

Form **990-PF**Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Return of Private Foundation**
or Section 4947(a)(1) Trust Treated as Private Foundation

OMB No 1545-0052

2017

Open to Public Inspection

Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.
Go to www.irs.gov/Form990PF for instructions and the latest information.

For calendar year 2017 or tax year beginning Oct. 1, 2017, and ending Sept. 30, 2018

Name of foundation
Messer Construction Foundation

Number and street (or P O box number if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
643 W. Court Street

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code
Cincinnati, OH 45203

G Check all that apply. ☐ Initial return ☐ Initial return of a former public charity
☐ Final return ☐ Amended return
☐ Address change ☐ Name change

H Check type of organization: ☒ Section 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation
☐ Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust ☐ Other taxable private foundation

I Fair market value of all assets at end of year (from Part II, col. (c), line 16) ▶ \$ **946,159**

J Accounting method: ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual
☐ Other (specify) _____ (Part I, column (d) must be on cash basis.)

A Employer identification number
20-0262239

B Telephone number (see instructions)
513-242-1541

C If exemption application is pending, check here ☐

D 1. Foreign organizations, check here ☐
2. Foreign organizations meeting the 85% test, check here and attach computation ☐

E If private foundation status was terminated under section 507(b)(1)(A), check here ☐

F If the foundation is in a 60-month termination under section 507(b)(1)(B), check here ☐

Part I Analysis of Revenue and Expenses (The total of amounts in columns (b), (c), and (d) may not necessarily equal the amounts in column (a) (see instructions))		(a) Revenue and expenses per books	(b) Net investment income	(c) Adjusted net income	(d) Disbursements for charitable purposes (cash basis only)
Revenue	1 Contributions, gifts, grants, etc., received (attach schedule)	302,500			
	2 Check <input type="checkbox"/> if the foundation is not required to attach Sch. B				
	3 Interest on savings and temporary cash investments	5,072	5,072		Statement 1
	4 Dividends and interest from securities				
	5a Gross rents				
	b Net rental income or (loss)				
	6a Net gain or (loss) from sale of assets not on line 10				
	b Gross sales price for all assets on line 6a				
	7 Capital gain net income (from Part IV, line 2)				
	8 Net short-term capital gain				
	9 Income modifications				
	10a Gross sales less returns and allowances				
b Less: Cost of goods sold					
c Gross profit or (loss) (attach schedule)					
11 Other income (attach schedule)					
12 Total. Add lines 1 through 11	307,572	5,072			
Operating and Administrative Expenses	13 Compensation of officers, directors, trustees, etc.				
	14 Other employee salaries and wages				
	15 Pension plans, employee benefits				
	16a Legal fees (attach schedule)				
	b Accounting fees (attach schedule)				
	c Other professional fees (attach schedule)				
	17 Interest				
	18 Taxes (attach schedule) (see instructions)				
	19 Depreciation (attach schedule) and depletion				
	20 Occupancy				
	21 Travel, conferences, and meetings				
	22 Printing and publications				
	23 Other expenses (attach schedule) Statement 2	1,869	1,869		
	24 Total operating and administrative expenses. Add lines 13 through 23	1,869	1,869		
	25 Contributions, gifts, grants paid	484,500			484,500
26 Total expenses and disbursements. Add lines 24 and 25	486,369	1,869		484,500	
27 Subtract line 26 from line 12:					
a Excess of revenue over expenses and disbursements	(178,797)				
b Net investment income (if negative, enter -0-)		3,203			
c Adjusted net income (if negative, enter -0-)			N/A		

Part II Balance Sheets		Attached schedules and amounts in the description column should be for end-of-year amounts only (See instructions.)		Beginning of year	End of year	
				(a) Book Value	(b) Book Value	(c) Fair Market Value
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest-bearing		1,113,184	946,159	946,159
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments				
	3*	Accounts receivable ▶				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	4	Pledges receivable ▶				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	5	Grants receivable				
	6	Receivables due from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons (attach schedule) (see instructions)				
	7	Other notes and loans receivable (attach schedule) ▶				
		Less: allowance for doubtful accounts ▶				
	8	Inventories for sale or use				
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	12,000	0	0	
	10a	Investments—U S and state government obligations (attach schedule)				
	b	Investments—corporate stock (attach schedule)				
	c	Investments—corporate bonds (attach schedule)				
	11	Investments—land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶				
	Less: accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶					
12	Investments—mortgage loans					
13	Investments—other (attach schedule)					
14	Land, buildings, and equipment basis ▶					
	Less: accumulated depreciation (attach schedule) ▶					
15	Other assets (describe ▶)					
16	Total assets (to be completed by all filers—see the instructions. Also, see page 1, item I)	1,125,184	946,159	946,159		
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	3,528	3,300		
	18	Grants payable				
	19	Deferred revenue				
	20	Loans from officers, directors, trustees, and other disqualified persons				
	21	Mortgages and other notes payable (attach schedule)				
	22	Other liabilities (describe ▶)				
23	Total liabilities (add lines 17 through 22)	3,528	3,300			
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Foundations that follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 24 through 26, and lines 30 and 31.					
	24	Unrestricted				
	25	Temporarily restricted				
	26	Permanently restricted				
	Foundations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here ▶ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 31.					
	27	Capital stock, trust principal, or current funds				
	28	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, bldg, and equipment fund				
	29	Retained earnings, accumulated income, endowment, or other funds	1,121,656	942,859		
	30	Total net assets or fund balances (see instructions)	1,121,656	942,859		
31	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances (see instructions)	1,125,184	946,159			

