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Description of document: List of Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC)

Inspector General (OIG) Investigations Closed in

2023 and 2024

Requested date: 10-February-2025

Release date: 04-March-2025

Posted date: 21-July-2025

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request

Disclosure Division

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

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Washington, D.C. 20024-2101

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FOIA.gov

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VIA EMAIL: mikerav@verizon.net

PBGC-2025-000990

March 4, 2025

Re: Request for PBGC Office of Inspector General Investigations Closed during 2023 and 2024

I am responding to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted via the National FOIA Portal on February 10, 2025, and received in the Disclosure Division of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) on February 11, 2025. You requested a listing of PBGC Office of Inspector General investigations closed during calendar years 2023 and 2024. You authorized fees in the amount of \$50.00. I processed your requests in accordance with the FOIA and PBGC's implementing regulation.

Pursuant to your request, the PBGC Office of Inspector General conducted a search of their records and located one excel spreadsheet responsive to your request. I have determined the responsive record may be released to you in part, as described below:

 PBGC Listing of Office of Inspector General Investigations Closed during the Years 2023 and 2024

It was necessary to redact portions of the records containing personal privacy information. PBGC reasonably foresees that disclosure of this information would harm interests protected by the FOIA. I have relied on two FOIA Exemptions to withhold this information.

The first 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). I determined disclosure of this information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy..<sup>1</sup>

The second applicable exemption, 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(7), permits the exemption from disclosure of "records compiled for law enforcement purposes" when disclosure would be detrimental to such purposes. Specifically, § 552 (b)(7)(C) prohibits disclosure if it could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. The FOIA requires agencies to conduct a balancing test when invoking this exemption. In applying Exemption 7(C), a balancing test was conducted, weighing the privacy interests of the individuals named in a document against the public interest in disclosing 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). I determined disclosure of this information would reasonably constitute an unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy.

Since this response constitutes a partial denial of your request for 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 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., 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)326-4040 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.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Courts have held that where disclosure concerning the financial makeup of a closely held corporation or small business would reveal the owner's personal finances, courts have found that the owner may have a personal privacy interest in such information. See Multi AG Media LLC v. USDA, 515 F.3d 1224, 1228-29 (D.C. Cir. 2008) (quoting Nat'l Parks, 547 F.2d at 685); see also Consumers' Checkbook Ctr. for the Study of Servs. v. HHS, 554 F.3d 1046, 1051 (D.C. Cir. 2009)

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 <a href="PBGC's Public Access Link">PBGC's Public Access Link</a>, or via email at <a href="Disclosure@pbgc.gov">Disclosure@pbgc.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Whitney Frazier-Jenkins Disclosure Officer

Whitney Krayer Gentins

Disclosure Officer

Office of General Counsel

General Law and Operations Department

Enclosure

## PBGC OIG Investigations Closed 2023-2024

Number	Title	Date Initiated	Category	Current Status	Date Closed	Complaint Source	Subject Type
24-0012-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments	5-Aug-24	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Other Person	Closed - Final	7-Aug-24	Investigative Initiative	[Unknown]
24-0010-l	Graphic Communications Conference (GCC)	6-Mar-24	Special Financial Assistance (SFA) > SFA - Deceased Participants	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	21-Oct-24	Audit Referral	Non Employee
24-0009-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)	17-Apr-24	Pension Benefit Theft - Vulnerable Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	20-Dec-24	Investigative Initiative	Non Employee
24-0008-I	Central States Pension Fund	29-Sep-23	Special Financial Assistance (SFA) > SFA - Deceased Participants	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	21-Oct-24	Audit Referral	Non Employee
24-0003-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Illegal Wiretapping	28-Nov-23	Employee Integrity - PBGC > Standards of Ethical Conduct Violation	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	12-Jun-24	PBGC Employee - Management	Employee
24-0001-l	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments	16-Oct-23	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Other Person	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	25-Sep-24	PBGC Employee - Non-Management	[Unknown]
23-0007-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments (Multiemployer)	8-Aug-23	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	5-Apr-24	PBGC Employee - Non-Management	Non Employee
23-0006-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C)	22-May-23	Employee Integrity - PBGC > Misusing PII or Non-Public Information	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	10-Jun-24	Anonymous	Contractor
23-0004-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Theft of Government Property	20-Mar-23	Employee Integrity - PBGC > Theft of Government Property	Closed - Final	30-Mar-23	PBGC Employee - Management	Employee
23-0003-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments (Multiemployer)	12-Jan-23	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	13-Jan-23	PBGC Employee - Non-Management	Non Employee
23-0001-I	(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Real Estate Company, Inc	21-Oct-22	Plan Administration Irregularities > Fiduciary Breach	Closed - Final	16-Oct-24	Federal Agency - DOJ	Non Employee
22-0006-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments	14-Apr-22	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	13-Oct-23	PBGC Employee - Non-Management	Non Employee
22-0003-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Illegal Recording - Wiretapping	29-Nov-21	Employee Integrity - PBGC > Standards of Ethical Conduct Violation	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	11-Jan-24	PBGC Employee - Management	Employee
22-0002-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments	19-Oct-21	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	13-Apr-23	Federal Agency - Other	Non Employee
22-0001-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payments	4-Oct-21	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	4-Apr-23	PBGC Employee - Management	Non Employee
21-0012-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)- Post Date of Death Payments	28-May-21	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Other Person	Closed - Final	15-Feb-23	PBGC Employee - Management	Non Employee
21-0006-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Child Pornography	11-Mar-21	Employee Integrity - PBGC > Computer Misuse > Child Pornography	Closed - Final	27-Dec-23	PBGC Employee - Management	Non Employee
21-0004-I	(b)(6), (b)(7)(C) Inc. Pension Plan	1-Mar-21	Plan Administration Irregularities > Fiduciary Breach	Closed - Final	27-Dec-23	Investigative Initiative	Non Employee
20-0013-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - (b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payment	2-Jul-20	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed - Final	29-Nov-23	PBGC Employee - Management	Non Employee
20-0011-l	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post Date of Death Payment	26-May-20	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	20-Sep-24	Contractor	[Unknown]
20-0005-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - Post date of death payment	9-Jan-20	Pension Benefit Theft - Deceased Participant > Theft by Relative	Closed Final - Management Response/Action Complete	20-Sep-24	OIG Employee	Non Employee
19-0008-I	PIMS FISMA SYSTEM - Unauthorized Access	26-Nov-18	Employee Integrity - PBGC > Computer Misuse	Closed - Final	27-Dec-23	Investigative Initiative	Contractor
19-0002-I	Missing DC Participants - (b)(6),(b)(7)(C)	15-Oct-18	Participant Benefit Irregularities	Closed - Final	27-Dec-23	PBGC Employee - Non-Management	[Unknown]
17-0039-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) - OGC Referral - Potential 18 USC 205/Misuse of Position	25-Aug-17	Employee Integrity - PBGC	Closed - Final	12-Jun-24	PBGC Employee - Non-Management	Employee
15-0028-I	(b)(6),(b)(7)(C) Reprisal Complaint; Contract Employee; Sarasota FBA	6-Aug-15	[N/A]	Closed - Final	26-Apr-24	[Other]	[Other]