

# Sample Company

## ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

September 2009

*Prepared by:*

Executive Financial Services, Inc.

3350 Players Club Pkwy, STE 330

Memphis, TN 38125

Phone: 901.259.7900

Fax: 901.682.8653

[www.execfin.com](http://www.execfin.com)



## **Table of Contents**

- I. ESOP Repurchase Liability Overview
- II. Projected ESOP Account Value
- III. Projected ESOP Repurchase Payments
- IV. Projected Repurchase Payments Per Key Management  
Employee
- V. ESOP Repurchase Liability Funding

## What is the Repurchase Liability?

- A claim on the future cash flow of the Company that sponsors the ESOP
- A general obligation of the plan sponsor

## What is the Repurchase Liability?

- Participants hold a “put option” requiring the corporation to buy back their vested stock account balances at fair market value;  
IRC 409(h)
- Off balance sheet liability

## Five Events That Trigger a Distribution

1. Retirement
2. Death
3. Disability
4. Diversification (25% at age 55 and after 10 years of participation; after six more years up to 50%)
5. Termination (voluntary or involuntary)

## What to Do With the Repurchased Shares?

- Redeem
- Recycle

## What to Do With the Repurchased Shares? - Redeem

- Company purchases stock from ESOP participants or those entitled to a distribution
- Shares held as treasury stock for future use
- Reduces the shares in the ESOP
- Non-ESOP stockholders increase their ownership % as stock is redeemed

## What to Do With the Repurchased Shares? - Recycle

- ESOP or the Company purchases stock from participants or those entitled to a distribution
- Shares stay in the ESOP and are reallocated to remaining ESOP participants
- Can be used to keep the ESOP percentage ownership constant



## Repurchase Obligation Management - What's the Goal?

- Strike a balance between current funding of repurchase obligation vs. company growth
- Mitigate and manage risks to future cash flow
- Make good on compensation promises
- Sustain stable ongoing business (free from unexpected cash calls)

## Starting Point – Common Assumptions

- Repurchase obligation is a legal off balance sheet liability – IRC§409(h)(1)(b)d
- The cost to redeem or recycle is a call on future cash flows
- One of the primary metrics in determining FMV is by using discounted cash flow models
- Funding effects cash flow; The decision not to fund effects value

## Starting Point – Common Threats

- Difficulty securing bank loans, trade credit and/or bonding
- Erosion of employee morale
- Personal liability for fiduciaries
- Constricted cash flow to fund current & future opportunities
- Employees remaining with Company face a compression in retirement value due to overstatement of cash flow in early years
- Unexpected terminations, disability or death

## **Step 1 – Perform Repurchase Obligation Study**

- Forecast liability
- Run multiple scenarios to determine range of outcomes
- Calculate cost on NPV basis

## Step 2 – Evaluate Results

- Review forecasts vs. long term strategic plans & financial projections
  - Will the ESOP buy additional shares from outside shareholders? If so, what will it cost?
  - Is there existing transaction debt that may impact your Company's cash flow and therefore its ability to fund the repurchase obligation?
  - Will your Company need cash to make future acquisitions or to facilitate a merger?

## Step 2 – Evaluate Results, cont'd.

- Review forecasts vs. long term strategic plans & financial projections
  - Does your Company expect future divestitures that may require cash to meet participant payouts?
  - Does your Company wish to perpetuate employee ownership or conversely plan on shrinking the ESOP?

## Step 2 – Evaluate Results, cont'd.

- Understand factors influencing magnitude & timing of liability
  - Demographics
  - Distribution policy
  - Outstanding ESOP debt
  - Cash flow & stock value

