

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) February 24, 2023

THE E.W. SCRIPPS COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)

0-16914
(Commission
File Number)

31-1223339
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)

312 Walnut Street
Cincinnati, Ohio
(Address of principal executive offices)

45202
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 977-3000

Not Applicable
(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act.

| Title of each class | Trading Symbol(s) | Name of each exchange on which registered |
|--|-------------------|---|
| Class A Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share | SSP | NASDAQ Global Select Market |

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR § 230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR § 240.12b-2).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

THE E.W. SCRIPPS COMPANY
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Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition

On February 24, 2023, we released information regarding results of operations for the quarter and year-to-date period ended December 31, 2022. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

| Exhibit Number | Description of Item |
|---------------------------|---|
| 99.1 | Press release dated February 24, 2023 |
| 104 | Cover Page Interactive Data File (embedded within the Inline XBRL document) |

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

THE E.W. SCRIPPS COMPANY

BY: /s/ Daniel W. Perschke
Daniel W. Perschke
Vice President, Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

Dated: February 24, 2023

Scripps' quarterly segment profit jumped 21%, driven by political and distribution revenue

Feb. 24, 2023

CINCINNATI — The E.W. Scripps Company (NASDAQ: SSP) delivered \$681 million in revenue and \$204 million in segment profit for the fourth quarter of 2022, year-over-year increases of 9.4% and 21% respectively, driven by growth in political advertising and distribution-related revenues.

On Jan. 5, the company announced plans to reorganize, creating a more nimble enterprise that further leverages Scripps' strong position in the U.S. television ecosystem and propels its growth across emerging media marketplaces. Scripps Networks President Lisa Knutson was promoted to chief operating officer and is leading the reorganization. Scripps expects this work to result in at least \$40 million in annual savings and will begin taking restructuring charges this year.

Highlights:

- On Dec. 15, the company launched the Scripps Sports division to seize on this moment of opportunity in the changing sports rights landscape with its local market depth and national broadcast reach, in partnership with sports leagues, conferences and teams. Brian Lawlor, who has led the company's Local Media division since 2009, was appointed president of the new division.
- Scripps News launched Jan. 1, incorporating the former Newsy brand and other Scripps national news operations into one powerful national news network.
- The Local Media division delivered a full-year midterm election-year record of nearly \$200 million in political advertising revenue, alongside the record \$655 million in distribution revenue for 2022, driving a 13% increase in division revenue over fiscal year 2021.
- Scripps will renew about 75% of traditional pay TV subscriber households in 2023, driving distribution revenue growth and margin expansion.
- The Scripps Networks division grew connected TV (CTV) revenue by nearly 40% from 2021 to 2022 as its popular national brands, including ION, Bounce and Grit, gained further distribution across the major streaming services. The division expects to generate more than \$100 million in CTV revenue in 2023.
- In January, Scripps partnered with the nonprofit News Literacy Project on the fourth annual National News Literacy Week – a public service effort to encourage news consumers to stop the flood of misinformation and learn how to identify trustworthy news. Dozens of other media outlets partnered with the initiative to educate their readers and viewers on this important issue for democracy.

“Since the beginning of this year, Scripps has been engaged in examining the best ways to structure our company so that we are well-positioned to capture the opportunities we see emerging in our industry,” said Adam Symson, Scripps' president and CEO. “We see those in three key growth areas: the content categories of news, sports and entertainment; TV distribution platforms; and the burgeoning marketplace enabled by ATSC 3.0.

“The reorganization work will include the centralization of some services and the consolidation of layers of management across the company. We expect to realize savings of at least \$40 million. Our end goal, however, is not just a more efficient structure but a smarter one, designed to use the breadth of our assets to accelerate the company's growth.

“As a precursor to our reorganization work, we launched the Scripps Sports division, led by Brian Lawlor, to serve sports teams and leagues left isolated from their fans by the fall-out connected to cord cutting. Through our local station portfolio and the ION network, we have both local market depth and unparalleled national reach over the air, on pay TV and across the important digital platforms — everywhere audiences watch television. We are working with leagues and teams that recognize the way a partnership with Scripps will expand their reach and strengthen their connection with the passionate fans who are so crucial to them.

“As we all bear witness to this country’s ongoing economic uncertainty and its impact on consumer spending, we see even greater opportunity for Scripps through free TV. It is a growth lever that differentiates our story from peers. Given our sizable share of all OTA viewing, we are creating shareholder value by promoting the use of digital antennas and other new ways of accessing our high-quality television programming for free. In addition, we are working with the industry to develop business models made possible through ATSC 3.0 technology. The most promising of these is datacasting — a marketplace quickly moving from the horizon to the foreground, with tremendous opportunity for those who hold broadcast spectrum.”

