Federal identification number 13-3981805	RECIPIENT'S identification number 081-50-6175		
3 Capital gain (included in box 2a) 0.00	4 Federal income tax withheld 49.35		5 Employee contributions or insurance premiums 0.53
6 Net unrealized appreciation in employer's securities 0.00	7 Distribution code 1	IRA/SEP/SIMPLE	8 Other %
9a Your percentage of total distribution	9b Total employee contributions		

RECIPIENTS name and street address (incl. apt. no.), city, state and ZIP code

BARBARA [redacted]N
RR #4 BOX 162
MONTROSE PA 18801

Account number (optional) 1SI003		10 State tax withheld 0.00
11 State/Payer's state no. PA		12 State distribution
13 Local tax withheld 0.00	14 Name of locality	15 Local distribution

Copy B If this form shows Federal income tax withheld in Box 4, attach this

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

PENSION & ANNUITY 800-842-3068

☐ CORRECTED (if checked)

PAYER'S name, street address, city or town, state or province, country, ZIP or foreign postal code, and telephone no
THE UNITED STATES LIFE INSURANCE CO
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK
2727-A ALLEN PARKWAY
HOUSTON, TX 77019

1 Gross distribution	$2,054.76
2a Taxable amount	$2,054.76

OMB No. 1545-0119

2023

Form **1099-R**

Distributions From Pensions, Annuities, Retirement or Profit-Sharing Plans, IRAs, Insurance Contracts, etc.

Copy B
Report this income on your federal tax return. If this form shows federal income tax withheld in box 4, attach this copy to your return.

This information is being furnished to the IRS.

PAYER'S TIN	13-5459480
RECIPIENT'S TIN	***-**-0506

RECIPIENT'S name, street address (including apt. no), city or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
ANDREW[redacted]N
2159 COUNTY HOME ROAD
MONTROSE, PA 18801

2b Taxable amount not determined ☐	Total distribution ☐
3 Capital gain (included in box 2a)	4 Federal income tax withheld
5 Employee contributions/Designated Roth contributions or insurance premiums	6 Net unrealized appreciation in employer's securities
7 Distribution code(s) 7 — IRA / SEP / SIMPLE ☐	8 Other — %
9a Your percentage of total distribution %	9b Total employee contributions
14 State tax withheld	15 State/Payer's state no PA/94145507
16 State distribution $2,054.76	
17 Local tax withheld	18 Name of locality
19 Local distribution	

10 Amount allocable to IRR within 5 years	11 1st year of desig. Roth contrib.	12 FATCA filing requirement ☐
Account number (see instructions) GA10005568		13 Date of payment

Form **1099-R** www.irs.gov/Form1099R Department of the Treasury-Internal Revenue Service

Rose Scollard

From: Korb Charles <Korb.Charles@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 21, 2025 10:11 AM
To: Rose Scollard
Subject: Re: EJ Footware LLC /Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan [redacted]

Hi Rose.

My apologies. I realize now that my previous response to you was not accurate. Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan (EIN/PN: 223700860 / 001, PBGC case# 21456600) was a PBGC-covered plan, and PBGC has a case file which has been scanned. You may wish to request information from this case file under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

Charles

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 20, 2025 2:37 PM
To: Korb Charles <Korb.Charles@pbgc.gov>
Subject: RE: EJ Footware LLC /Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan ([redacted])

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the PBGC organization and was not from another government agency. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact the Service Desk with questions or concerns.

Hi Charles: I'm still working on this one. Can you confirm there is no termination file with PBGC for the Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan listed below?

Rose

From: Korb Charles <Korb.Charles@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 5:00 PM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: EJ Footware LLC /Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan ([redacted])

Hi Rose.

I found Form 5500 filings on EFAST for Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan (EIN/PN: 22-3700860/001). The Plan does not appear to have been covered by PBGC. The notes to the 2010 Form 5500 filing indicate that the Plan terminated effective 12/31/2008 and during 2010, annuity contracts were purchased from American International Life Assurance Company of New York (AIG).