## Step 3 – Evaluate Funding Strategies

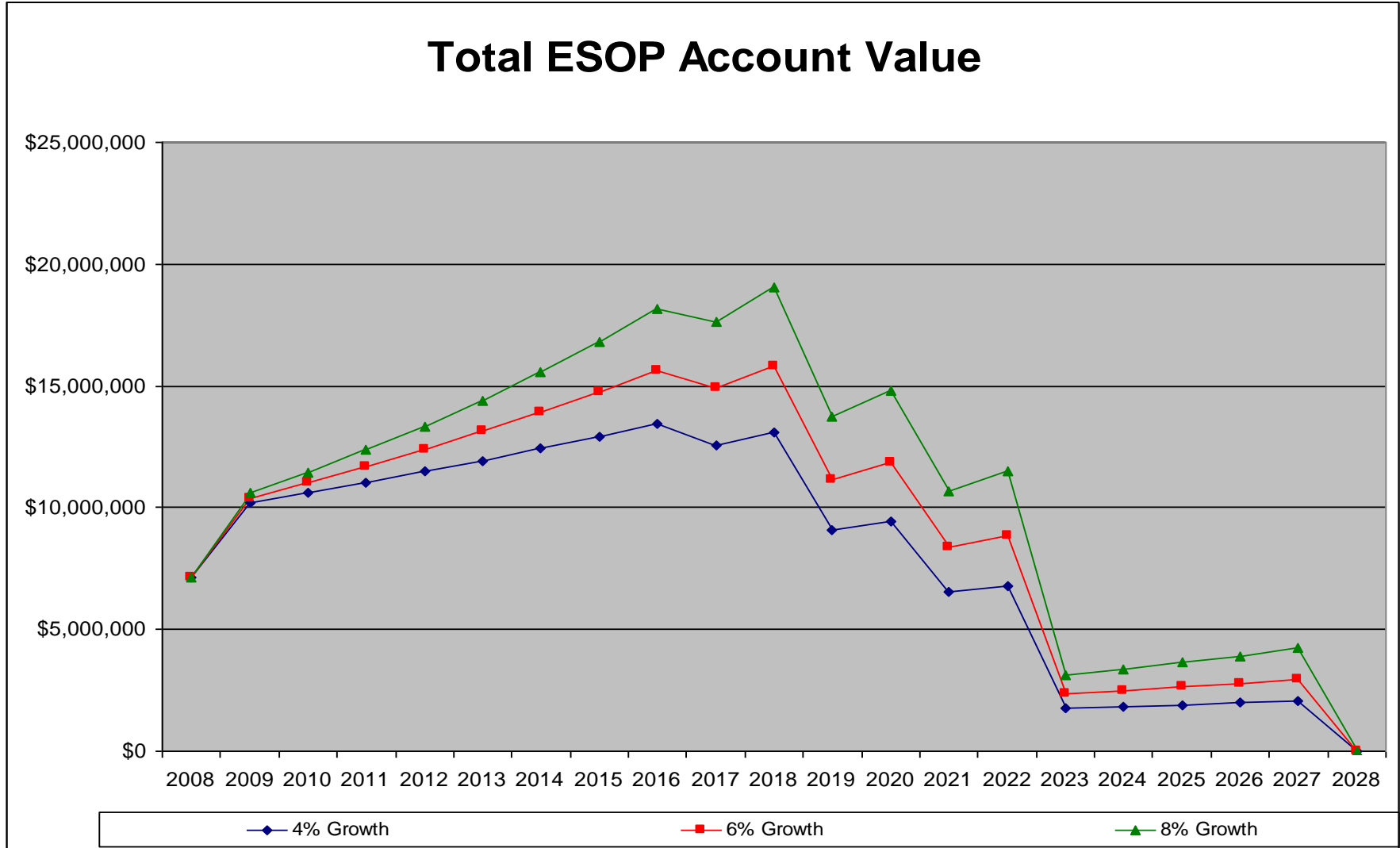
- Determine asset/liability gap
- Determine amount of excess cash that can be devoted to funding liability
- Evaluate funding alternatives and determine desired amount to fund from cash flow vs. sinking fund vs. sale of assets
- Determine the desired mix of taxable vs. tax-advantaged investments
- Document the funding policy



## Step 4 – Implement Funding Solution(s)

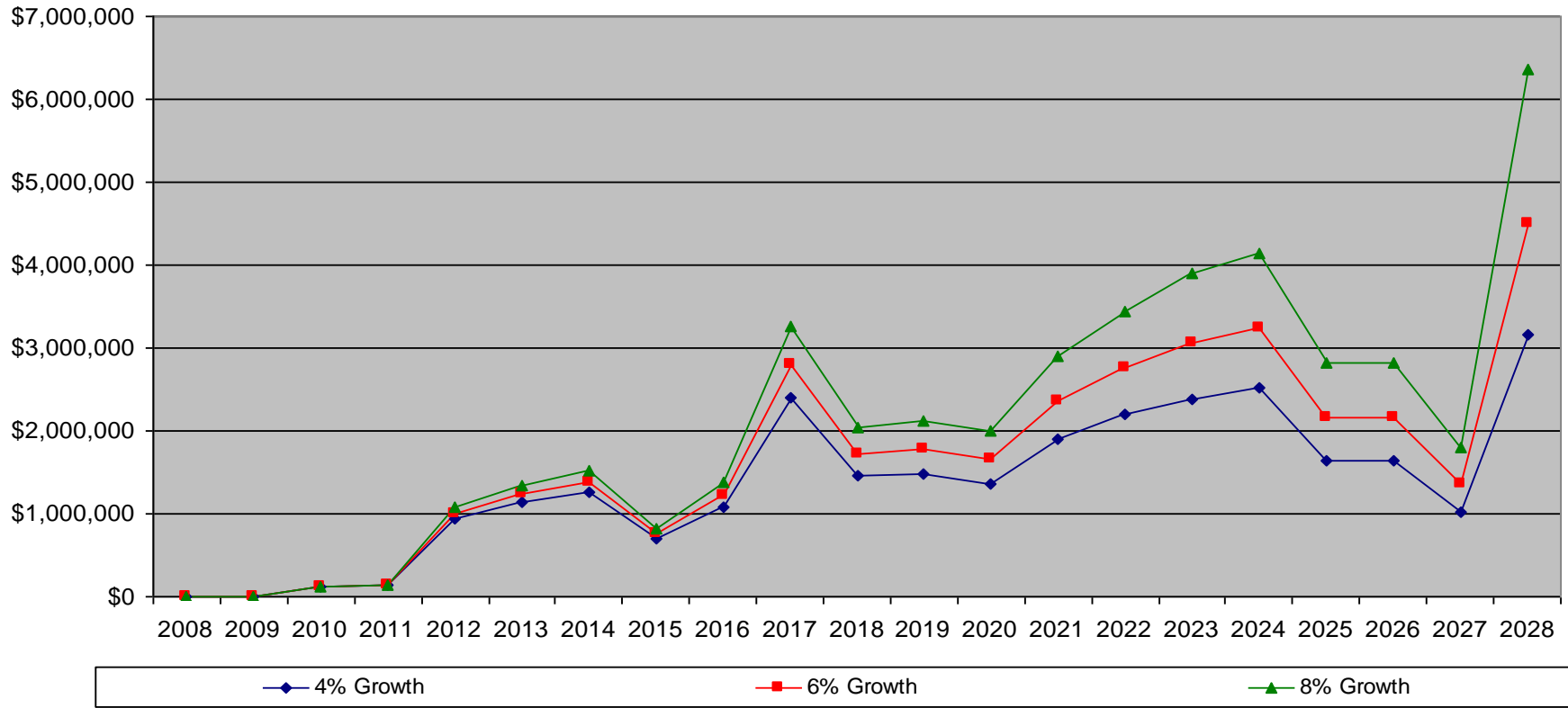
- Ascertain acceptable risk levels
  - Back-testing worst case and maximum draw down
- Determine cash budget for funding
- Determine optimal asset allocation
- Estimate probabilities of success – Monte Carlo simulations
- Consider funding immediate liabilities from cash flow & long-term liabilities from investments