Part III Analysis of Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances

1	Total net assets or fund balances at beginning of year—Part II, column (a), line 30 (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	1	1,121,656
2	Enter amount from Part I, line 27a	2	(178,797)
3	Other increases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	3	0
4	Add lines 1, 2, and 3	4	942,859
5	Decreases not included in line 2 (itemize) ▶	5	0
6	Total net assets or fund balances at end of year (line 4 minus line 5)—Part II, column (b), line 30	6	942,859

Part IV Capital Gains and Losses for Tax on Investment Income

(a) List and describe the kind(s) of property sold (for example, real estate, 2-story brick warehouse, or common stock, 200 shs MLC Co)		(b) How acquired P—Purchase D—Donation	(c) Date acquired (mo, day, yr)	(d) Date sold (mo, day, yr)
1a NONE				
b				
c				
d				
e				
(e) Gross sales price	(f) Depreciation allowed (or allowable)	(g) Cost or other basis plus expense of sale	(h) Gain or (loss) ((e) plus (f) minus (g))	
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
Complete only for assets showing gain in column (h) and owned by the foundation on 12/31/69				
(i) FMV as of 12/31/69	(j) Adjusted basis as of 12/31/69	(k) Excess of col (i) over col (j), if any	(l) Gains (Col (h) gain minus col (k), but not less than -0-) or Losses (from col (h))	
a				
b				
c				
d				
e				
2 Capital gain net income or (net capital loss)		{ If gain, also enter in Part I, line 7 If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 7 }		2
3 Net short-term capital gain or (loss) as defined in sections 1222(5) and (6):		If gain, also enter in Part I, line 8, column (c). See instructions. If (loss), enter -0- in Part I, line 8		3

Part V Qualification Under Section 4940(e) for Reduced Tax on Net Investment Income

(For optional use by domestic private foundations subject to the section 4940(a) tax on net investment income.)

If section 4940(d)(2) applies, leave this part blank

Was the foundation liable for the section 4942 tax on the distributable amount of any year in the base period?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," the foundation doesn't qualify under section 4940(e). Do not complete this part.

1 Enter the appropriate amount in each column for each year, see the instructions before making any entries			
(a) Base period years Calendar year (or tax year beginning in)	(b) Adjusted qualifying distributions	(c) Net value of noncharitable-use assets	(d) Distribution ratio (col (b) divided by col (c))
2016	375,228	961,038	.390440
2015	322,028	732,145	.439842
2014	247,920	537,074	.461612
2013	295,108	372,879	.791431
2012	195,134	296,346	.658467
2 Total of line 1, column (d)			2 2.741792
3 Average distribution ratio for the 5-year base period—divide the total on line 2 by 5.0, or by the number of years the foundation has been in existence if less than 5 years			3 .5483584
4 Enter the net value of noncharitable-use assets for 2017 from Part X, line 5			4 1,073,965
5 Multiply line 4 by line 3			5 588,918
6 Enter 1% of net investment income (1% of Part I, line 27b)			6 32
7 Add lines 5 and 6			7 588,950
8 Enter qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4			8 484,500
If line 8 is equal to or greater than line 7, check the box in Part VI, line 1b, and complete that part using a 1% tax rate. See the Part VI instructions			

Part VI Excise Tax Based on Investment Income (Section 4940(a), 4940(b), 4940(e), or 4948—see instructions)