Charles

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2025 10:13 AM
To: Korb Charles <Korb.Charles@pbgc.gov>
Subject: RE: EJ Footware LLC /Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan ([redacted])

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Hi Charles: my client located a document which discusses her pension plan being frozen on June 30, 2003 and the institution of the 401k plan.
The document names her pension as **Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan**. I have found through a press release that EJ Footwear was a subsidiary of Strategic Industries prior to it being sold to Rocky Brands. Any information on Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan? The PBGC website did not provide any information.

Thanks,
Rose Scollard

From: Korb Charles <Korb.Charles@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2024 1:23 PM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: EJ Footware LLC ([redacted])

Hi Rose.

According to Wikipedia, on December 6, 2004, EJ Footwear agreed to be acquired by Rocky Shoes & Boots, Inc. The Company was the sponsor of the Rocky Brands, Inc. Retirement Plan, which filed a standard termination with PBGC in 2011, and the Rocky Shoes & Boots Co. Retirement Plan for Union Employees, which filed a standard termination with PBGC in 2004. PBGC has a participant listing for the Rocky Brands, Inc. Retirement Plan, but I did not find [redacted] on the list.

Contact information for the Rocky Brands, Inc. 401(k) Plan and Trust (there is no longer a DB plan) is as follows:

Rocky Brands, Inc.
39 East Canal Street
Nelsonville, OH 45764
Telephone Number: (740) 753-9100

Plan Administrator: Kelley King
Contact for Plan Sponsor: Tom Robertson

I hope this is of some help.

Charles

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2024 3:53 PM
To: Korb Charles <Korb.Charles@pbgc.gov>
Subject: EJ Footware LLC ([redacted])

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the PBGC organization and was not from another government agency. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact the Service Desk with questions or concerns.

HI Charles: Any information on a defined benefit plan for EJ Footware LLC in Franklin, TN?

STRATEGIC INDUSTRIES

Changes to the Pension Plan and the Retirement Savings & Investment Plan (401k)

May 2003

Strategic Industries

Changes to the Pension Plan and the Retirement Savings & Investment Plan

Friday, May 16, 2003

- Welcome and thank you for taking the time to attend today's meeting.
- I'm [NAME] and I'm here on behalf of the [DEPARTMENT NAME] to tell you about some important changes to the Pension Plan and the Retirement Savings & Investment Plan.
- The Company has been in the process of evaluating our Pension and Retirement Savings & Investment Plans in order to remain competitive and business-minded in the face of rapidly rising benefits costs.
- The changes we will discuss today are a result of serious consideration and evaluation of current Strategic Industries retirement offerings, our business objectives and the retirement planning needs of our employees.

Agenda

- An Overview of What's Changing
- Why We Are Changing Our Benefits
- Changes to the Pension Plan
- A Few Details About the Plan
- Enhancements to the Retirement Savings & Investment Plan ("the Savings Plan")
- An Overview of the Retirement Savings & Investment Plan
- Advantages of the Benefit Changes
- Questions
- Final Thoughts

Friday, May 16, 2003

- Today's discussion is intended to provide an overview of the changes to the retirement benefits program effective July 1, 2003 for Strategic Industries non-bargained employees.
- In our meeting today, we will describe our business reasons for making the changes and show you how these changes represent some enhancements to your benefits.
- Finally, I hope to answer whatever questions you might have regarding these changes.

An Overview of What's Changing

Pension Plan for Non-Bargained Participants

- Participants accrue benefits through June 30, 2003
- Participants continue to earn service towards vesting and early retirement after June 30, 2003

Friday, May 16, 2003

- Before we explain why we've made changes and how these changes will affect you, let's take a look at an overview of the changes to your retirement benefit plans.
- Beginning July 1, 2003, the Strategic Industries Pension Plan will become "frozen" for all non-bargained participants.
- This **does not** mean that you will lose your accrued benefit under the Plan. What it **does** means is that any benefits accrued under the Plan will stop increasing in value.
- When you become eligible for your retirement benefit, you will receive the amount you accrued in the Pension Plan through June 30, 2003.
- Even though you will no longer be accruing benefits under the Pension Plan after June 30, 2003, you will continue to earn service towards vesting and early retirement.