# Sample Company ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study



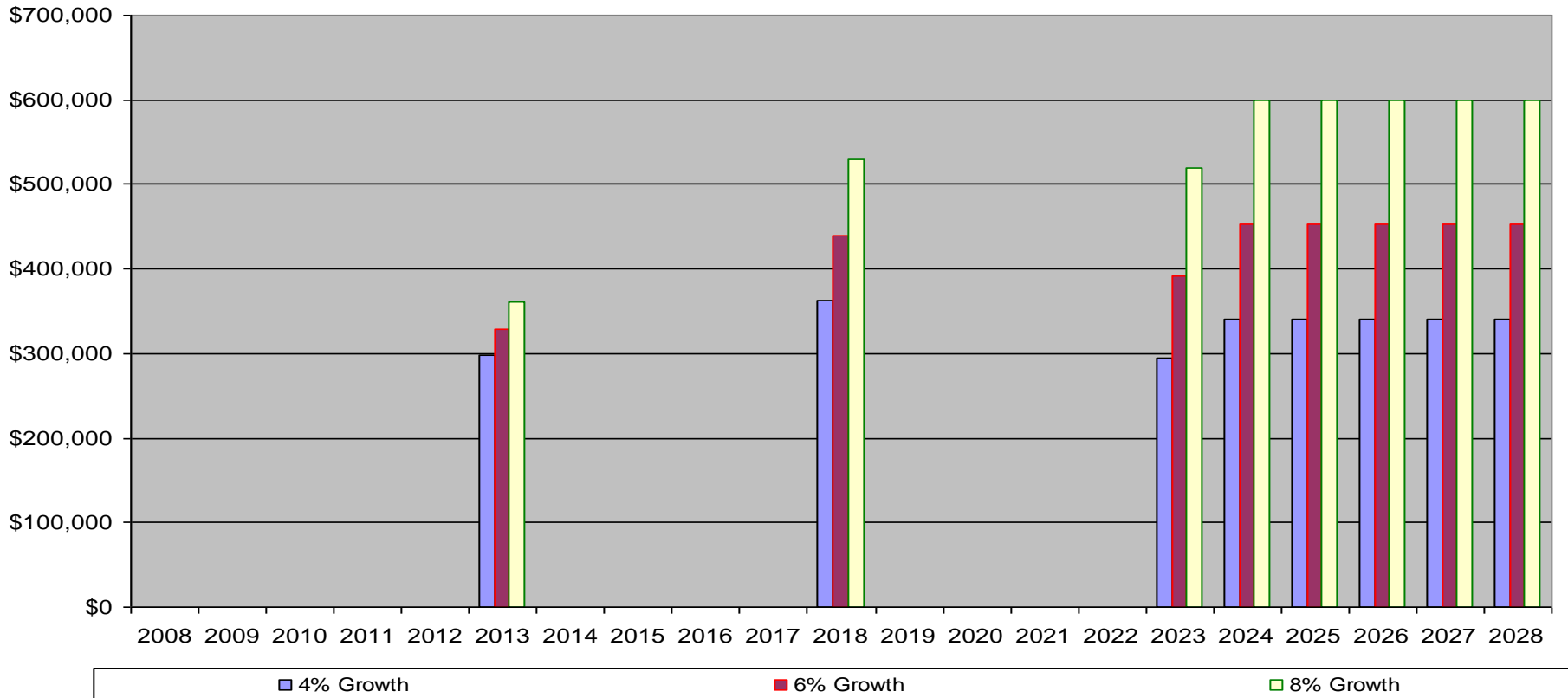
# Sample Company ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