1a	Exempt operating foundations described in section 4940(d)(2), check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter "N/A" on line 1. Date of ruling or determination letter. (attach copy of letter if necessary—see instructions)			
b	Domestic foundations that meet the section 4940(e) requirements in Part V, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and enter 1% of Part I, line 27b	1	64	
c	All other domestic foundations enter 2% of line 27b. Exempt foreign organizations, enter 4% of Part I, line 12, col (b).			
2	Tax under section 511 (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only; others, enter -0-)	2	0	
3	Add lines 1 and 2	3	64	
4	Subtitle A (income) tax (domestic section 4947(a)(1) trusts and taxable foundations only; others, enter -0-)	4	0	
5	Tax based on investment income. Subtract line 4 from line 3. If zero or less, enter -0-	5	64	
6	Credits/Payments:			
a	2017 estimated tax payments and 2016 overpayment credited to 2017	6a	2	
b	Exempt foreign organizations—tax withheld at source	6b		
c	Tax paid with application for extension of time to file (Form 8868)	6c		
d	Backup withholding erroneously withheld	6d		
7	Total credits and payments. Add lines 6a through 6d	7	2	
8	Enter any penalty for underpayment of estimated tax. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if Form 2220 is attached	8		
9	Tax due. If the total of lines 5 and 8 is more than line 7, enter amount owed	9	62	
10	Overpayment. If line 7 is more than the total of lines 5 and 8, enter the amount overpaid	10	0	
11	Enter the amount of line 10 to be. Credited to 2018 estimated tax Refunded	11		

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities

	Yes	No
1a During the tax year, did the foundation attempt to influence any national, state, or local legislation or did it participate or intervene in any political campaign?		✓
b Did it spend more than \$100 during the year (either directly or indirectly) for political purposes? See the instructions for the definition If the answer is "Yes" to 1a or 1b , attach a detailed description of the activities and copies of any materials published or distributed by the foundation in connection with the activities.		✓
c Did the foundation file Form 1120-POL for this year?		✓
d Enter the amount (if any) of tax on political expenditures (section 4955) imposed during the year: (1) On the foundation ▶ \$ 0 (2) On foundation managers. ▶ \$ 0		
e Enter the reimbursement (if any) paid by the foundation during the year for political expenditure tax imposed on foundation managers. ▶ \$ 0		
2 Has the foundation engaged in any activities that have not previously been reported to the IRS? If "Yes," attach a detailed description of the activities.		✓
3 Has the foundation made any changes, not previously reported to the IRS, in its governing instrument, articles of incorporation, or bylaws, or other similar instruments? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the changes		✓
4a Did the foundation have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year?		✓
b If "Yes," has it filed a tax return on Form 990-T for this year? N/A		
5 Was there a liquidation, termination, dissolution, or substantial contraction during the year? If "Yes," attach the statement required by <i>General Instruction T</i> .		✓
6 Are the requirements of section 508(e) (relating to sections 4941 through 4945) satisfied either: • By language in the governing instrument, or • By state legislation that effectively amends the governing instrument so that no mandatory directions that conflict with the state law remain in the governing instrument?	✓	
7 Did the foundation have at least \$5,000 in assets at any time during the year? If "Yes," complete Part II, col (c), and Part XV	✓	
8a Enter the states to which the foundation reports or with which it is registered. See instructions ▶ OH		
b If the answer is "Yes" to line 7, has the foundation furnished a copy of Form 990-PF to the Attorney General (or designate) of each state as required by <i>General Instruction G</i> ? If "No," attach explanation	✓	
9 Is the foundation claiming status as a private operating foundation within the meaning of section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5) for calendar year 2017 or the tax year beginning in 2017? See the instructions for Part XIV. If "Yes," complete Part XIV		✓
10 Did any persons become substantial contributors during the tax year? If "Yes," attach a schedule listing their names and addresses		✓

Part VII-A Statements Regarding Activities (continued)

	Yes	No
11 At any time during the year, did the foundation, directly or indirectly, own a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," attach schedule. See instructions	11	✓
12 Did the foundation make a distribution to a donor advised fund over which the foundation or a disqualified person had advisory privileges? If "Yes," attach statement. See instructions	12	✓
13 Did the foundation comply with the public inspection requirements for its annual returns and exemption application? Website address ► <u>www.messer.com</u>	13	✓
14 The books are in care of ► <u>E. Paul Hitter, Jr.</u> Telephone no. ► <u>513-242-1541</u> Located at ► <u>643 W. Court Street, Cincinnati, OH</u> ZIP+4 ► <u>45203</u>		
15 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-PF in lieu of Form 1041—check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year ► 15		
16 At any time during calendar year 2017, did the foundation have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a bank, securities, or other financial account in a foreign country? See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for FinCEN Form 114. If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ►	16	✓