Strategic Industries Retirement Plan Changes for Non-Bargained Employees

Questions and Answers

✓'s ON TRANSPARENCY

corebridge financial

Melissa Arreola
Senior Analyst
Customer Solutions Unit
806-345-7403
CSUConsumer@corebridgefinancial.com

Corebridge Financial
1050 N Western Street
Amarillo, TX 79106

VIA EMAIL: rscollard@proseniors.org

May 22, 2025

Pro Seniors, Inc.
Attn: Rosemary Scollard
7162 Reading Road
Suite 1150
Cincinnati, OH 45237

Re: The United States Life Insurance Company in the City of New York (the "Company")
Annuity Certificate for Barbara [redacted]

Dear Rosemary Scollard:

This letter is in response to your correspondence, dated May 19, 2025, addressed to Jennifer Relien, Vice President, Assistant General Counsel, Life & Retirement Division of Corebridge Financial, regarding an annuity for Barbara [redacted]. Your inquiry was forwarded to the Customer Solutions Unit, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide the following information.

Upon review, the Company has determined a benefit issued through Strategic Industries, LLC was not purchased for Barbara [redacted] at the date of transfer (August 5, 2008).

Should you have any additional questions or if you require further assistance, please feel free to contact me at (806) 345-7403, or via email at Melissa.Arreola@corebridgefinancial.com.

Sincerely,

Melissa M. Arreola

Melissa Arreola
Senior Analyst

PBGC Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024-2101
202-229-4040
PBGC.gov

Via Email: rscollard@proseniors.org

PBGC-2025-002301

June 17, 2025

Rosemary Scollard
Pro Seniors, Inc.
7162 Reading Road, Suite 1150
Cincinnati, OH 45237

Re: Request for Standard Termination Plan and Annuity Information - Barbara J. [redacted]

Dear Ms. Scollard:

I am responding to your request, received in the Disclosure Division of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) on May 21, 2025. You requested the standard termination file for Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan: Form 500, Form 501 and any distribution or annuity purchase documents for Barbara [redacted] We processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the Privacy Act of 1974 (as amended) and the PBGC's implementing regulation.

Pursuant to your request we conducted a search of agency records. We also asked the Office of Benefits Administration (OBA) and the Plan Compliance Department to conduct a search of their records. Unfortunately, we did not locate any records in our system specific to Ms. Barbara [redacted] using the information you provided such as her name, last four of social security number, and plan name. However, we located the enclosed 107 pages of records responsive to your request. The Disclosure Officer has determined the following documents may be released to you in part, as follows:

- PBGC Form 500, dated June 30, 2009 (3 pages);
- PBGC Form 501, dated May 27, 2011 (2 pages);
- PBGC Form 501- Amended, dated May 27, 2011 (1 page);
- PBGC Schedule EA-S, dated June 30, 2009 (1 page);
- PBGC Schedule REP-S, dated June 30, 2009 (2 pages); and
- Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan Distribution Data (98 pages).

Fee Waiver

The FOIA authorizes agencies to recover from requesters certain costs associated with processing requests made under the Act. PBGC may waive or reduce fees upon request by the requester. 29 C.F.R. §4901.34(a)(2017). The agency, however, need only adjudicate a ripe request for a waiver of fees. A fee waiver request becomes ripe upon a determination that fees will be assessed for the request. We did not assess any fees for processing your request; therefore, your request for fee waiver is moot.

It was necessary to withhold certain portions of personal privacy information from the enclosed documents, such as names and addresses belonging to third parties. The PBGC reasonably foresees that disclosure of personal privacy information would harm an interest protected by the FOIA. The Disclosure Officer relied on one FOIA exemption to withhold the information.

The applicable FOIA exemption, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6), exempts from required public disclosure, "personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy." Some of the records you requested contain "similar files" within the meaning of the above cited statutory language and the PBGC implementing regulation, 29 C.F.R. § 4901.21(b)(4). The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a balancing test. In applying Exemption 6, a balancing test was conducted, weighing the privacy interests of the individuals named in a document against the public interest in disclosure of the information. The public interest in disclosure is one that will "shed light on an agency's performance of its statutory duties." *Dep't of Justice v. Reporters Committee*, 489 U.S. 749, 773 (1989). The Disclosure Officer determined disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy.