## Total ESOP Repurchase Payments 5 Year Promissory Note @ 5%



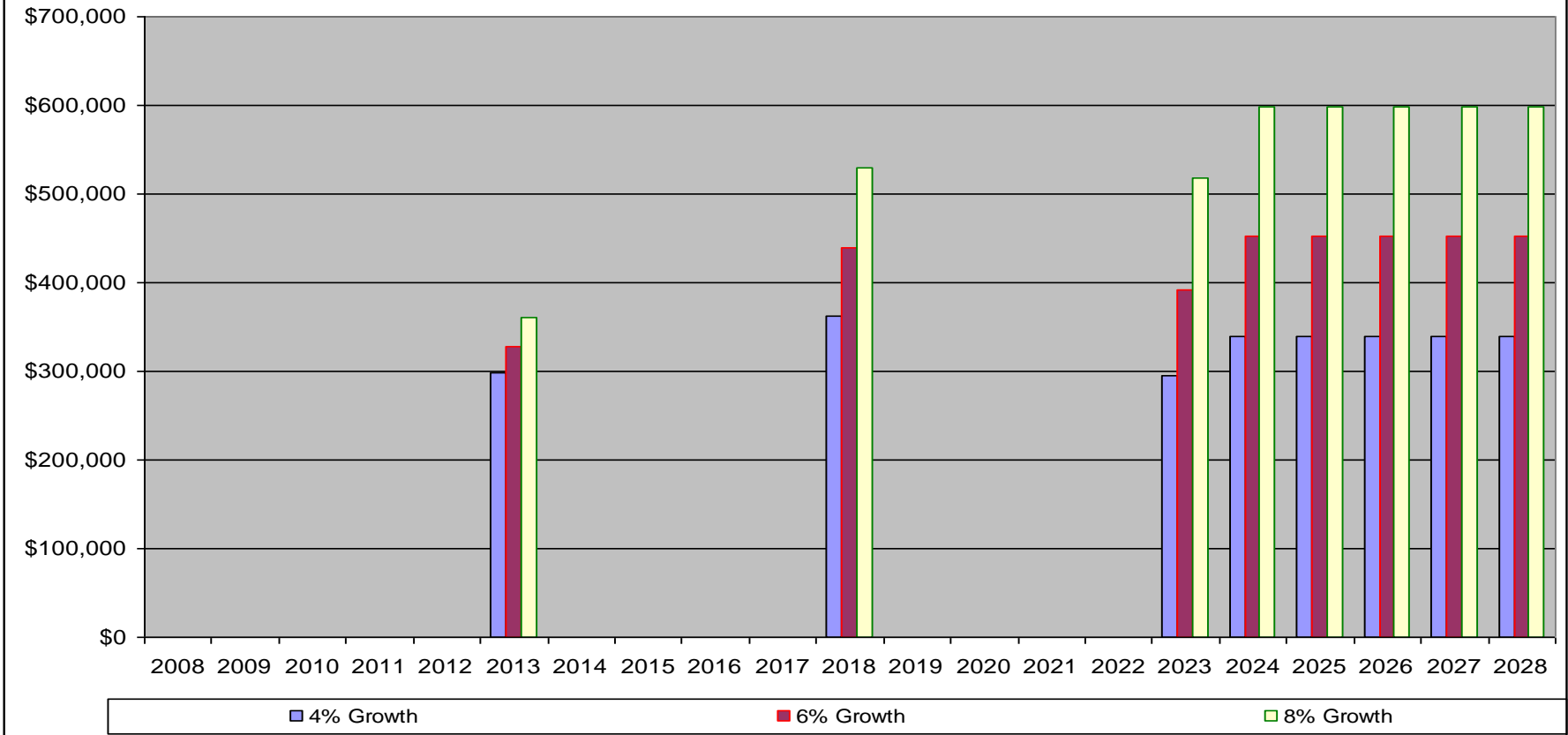
# Sample Company ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