Operating results

Total fourth-quarter company revenue was \$681 million, an increase of 9.4% or \$58.7 million from the prior-year quarter due to higher political and distribution revenue in our Local Media division.

Costs and expenses for segments, shared services and corporate were \$477 million, up from \$454 million in the year-ago quarter.

Income attributable to the shareholders of Scripps was \$73 million or 84 cents per share. The pre-tax costs for the quarter included a \$7.4 million gain on extinguishment of debt from the redemption of senior notes. This item increased income attributable to the shareholders by \$5.5 million, net of taxes, or 7 cents per share. In the prior-year quarter, income from continuing operations attributable to the shareholders of Scripps was \$40.2 million or 43 cents per share. Pre-tax costs for the prior-year quarter included acquisition and related integration costs of \$4.8 million and an \$1.6 million loss on extinguishment of debt from the redemption of senior notes. These items decreased income from continuing operations by \$4.8 million, net of taxes, or 5 cents per share.

Fourth-quarter 2022 results by segment compared to prior-period amounts:

Local Media

Revenue from Local Media was \$433 million, up 24% from the prior-year quarter.

- Core advertising revenue decreased 11% to \$164 million.
- Political revenue was \$106 million, compared to \$11 million in the prior-year quarter.
- Distribution revenue increased 5.4% to \$160 million.

Segment expenses increased 4.9% to \$282 million, driven by network affiliation fees and the impact of Scripps employees returning to working in its station buildings.

Segment profit was \$152 million, compared to \$82.2 million in the year-ago quarter.

Scripps Networks

Revenue from Scripps Networks was \$248 million, down 9.2% from the prior-year quarter, reflecting softness within the national advertising marketplace as a result of macroeconomic challenges.

Segment expenses for Scripps Networks were \$168 million, in-line with expenses in the prior-year quarter.

Segment profit was \$80 million, compared to \$106 million in the year-ago quarter.

Financial condition

On Dec. 31, cash and cash equivalents totaled \$18 million and total debt was \$2.9 billion.

During 2022, we redeemed a total of \$172 million of the outstanding principal on our senior notes, including \$48 million in Q4, and we made additional principal payments on our term loan totaling \$100 million, including \$75 million in Q4. In addition, we made mandatory principal payments of \$18.6 million on our term loans in 2022, for a total reduction in gross debt of \$290 million.

Preferred stock dividends paid in 2022 were \$48 million. Under the terms of Berkshire Hathaway's preferred equity investment in Scripps, we are prohibited from paying dividends on or repurchasing our common shares until all preferred shares are redeemed.

Year-to-date operating results

The following comparisons are for the period ending Dec. 31, 2022:

Total 2022 company revenue was \$2.5 billion, an increase of 7.4% or \$170 million from the prior year, due to higher political and distribution revenues. Political revenue was \$208 million, compared to \$22.7 million in the prior year.

Costs and expenses for segments, shared services and corporate were \$1.9 billion, up from \$1.7 billion in the year-ago period, reflecting costs attributed to our 2021 over-the-air network launches, continued investment in programming, higher affiliation fees and the impact of Scripps employees returning to working in its stations and offices.

Income attributable to the shareholders of Scripps was \$145.6 million or \$1.62 per share. Pre-tax costs for the 2022 period included \$1.6 million of acquisition and related integration costs as well as an \$8.6 million gain on extinguishment of debt from the redemption of senior notes. These items increased income attributable to the shareholders by \$5.2 million, net of taxes, or 6 cents per share. In the prior-year period, income from continuing operations attributable to the shareholders of Scripps was \$66.5 million or 74 cents per share. Pre-tax costs for the prior year included: an \$81.8 million gain from the sale of Triton; a \$15.3 million loss on extinguishment of debt; a \$99.1 million non-cash adjustment due to the increase in the fair value of the outstanding common stock warrant liability; acquisition and related integration costs of \$40.4 million; \$9.4 million of restructuring costs; and a \$32.6 million gain on the sale of our Denver (KMGH) television station building. These items decreased income from continuing operations by \$58.8 million, net of taxes, or 67 cents per share.

Looking ahead

Comparisons for our segments are to the same period in 2022.

| | First-quarter 2023 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Local Media revenue | Down mid-single-digit percent range |
| Local Media expense | Flat |
| Scripps Networks revenue | Down high-single-digit percent range |
| Scripps Networks expense | Up high-single-digit percent range |
| Shared services and corporate | About \$24 million |
| | Full-year 2023 |
| Interest paid | Between \$180-\$190 million |
| Capital expenditures | Between \$75-\$85 million |
| Taxes paid | Between \$40-\$50 million |
| Depreciation and amortization | Between \$155-\$165 million |

Conference call

The senior management of The E.W. Scripps Company will discuss the company's quarterly results during a telephone conference call at **9:30 a.m. Eastern today**. To access the live webcast, visit <http://ir.scripps.com> and find the link under "upcoming events."