Since this response constitutes a partial denial of records, I am providing you with the FOIA appeal rights. PBGC's FOIA regulation provides that if a disclosure request is denied in whole or in part by the disclosure officer, the requester may file a written appeal within 90 days from the date of the denial or, if later (in the case of a partial denial), 90 days from the date the requester receives the disclosed material. The appeal shall state the grounds for appeal and any supporting statements or arguments, and shall be addressed to the General Counsel, Attention: Disclosure Division, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, D.C. 20024. To expedite processing, the words "FOIA appeal" should appear on the letter and prominently on the envelope/email.

In the alternative, you may contact the Disclosure Division's Public Liaison at 202-229-4040 for further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. You also have the option to contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001; e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

This completes the processing of your request. There are no fees associated with its processing. You may submit future requests for PBGC records online using PBGC's Public Access Link, or via email at Disclosure@pbgc.gov.

Sincerely,

Shakendra Dixon
Government Information Specialist

Enclosures

Rose Scollard

From: Rose Scollard
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2025 11:54 AM
To: Gibbs Eric
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]
Attachments: [redacted]Barbara-12-17-2003VestedBenefitLtr.pdf; [redacted]Barbara20041099-RsContributions&401k.pdf; StrategicIndustries2003PensionSavingsPlan Changes.pdf; StrategicIndustriesForm5500 2009 formerlyMerrill Lynch.pdf; Spouse 2023 1099 R USLifeInsurCityofNY.pdf; CorebridgeUSNewYorkLife[redacted] - Company Response-5-22-2025.pdf; [redacted]BarbaraAndrew 2004 1040.pdf

Hi Mr. Gibbs: thank you for researching a pension benefit on behalf of my client, Barbara [redacted].

Employed by subsidiary of Strategic Industries/EJ Footwear from 05/1982 – 11/28/2003 Husband Andrew [redacted] employed by same company from 1979-1991 currently receiving his pension.

DOB: 10/15/1957

Documents attached:

1. 12/17/2003 Vested Benefit Letter from EJ Footwear LLC/HR Dept. – letter details "more than 20 years of credited service", "terminated vested member of the Pension Plan"
   Straight Life Annuity with contributions remaining in the plan is $469.07/m. Straight Life Annuity **with contributions withdrawn** from the plan would be approximately $464.95 at age 65**

2. 2004 1099-R (1) Merrill Lynch Trust Company, FSB Strategic Industries Savings &---Withdraw of [redacted]s 401(k). **(2) EJ Footwear Corp. Strategic Industries $247.27**withdraw of contributions.**

3. 2003 Strategic Industries Changes to the Pension Plan & the Retirement Savings & Investment Plan (401k) 05/16/2003

4. 2009 Form 5500 Strategic Industries Retirement Savings & Investment Plan – notes that this plan was formerly with Merrill Lynch, see page 31 (page 11 of notes).

5. **Andrew [redacted]s 2023 1099 R from US Life Insurance Co. City of New York for his Strategic Industries pension benefit.**

6. Corebridge Financial letter of 05/22/2025 re: US Life Insurance Co. City of New York/Strategic Industries, no benefit purchased for Barbara [redacted] at the time of transfer 08/05/2008.

7. [redacted], Barbara & Andrew 2004 1040 and attachments

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Rose Scollard

Rosemary E. Scollard. Attorney
Director, Ohio Office
Pro Seniors, Inc./Trellis Pension and Retirement Rights
513-458-5524 | Fax: 513-345-4154
rscollard@proseniors.org | www.proseniors.org

From: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 7:47 AM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: FW: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Good morning Ms. Scollard,

I am looking into the case below, can you provide us with the below information (if available) to help in our research:

Any plan documents and all you have such as deferred vested letter
Did she use any other name besides [redacted]
Date of hire
Date of birth
Date of her termination

Thanks.

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 12:06 PM
To: Advocate <Advocate@pbgc.gov>
Subject: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

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Hello:

Re: Strategic Industries, LLC Group Pension Plan (EIN/PN: 223700860 / 001, PBGC case# 21456600)

I have recently been provided the termination file for the Strategic Industries pension plan. See Post Distribution Certificate and Determination Letter attached.

My client has a vested benefit letter. Her name is not contained in the termination file. AIG does not have an annuity for her.

She has many of her tax returns. She may be able to show no payment of a lump sum for the relevant years.