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required

	Yes	No
File Form 4720 if any item is checked in the "Yes" column, unless an exception applies.		
1a During the year, did the foundation (either directly or indirectly):		
(1) Engage in the sale or exchange, or leasing of property with a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(2) Borrow money from, lend money to, or otherwise extend credit to (or accept it from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(3) Furnish goods, services, or facilities to (or accept them from) a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(4) Pay compensation to, or pay or reimburse the expenses of, a disqualified person? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(5) Transfer any income or assets to a disqualified person (or make any of either available for the benefit or use of a disqualified person)? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
(6) Agree to pay money or property to a government official? (Exception. Check "No" if the foundation agreed to make a grant to or to employ the official for a period after termination of government service, if terminating within 90 days.) <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
b If any answer is "Yes" to 1a(1)–(6), did any of the acts fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4941(d)-3 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance? See instructions	1b	
Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance, check here ► <input type="checkbox"/>		
c Did the foundation engage in a prior year in any of the acts described in 1a, other than excepted acts, that were not corrected before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2017?	1c	✓
2 Taxes on failure to distribute income (section 4942) (does not apply for years the foundation was a private operating foundation defined in section 4942(j)(3) or 4942(j)(5)):		
a At the end of tax year 2017, did the foundation have any undistributed income (lines 6d and 6e, Part XIII) for tax year(s) beginning before 2017? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No If "Yes," list the years ► 20____, 20____, 20____, 20____		
b Are there any years listed in 2a for which the foundation is not applying the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) (relating to incorrect valuation of assets) to the year's undistributed income? (If applying section 4942(a)(2) to all years listed, answer "No" and attach statement—see instructions.)	2b	
c If the provisions of section 4942(a)(2) are being applied to any of the years listed in 2a, list the years here. ► 20____, 20____, 20____, 20____		
3a Did the foundation hold more than a 2% direct or indirect interest in any business enterprise at any time during the year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
b If "Yes," did it have excess business holdings in 2017 as a result of (1) any purchase by the foundation or disqualified persons after May 26, 1969, (2) the lapse of the 5-year period (or longer period approved by the Commissioner under section 4943(c)(7)) to dispose of holdings acquired by gift or bequest; or (3) the lapse of the 10-, 15-, or 20-year first phase holding period? (Use Schedule C, Form 4720, to determine if the foundation had excess business holdings in 2017.)	3b	
4a Did the foundation invest during the year any amount in a manner that would jeopardize its charitable purposes?	4a	✓
b Did the foundation make any investment in a prior year (but after December 31, 1969) that could jeopardize its charitable purpose that had not been removed from jeopardy before the first day of the tax year beginning in 2017?	4b	✓

Part VII-B Statements Regarding Activities for Which Form 4720 May Be Required (continued)

	Yes	No
5a During the year, did the foundation pay or incur any amount to:		
(1) Carry on propaganda, or otherwise attempt to influence legislation (section 4945(e))?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
(2) Influence the outcome of any specific public election (see section 4955), or to carry on, directly or indirectly, any voter registration drive?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
(3) Provide a grant to an individual for travel, study, or other similar purposes?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
(4) Provide a grant to an organization other than a charitable, etc., organization described in section 4945(d)(4)(A)? See instructions	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
(5) Provide for any purpose other than religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b If any answer is "Yes" to 5a(1)–(5), did any of the transactions fail to qualify under the exceptions described in Regulations section 53.4945 or in a current notice regarding disaster assistance? See instructions	5b	
Organizations relying on a current notice regarding disaster assistance, check here		<input type="checkbox"/>
c If the answer is "Yes" to question 5a(4), does the foundation claim exemption from the tax because it maintained expenditure responsibility for the grant?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If "Yes," attach the statement required by Regulations section 53.4945–5(d).		
6a Did the foundation, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b Did the foundation, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?	6b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If "Yes" to 6b, file Form 8870		
7a At any time during the tax year, was the foundation a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
b If "Yes," did the foundation receive any proceeds or have any net income attributable to the transaction?	7b	

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors**1 List all officers, directors, trustees, and foundation managers and their compensation. See instructions.**

(a) Name and address	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
Stanford T. Williams 643 W. Court Street, Cincinnati, OH 45203	President/Trustee 0.25	0	0	0
Gregory L. Herrin 643 W. Court Street, Cincinnati, OH 45203	Treasurer/Trustee 0.25	0	0	0
John F. Carder 643 W. Court Street, Cincinnati, OH 45203	Secretary/Trustee 0.25	0	0	0

2 Compensation of five highest-paid employees (other than those included on line 1—see instructions). If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$50,000	(b) Title, and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans and deferred compensation	(e) Expense account, other allowances
NONE				
Total number of other employees paid over \$50,000				0

Part VIII Information About Officers, Directors, Trustees, Foundation Managers, Highly Paid Employees, and Contractors *(continued)***3** Five highest-paid independent contractors for professional services. See instructions. If none, enter "NONE."

(a) Name and address of each person paid more than \$50,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		
Total number of others receiving over \$50,000 for professional services		0

Part IX-A Summary of Direct Charitable Activities

List the foundation's four largest direct charitable activities during the tax year. Include relevant statistical information such as the number of organizations and other beneficiaries served, conferences convened, research papers produced, etc.	Expenses
1 N/A	
2	
3	
4	

Part IX-B Summary of Program-Related Investments (see instructions)

Describe the two largest program-related investments made by the foundation during the tax year on lines 1 and 2	Amount
1 N/A	
2	
All other program-related investments. See instructions.	
3	
Total. Add lines 1 through 3	0

Part X Minimum Investment Return (All domestic foundations must complete this part. Foreign foundations, see instructions.)