## Key Employee 1 ESOP Repurchase Payments 5 Year Promissory Note @ 5%



# Sample Company ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

## Key Employee 2 ESOP Repurchase Payments 5 Year Promissory Note @ 5%



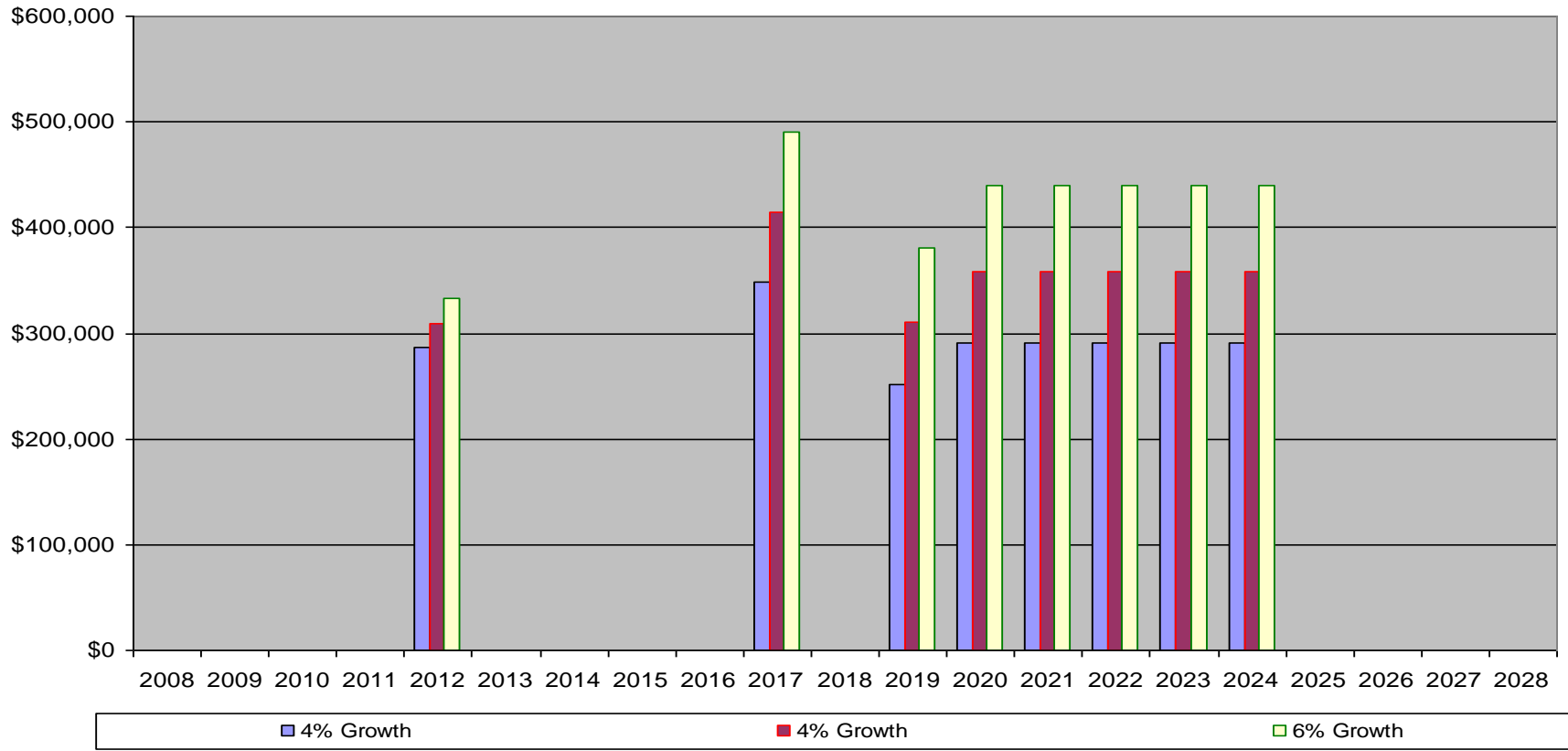
# Sample Company

## ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

### Key Employee 3

#### ESOP Repurchase Payments

#### 5 Year Promissory Note @ 5%



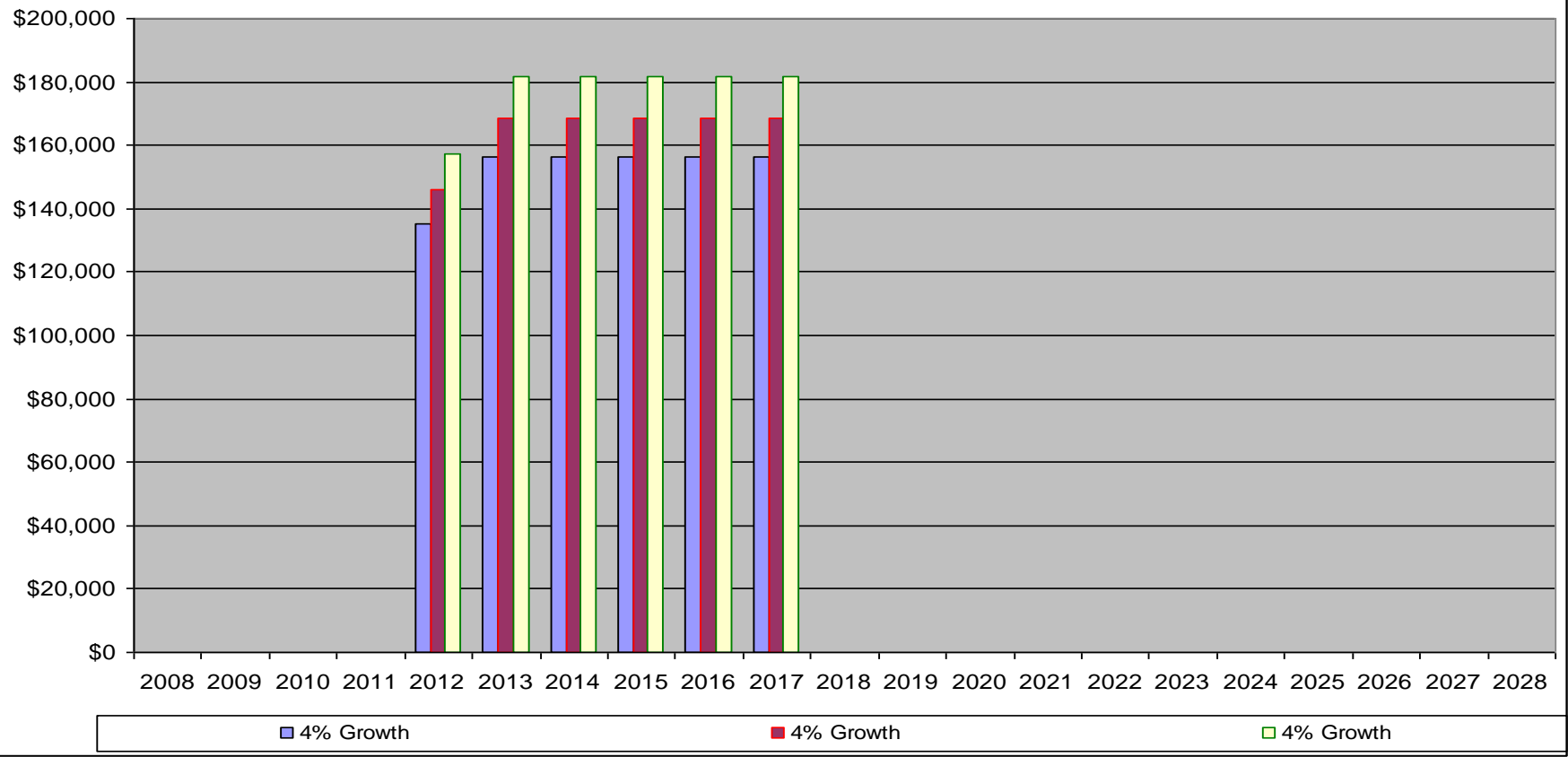