Does she have any ability now to make a claim with the PBGC as a Missing Participant?

Thanks for your help.

Rose

Rosemary E. Scollard, Attorney
Director, Ohio Office
Pro Seniors, Inc./Trellis Pension and Retirement Rights
7162 Reading Road, Suite 1150
Cincinnati, OH 45237
513-458-5524 | Fax: 513-345-4154
rscollard@proseniors.org | www.proseniors.org

TRELLIS
Pension and Retirement Rights

CELEBRATING Pro Seniors 50 YEARS

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Rose Scollard

From: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 12:22 PM
To: Rose Scollard
Subject: Re: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Good afternoon,

Sorry for the delay, we are working towards a conclusion. My Manager has approved the payment, just a few internal things we need to take care of. Will update you soon.

Thanks,

Eric

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 12:20 PM
To: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

CAUTION: [External] This email originated from outside of the PBGC organization and was not from another government agency. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact the Service Desk with questions or concerns.

Hi Eric: any update on a benefit for Ms. [redacted]?

Thanks,
Rose Scollard

From: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 4, 2025 6:59 AM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Good morning,

I am working through the process of trying to get a benefit payment for Ms. [redacted] Will update you soon.

Thanks.

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 11:17 AM

To: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Subject: Re: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

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Thank you.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 10:57:58 AM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Good morning,

We are finalizing the benefit eligibility, I will follow up with you next week.

Thanks.

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 3:43 PM
To: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

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I confirmed with Kelley King/Plan Adm. at Rocky Brands that Rocky Brands did not assume any pension plan of EJ Footwear when they purchased it.

Ms. [redacted] s pension was earned under the Strategic Industries pension plan.

She withdrew her contributions from the pension plan in accordance with her vested benefit letter in 2004 from EJ Footwear/Strategic Industries.

See her 1099-R attached.

She also withdrew her funds from the Strategic Industries 401k. See her 1099-R attached.

Ms. [redacted] was employed with the subsidiary, EJ Footwear from 1982-2003. EJ Footwear was sold to Rocky Brands in 12/2004.

We know the Strategic Industries plan was terminated. Husband is getting his pension benefit via an annuity.

Rose Scollard

From: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 9:18 AM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Good morning,

We were wondering what happened when you contacted these folks that Charles Korb referred you to?

Contact information for the Rocky Brands, Inc. 401(k) Plan and Trust (there is no longer a DB plan) is as follows:

Rocky Brands, Inc.
39 East Canal Street
Nelsonville, OH 45764
Telephone Number: (740) 753-9100

Plan Administrator: Kelley King
Contact for Plan Sponsor: Tom Robertson

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 12:18 PM
To: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Subject: Re: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

CAUTION: [External] This email originated from outside of the PBGC organization and was not from another government agency. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Contact the Service Desk with questions or concerns.

Tuesday at 10 am is good. Can you give me a call at 513.458.5524 ?

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 8:06:27 AM
To: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Subject: RE: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Good morning,

I am off Monday, Tuesday I am free 10-1, or after 2 eastern.

Do any of those times work for you?

From: Rose Scollard <rscollard@proseniors.org>
Sent: Friday, July 25, 2025 10:58 AM
To: Gibbs Eric <Gibbs.Eric@pbgc.gov>
Subject: Re: Next steps/ Strategic Industries/[redacted]

Affidavit

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I, Barbara J. [redacted] declare and affirm as follows:

1. To the best of my knowledge, I was employed at E.J. Footwear, a subsidiary of Strategic Industries, LLC, from May 1982 to November 11, 2003.
2. To the best of my knowledge, I am a participant in the EJ Footwear/Strategic Industries Pension Plan (hereinafter "Pension Plan").
3. To the best of my knowledge, I did not receive my employer contributions from the Pension Plan.
4. The above statements provided by me are true and correct and I fully understand that I am making these statements under penalty of perjury.

________________ ______________________________________

Date Signature

On this ____ day of ____________, Year _______, ____________________________________, appeared personally before me, whose identity and signature is personally known to me, or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the same in his/her capacity, and that by his/her signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.

____

(Notary Public/date my commission expires)

________________ ______________________________________

Date Signature