1	Fair market value of assets not used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Average monthly fair market value of securities	1a	0
b	Average of monthly cash balances	1b	1,090,320
c	Fair market value of all other assets (see instructions)	1c	0
d	Total (add lines 1a, b, and c)	1d	1,090,320
e	Reduction claimed for blockage or other factors reported on lines 1a and 1c (attach detailed explanation).	1e	
2	Acquisition indebtedness applicable to line 1 assets	2	0
3	Subtract line 2 from line 1d	3	1,090,320
4	Cash deemed held for charitable activities. Enter 1½% of line 3 (for greater amount, see instructions)	4	16,355
5	Net value of noncharitable-use assets. Subtract line 4 from line 3. Enter here and on Part V, line 4	5	1,073,965
6	Minimum investment return. Enter 5% of line 5	6	53,698

Part XI Distributable Amount (see instructions) (Section 4942(j)(3) and (j)(5) private operating foundations and certain foreign organizations, check here ☐ and do not complete this part.)

1	Minimum investment return from Part X, line 6	1	53,698
2a	Tax on investment income for 2017 from Part VI, line 5	2a	64
b	Income tax for 2017. (This does not include the tax from Part VI.)	2b	
c	Add lines 2a and 2b	2c	64
3	Distributable amount before adjustments. Subtract line 2c from line 1	3	53,634
4	Recoveries of amounts treated as qualifying distributions	4	0
5	Add lines 3 and 4	5	53,634
6	Deduction from distributable amount (see instructions)	6	0
7	Distributable amount as adjusted. Subtract line 6 from line 5. Enter here and on Part XIII, line 1	7	53,634

Part XII Qualifying Distributions (see instructions)

1	Amounts paid (including administrative expenses) to accomplish charitable, etc., purposes:		
a	Expenses, contributions, gifts, etc.—total from Part I, column (d), line 26	1a	484,500
b	Program-related investments—total from Part IX-B	1b	0
2	Amounts paid to acquire assets used (or held for use) directly in carrying out charitable, etc., purposes	2	0
3	Amounts set aside for specific charitable projects that satisfy the:		
a	Suitability test (prior IRS approval required)	3a	0
b	Cash distribution test (attach the required schedule)	3b	0
4	Qualifying distributions. Add lines 1a through 3b. Enter here and on Part V, line 8; and Part XIII, line 4	4	484,500
5	Foundations that qualify under section 4940(e) for the reduced rate of tax on net investment income. Enter 1% of Part I, line 27b. See instructions	5	0
6	Adjusted qualifying distributions. Subtract line 5 from line 4	6	484,500

Note: The amount on line 6 will be used in Part V, column (b), in subsequent years when calculating whether the foundation qualifies for the section 4940(e) reduction of tax in those years.

Part XIII Undistributed Income (see instructions)

	(a) Corpus	(b) Years prior to 2016	(c) 2016	(d) 2017
1 Distributable amount for 2017 from Part XI, line 7				53,634
2 Undistributed income, if any, as of the end of 2017:				
a Enter amount for 2016 only			0	
b Total for prior years: 20____, 20____, 20____		0		
3 Excess distributions carryover, if any, to 2017:				
a From 2012	180,317			
b From 2013	276,464			
c From 2014	221,066			
d From 2015	285,421			
e From 2016	327,189			
f Total of lines 3a through e	1,290,457			
4 Qualifying distributions for 2017 from Part XII, line 4: ► \$ 484,500				
a Applied to 2016, but not more than line 2a			0	
b Applied to undistributed income of prior years (Election required—see instructions)		0		
c Treated as distributions out of corpus (Election required—see instructions)	0			
d Applied to 2017 distributable amount				53,634
e Remaining amount distributed out of corpus	430,866			
5 Excess distributions carryover applied to 2017 (If an amount appears in column (d), the same amount must be shown in column (a).)	0			0
6 Enter the net total of each column as indicated below:				
a Corpus. Add lines 3f, 4c, and 4e. Subtract line 5	1,721,323			
b Prior years' undistributed income. Subtract line 4b from line 2b		0		
c Enter the amount of prior years' undistributed income for which a notice of deficiency has been issued, or on which the section 4942(a) tax has been previously assessed		0		
d Subtract line 6c from line 6b. Taxable amount—see instructions		0		
e Undistributed income for 2016. Subtract line 4a from line 2a. Taxable amount—see instructions			0	
f Undistributed income for 2017. Subtract lines 4d and 5 from line 1. This amount must be distributed in 2018				0
7 Amounts treated as distributions out of corpus to satisfy requirements imposed by section 170(b)(1)(F) or 4942(g)(3) (Election may be required—see instructions)	0			
8 Excess distributions carryover from 2012 not applied on line 5 or line 7 (see instructions)	180,317			
9 Excess distributions carryover to 2018. Subtract lines 7 and 8 from line 6a	1,541,006			
10 Analysis of line 9:				
a Excess from 2013	276,464			
b Excess from 2014	221,066			
c Excess from 2015	285,421			
d Excess from 2016	327,189			
e Excess from 2017	430,866			