# Sample Company

## ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

### Key Employee 4

#### ESOP Repurchase Payments

#### 5 Year Promissory Note @ 5%



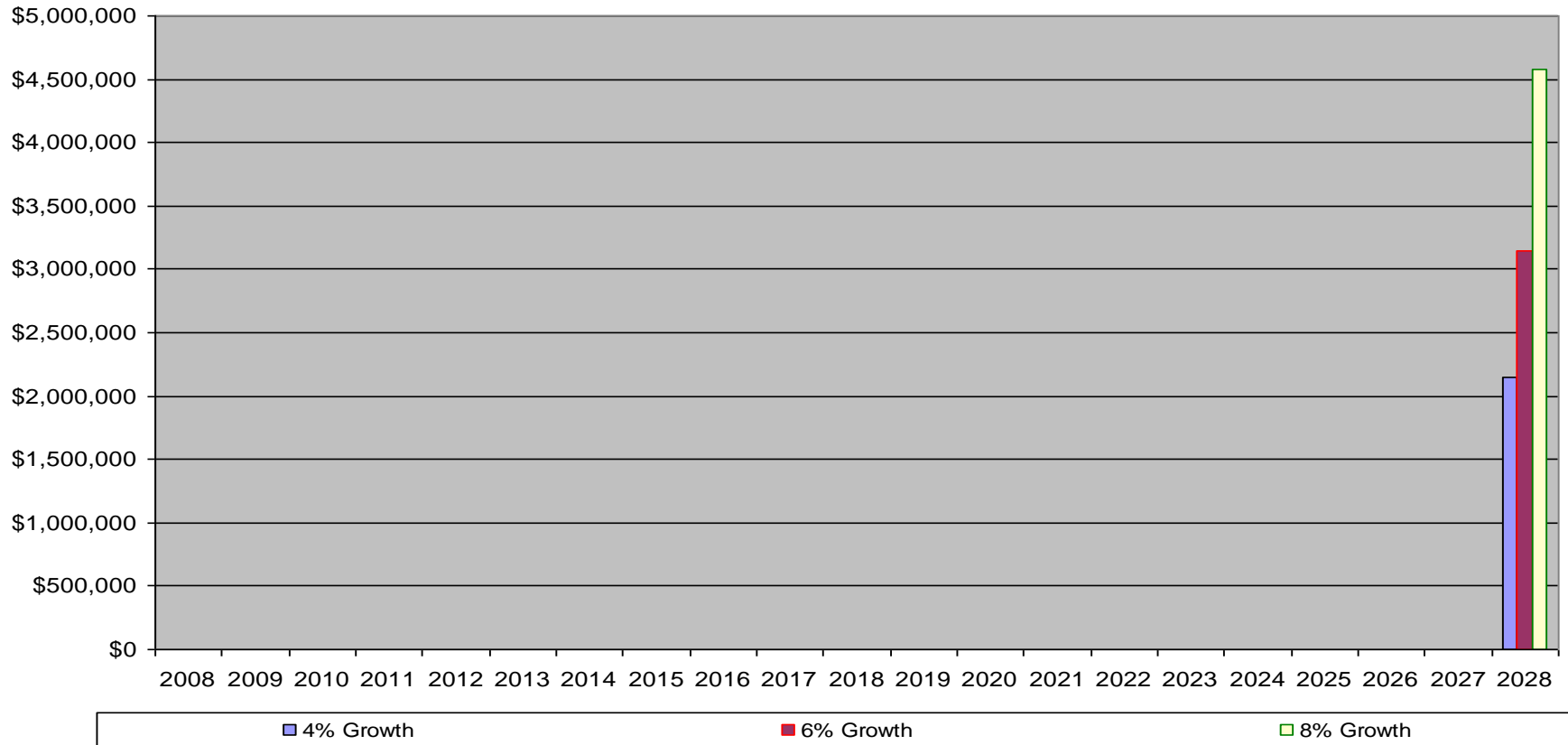
# Sample Company

## ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

### Key Employee 5

#### ESOP Repurchase Payments

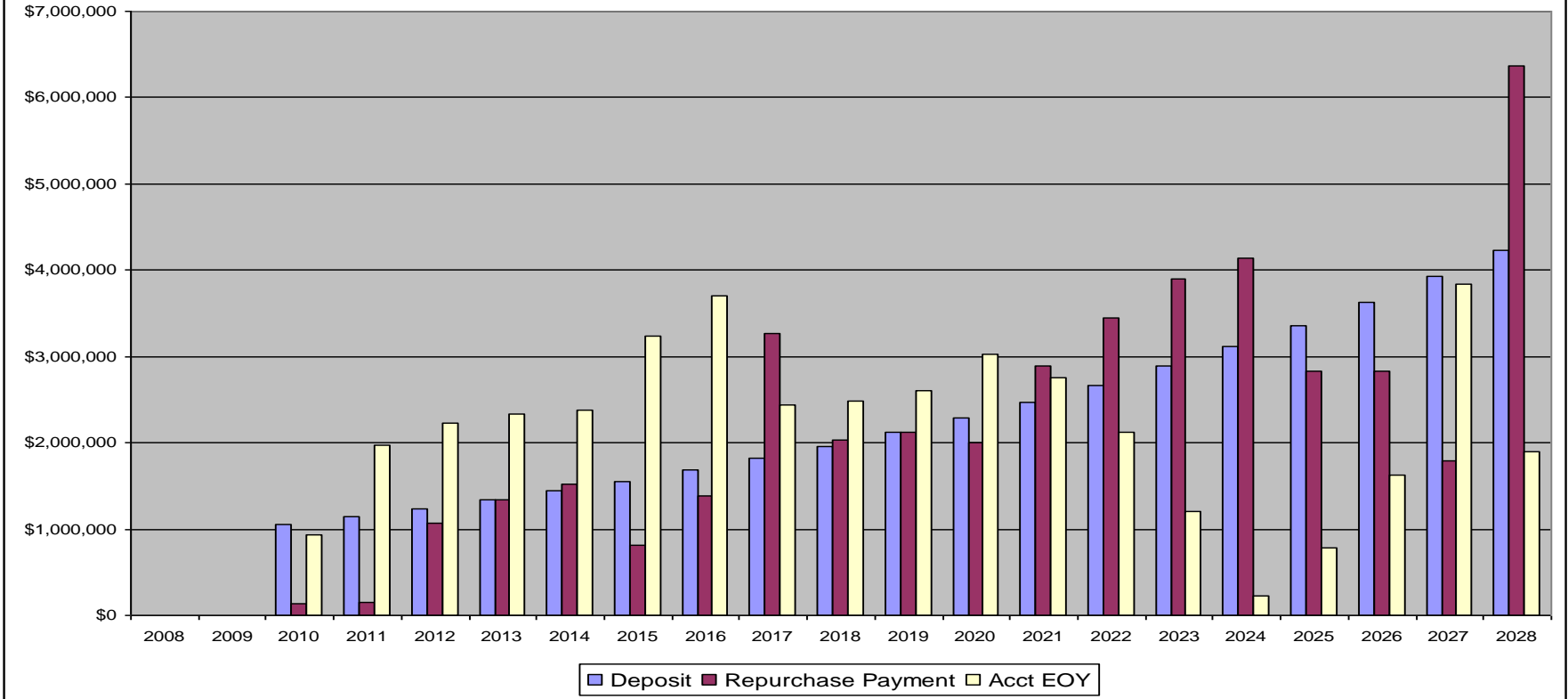