Part XIV Private Operating Foundations (see instructions and Part VII-A, question 9)

- 1a** If the foundation has received a ruling or determination letter that it is a private operating foundation, and the ruling is effective for 2017, enter the date of the ruling N/A
- b** Check box to indicate whether the foundation is a private operating foundation described in section ☐ 4942(j)(3) or ☐ 4942(j)(5)

	Tax year				(e) Total
	(a) 2017	(b) 2016	(c) 2015	(d) 2014	
2a Enter the lesser of the adjusted net income from Part I or the minimum investment return from Part X for each year listed					
b 85% of line 2a					
c Qualifying distributions from Part XII, line 4 for each year listed					
d Amounts included in line 2c not used directly for active conduct of exempt activities					
e Qualifying distributions made directly for active conduct of exempt activities. Subtract line 2d from line 2c					
3 Complete 3a, b, or c for the alternative test relied upon:					
a "Assets" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Value of all assets					
(2) Value of assets qualifying under section 4942(j)(3)(B)(i)					
b "Endowment" alternative test—enter $\frac{2}{3}$ of minimum investment return shown in Part X, line 6 for each year listed					
c "Support" alternative test—enter:					
(1) Total support other than gross investment income (interest, dividends, rents, payments on securities loans (section 512(a)(5)), or royalties)					
(2) Support from general public and 5 or more exempt organizations as provided in section 4942(j)(3)(B)(iii)					
(3) Largest amount of support from an exempt organization					
(4) Gross investment income					

Part XV Supplementary Information (Complete this part only if the foundation had \$5,000 or more in assets at any time during the year—see instructions.)**1 Information Regarding Foundation Managers:**

- a** List any managers of the foundation who have contributed more than 2% of the total contributions received by the foundation before the close of any tax year (but only if they have contributed more than \$5,000). (See section 507(d)(2).)

None

- b** List any managers of the foundation who own 10% or more of the stock of a corporation (or an equally large portion of the ownership of a partnership or other entity) of which the foundation has a 10% or greater interest

None

2 Information Regarding Contribution, Grant, Gift, Loan, Scholarship, etc., Programs:

Check here ☐ if the foundation only makes contributions to preselected charitable organizations and does not accept unsolicited requests for funds. If the foundation makes gifts, grants, etc., to individuals or organizations under other conditions, complete items 2a, b, c, and d. See instructions

- a** The name, address, and telephone number or email address of the person to whom applications should be addressed:

E. Paul Hitter Jr. Phone No. (513) 242-1541
643 W. Court Street, Cincinnati, OH 45203

- b** The form in which applications should be submitted and information and materials they should include:

Grant application and guidelines can be found at
www.messer.com/about/community/Messer_Foundation

- c** Any submission deadlines:

Postmarked by March 28th of each year.

- d** Any restrictions or limitations on awards, such as by geographical areas, charitable fields, kinds of institutions, or other factors:

Statement 3

Part XV Supplementary Information (continued)**3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment**

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a Paid during the year				
Boys & Girls of the Tennessee Valley 967 Irwin Street, Knoxville, TN 37917	None	PC	General Support	5,000
Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center 3333 Burnet Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45229	None	PC	General Support	120,000
Christ Hospital Foundation 2139 Auburn Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45219	None	PC	General Support	50,000
Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park 962 Mount Adams Cir., Cincinnati, OH 45202	None	PC	General Support	10,000
Cincinnati Shakespeare Company 1195 Elm Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202	None	PC	General Support	15,000
Columbus Collegiate Academy 28 E 7th Ave., Columbus, OH 43201	None	PC	General Support	25,000
Education Matters 2104 Saint Michael St., Cincinnati, OH 45204	None	PC	General Support	7,000
Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati 1127 Vine St., Cincinnati, OH 45202	None	PC	General Support	5,000
Friends of Levitt Pavilion Dayton 134 S. Main St, Dayton, OH 45402	None	PC	General Support	5,000
Indianapolis Public Schools 120 E. Walnut St., Indianapolis, IN 46204	None	PC	General Support	5,000
Lexington Hearing & Speech Center 350 Henry Clay Blvd., Lexington, KY 40502	None	PC	General Support	25,000
Louisville Rescue Mission 733 E. Jefferson St., Louisville, KY 40202	None	PC	General Support	25,000
Mount Carmel Health System 6150 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43213	None	PC	General Support	50,000
Music Hall Revitalization Company 1241 Elm Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202	None	PC	General Support	50,000
Norton Healthcare Foundation PO Box 35070, Louisville, KY 40232	None	PC	General Support	25,000
Renaissance West Community Initiative 3610 Nobles Ave., #199, Charlotte, NC 28208	None	PC	General Support	25,000
Total			3a	Cont.
b Approved for future payment				
Total			3b	

Part XV Supplementary Information *(continued)***3 Grants and Contributions Paid During the Year or Approved for Future Payment**

Recipient Name and address (home or business)	If recipient is an individual, show any relationship to any foundation manager or substantial contributor	Foundation status of recipient	Purpose of grant or contribution	Amount
a Paid during the year				
The Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club 736 W. Main St., Lexington, KY 40508	None	PC	General Support	5,000
Xavier University 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207	None	PC	General Support	20,000
YMCA of Greater Cincinnati 1105 Elm St., Cincinnati, OH 45202	None	PC	General Support	12,500
Total			3a	484,500
b Approved for future payment				
Total			3b	

Part XVI-A **Analysis of Income-Producing Activities**

Enter gross amounts unless otherwise indicated

Enter gross amounts unless otherwise indicated		Unrelated business income		Excluded by section 512, 513, or 514		(e) Related or exempt function income (See instructions)
		(a) Business code	(b) Amount	(c) Exclusion code	(d) Amount	
1	Program service revenue:					
a						
b						
c						
d						
e						
f						
g	Fees and contracts from government agencies					
2	Membership dues and assessments					
3	Interest on savings and temporary cash investments			14	5,072	
4	Dividends and interest from securities					
5	Net rental income or (loss) from real estate					
a	Debt-financed property					
b	Not debt-financed property					
6	Net rental income or (loss) from personal property					
7	Other investment income					
8	Gain or (loss) from sales of assets other than inventory					
9	Net income or (loss) from special events					
10	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory					
11	Other revenue: a					
b						
c						
d						
e						
12	Subtotal. Add columns (b), (d), and (e)		0		5,072	0
13	Total. Add line 12, columns (b), (d), and (e)				13	5,072

(See worksheet in line 13 instructions to verify calculations.)

Part XVI-B	Relationship of Activities to the Accomplishment of Exempt Purposes
------------	---

[illegible]

Part XVII Information Regarding Transfers to and Transactions and Relationships With Noncharitable Exempt Organizations

- | | | |
|--|---------------------|------------------|
| <p>1 Did the organization directly or indirectly engage in any of the following with any other organization described in section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3) organizations) or in section 527, relating to political organizations?</p> | <p>Yes</p> | <p>No</p> |
| <p>a Transfers from the reporting foundation to a noncharitable exempt organization of:</p> | | |
| <p>(1) Cash</p> | <p>1a(1)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>(2) Other assets</p> | <p>1a(2)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>b Other transactions:</p> | | |
| <p>(1) Sales of assets to a noncharitable exempt organization</p> | <p>1b(1)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>(2) Purchases of assets from a noncharitable exempt organization</p> | <p>1b(2)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>(3) Rental of facilities, equipment, or other assets</p> | <p>1b(3)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>(4) Reimbursement arrangements</p> | <p>1b(4)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>(5) Loans or loan guarantees</p> | <p>1b(5)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>(6) Performance of services or membership or fundraising solicitations</p> | <p>1b(6)</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>c Sharing of facilities, equipment, mailing lists, other assets, or paid employees</p> | <p>1c</p> | <p>✓</p> |
| <p>d If the answer to any of the above is "Yes," complete the following schedule. Column (b) should always show the fair market value of the goods, other assets, or services given by the reporting foundation. If the foundation received less than fair market value in any transaction or sharing arrangement, show in column (d) the value of the goods, other assets, or services received.</p> | | |

[illegible]

- 2a** Is the foundation directly or indirectly affiliated with, or related to, one or more tax-exempt organizations described in section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) or in section 527? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- b** If "Yes," complete the following schedule

(a) Name of organization	(b) Type of organization	(c) Description of relationship
N/A		

**Sign
Here**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than taxpayer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Signature of officer or trustee

2/1/19
Date

President
Title

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown below?
See instructions ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Paid
Preparer
Use Only**

Print/Type preparer's name
N/A

Preparer's signature

Date	
------	--

Check ☐ if self-employed

PTIN

Firm's name	► N/A
-------------	-------

Firm's address ► N/A

Firm's EIN ►

Phone no

Schedule B(Form 990, 990-EZ,
or 990-PF)Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Schedule of Contributors**▶ Attach to Form 990, Form 990-EZ, or Form 990-PF.
▶ Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for the latest information.