#### 5 Year Promissory Note @ 5%





# Sample Company ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study

**8% Company Growth  
ESOP Repurchase Liability Fund  
5 Year Promissory Note  
Initial Deposit \$1.06M**

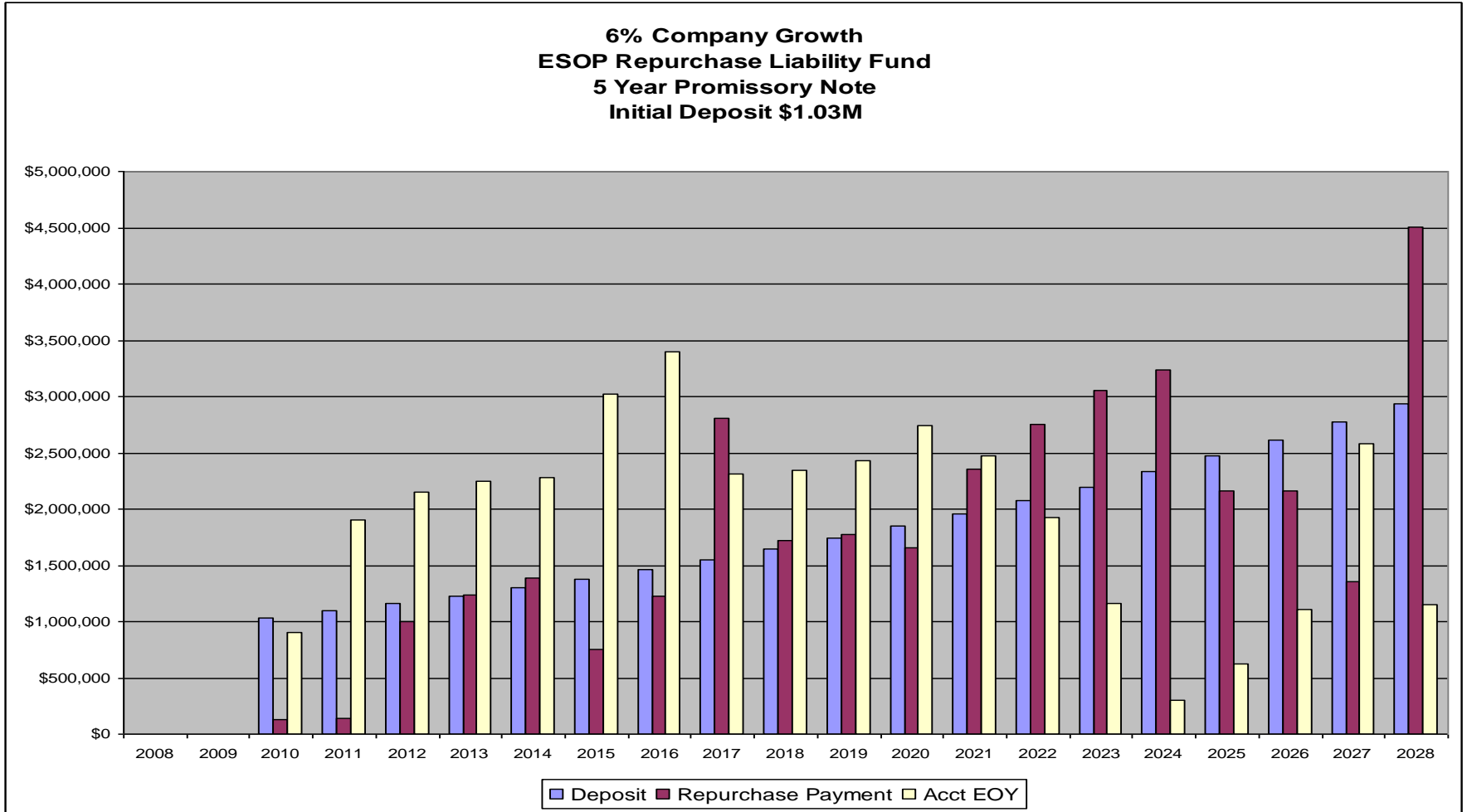


**Assumptions:**

- Account Deposits will be made at the end of each year
- Interest earned on Deposits will be 5%
- Initial Deposit will be \$1.06M and will compound annually at 8%