OMB No 1545-0047

2017

Name of the organization

Messer Construction Foundation

Employer identification number

20-0262239

Organization type (check one):

Filers of:**Section:**

Form 990 or 990-EZ

☐ 501(c)() (enter number) organization☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust **not** treated as a private foundation☐ 527 political organization

Form 990-PF

☒ 501(c)(3) exempt private foundation☐ 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust treated as a private foundation☐ 501(c)(3) taxable private foundationCheck if your organization is covered by the **General Rule** or a **Special Rule**.**Note:** Only a section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) organization can check boxes for both the General Rule and a Special Rule. See instructions.**General Rule**

- ☒
- For an organization filing Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF that received, during the year, contributions totaling \$5,000 or more (in money or property) from any one contributor. Complete Parts I and II. See instructions for determining a contributor's total contributions

Special Rules

- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(3) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that met the 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % support test of the regulations under sections 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi), that checked Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ), Part II, line 13, 16a, or 16b, and that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of the greater of (1) \$5,000, or (2) 2% of the amount on (i) Form 990, Part VIII, line 1h, or (ii) Form 990-EZ, line 1. Complete Parts I and II
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, total contributions of more than \$1,000 *exclusively* for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, or educational purposes, or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals. Complete Parts I, II, and III.
- ☐ For an organization described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) filing Form 990 or 990-EZ that received from any one contributor, during the year, contributions *exclusively* for religious, charitable, etc., purposes, but no such contributions totaled more than \$1,000. If this box is checked, enter here the total contributions that were received during the year for an *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., purpose. Don't complete any of the parts unless the **General Rule** applies to this organization because it received *nonexclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions totaling \$5,000 or more during the year ▶ \$ _____

Caution: An organization that isn't covered by the General Rule and/or the Special Rules doesn't file Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF), but it **must** answer "No" on Part IV, line 2, of its Form 990; or check the box on line H of its Form 990-EZ or on its Form 990-PF, Part I, line 2, to certify that it doesn't meet the filing requirements of Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

Name of organization	Employer identification number
----------------------	--------------------------------

Part I Contributors (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part I if additional space is needed.

(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
1	Messer Construction Co. 643 W. Court Street Cincinnati, OH 45203	\$ 302,500	Person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions.)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)
(a) No.	(b) Name, address, and ZIP + 4	(c) Total contributions	(d) Type of contribution
		\$	Person <input type="checkbox"/> Payroll <input type="checkbox"/> Noncash <input type="checkbox"/> (Complete Part II for noncash contributions)

Name of organization

Employer identification number

Part II **Noncash Property** (see instructions). Use duplicate copies of Part II if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----
(a) No. from Part I	(b) Description of noncash property given	(c) FMV (or estimate) (See instructions.)	(d) Date received
-----	----- ----- ----- -----	\$ -----	-----

Name of organization

Employer identification number

Part III Exclusively religious, charitable, etc., contributions to organizations described in section 501(c)(7), (8), or (10) that total more than \$1,000 for the year from any one contributor. Complete columns (a) through (e) and the following line entry. For organizations completing Part III, enter the total of *exclusively* religious, charitable, etc., contributions of \$1,000 or less for the year. (Enter this information once. See instructions.) ► \$ _____

Use duplicate copies of Part III if additional space is needed.

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----

(e) Transfer of gift

Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4

Relationship of transferor to transferee

----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
-------------------------	-------------------------

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----

(e) Transfer of gift

Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4

Relationship of transferor to transferee

----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
-------------------------	-------------------------

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----

(e) Transfer of gift

Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4

Relationship of transferor to transferee

----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
-------------------------	-------------------------

(a) No. from Part I	(b) Purpose of gift	(c) Use of gift	(d) Description of how gift is held
-----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----

(e) Transfer of gift

Transferee's name, address, and ZIP + 4

Relationship of transferor to transferee

----- ----- -----	----- ----- -----
-------------------------	-------------------------

Form 990-PF Interest on Savings and Temporary Cash Investments

Statement 1

	(A)	(B)	(C)
	Revenue per Books	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income
<u>Source</u>			
Fifth Third Bank	5,072	5,072	
Total to Part I, Line 3	5,072	5,072	

Form 990-PF

Other Expenses

Statement 2

	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)
	Expenses per Books	Net Investment Income	Adjusted Net Income	Charitable Purposes
<u>Description</u>				
Banking Fees	1,869	1,869		0
Total to Part I, Line 23	1,869	1,869		0

Form 990-PF Supplementary Information, Part XV, Line 2(d)

Statement 3

Restrictions and Limitations on Awards

Must be geographically located in one of our regions and includes those that request investment in economic inclusion, education and workforce development. Primarily, although not exclusively, Foundation will invest in capital projects.