# Sample Company ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study



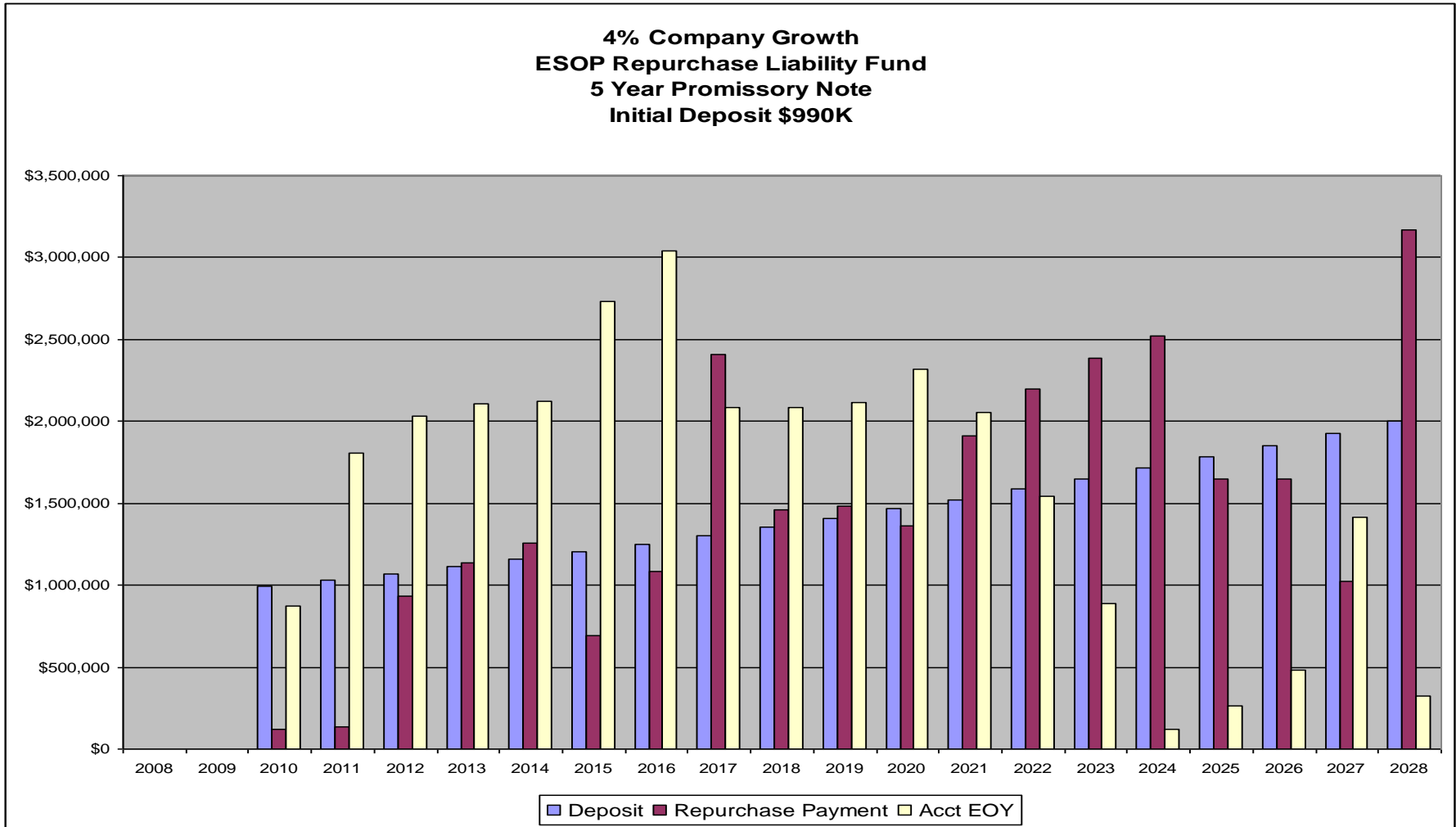
**Assumptions:**

- Account Deposits will be made at the end of each year
- Interest earned on Deposits will be 5%
- Initial Deposit will be \$1.03M and will compound annually at 6%



# Sample Company

## ESOP Repurchase Obligation Study



**Assumptions:**

- Account Deposits will be made at the end of each year
- Interest earned on Deposits will be 5%
- Initial Deposit will be \$990K and will compound annually at 4%



## Repurchase Liability Projection Assuming 6% Company CAGR

- Total Repurchase Liability \$35,420,926
- Years 1 – 10 \$10,398,454 (30%)
- Years 11 – 20 \$25,022,247 (70%)
- NPV of the RL Over 20 Years \$18,924,952  
(Assuming 5% discount rate)