To access the conference call by telephone, dial (844) 867-6169 (U.S.) or (409) 207-6975 (international) and give the access code 4229660 approximately five minutes before the start of the call. Investors and analysts will need the name of the call ("Scripps earnings call") to be granted access. The public is granted access to the conference call on a listen-only basis.

A replay line will be open from 1:30 p.m. Eastern time Feb. 24 until midnight March 24. The domestic number to access the replay is (866) 207-1041 and the international number is (402) 970-0847. The access code for both numbers is 3388176.

A replay of the conference call will be archived and available online for an extended period of time following the call. To access the audio replay, visit <http://ir.scripps.com/> approximately four hours after the call, and the link can be found on that page under “audio/video links.”

Forward-looking statements

This document contains certain forward-looking statements related to the company’s businesses that are based on management’s current expectations. Forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, trends and uncertainties, including changes in advertising demand and other economic conditions that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations expressed in forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are made as of the date of this document and should be evaluated with the understanding of their inherent uncertainty. A detailed discussion of principal risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results and events to differ materially from such forward-looking statements is included in the company’s Form 10-K, on file with the SEC, in the section titled “Risk Factors.” The company undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances after the date such statements are made.

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About Scripps

The E.W. Scripps Company (NASDAQ: SSP) is a diversified media company focused on creating a better-informed world. As one of the nation’s largest local TV broadcasters, Scripps serves communities with quality, objective local journalism and operates a portfolio of 61 stations in 41 markets. The Scripps Networks reach nearly every American through the national news outlets Court TV and Scripps News and popular entertainment brands ION, Bounce, Defy TV, Grit, ION Mystery, Laff and TrueReal. Scripps is the nation’s largest holder of broadcast spectrum. Scripps runs an award-winning investigative reporting newsroom in Washington, D.C., and is the longtime steward of the Scripps National Spelling Bee. Founded in 1878, Scripps has held for decades to the motto, “Give light and the people will find their own way.”

THE E.W. SCRIPPS COMPANY
312 Walnut St., Cincinnati, OH 45202 | Scripps.com

THE E.W. SCRIPPS COMPANY
RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

| (in thousands, except per share data) | Three Months Ended December 31, | | Years Ended December 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 |
| Operating revenues | \$ 680,941 | \$ 622,291 | \$ 2,453,215 | \$ 2,283,532 |
| Segment, shared services and corporate expenses | (476,565) | (453,594) | (1,856,930) | (1,701,331) |
| Acquisition and related integration costs | — | (4,791) | (1,642) | (40,373) |
| Restructuring costs | — | — | — | (9,436) |
| Depreciation and amortization of intangible assets | (40,104) | (39,578) | (160,433) | (161,922) |
| Gains (losses), net on disposal of property and equipment | (215) | (679) | (5,866) | 30,275 |
| Operating expenses | (516,884) | (498,642) | (2,024,871) | (1,882,787) |
| Operating income | 164,057 | 123,649 | 428,344 | 400,745 |
| Interest expense | (46,703) | (38,259) | (161,130) | (165,164) |
| Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt | 7,355 | (1,572) | 8,589 | (15,347) |
| Defined benefit pension plan income (expense) | 605 | (93) | 2,613 | (343) |
| Gain on sale of Triton business | — | — | — | 81,784 |
| Losses on stock warrant | — | — | — | (99,118) |
| Miscellaneous, net | (3,222) | (8,585) | (1,953) | (15,469) |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes | 122,092 | 75,140 | 276,463 | 187,088 |
| Provision for income taxes | (36,543) | (22,323) | (80,561) | (71,189) |
| Income from continuing operations, net of tax | 85,549 | 52,817 | 195,902 | 115,899 |
| Income (loss) from discontinued operations, net of tax | — | (14) | — | 6,813 |
| Net income | 85,549 | 52,803 | 195,902 | 122,712 |
| Preferred stock dividends | (12,576) | (12,576) | (50,305) | (49,372) |
| Net income attributable to the shareholders of The E.W. Scripps Company | \$ 72,973 | \$ 40,227 | \$ 145,597 | \$ 73,340 |
| Net income per diluted share of common stock attributable to the shareholders of The E.W. Scripps Company: | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations | \$ 0.84 | \$ 0.43 | \$ 1.62 | \$ 0.74 |
| Income from discontinued operations | — | — | — | 0.08 |
| Net income per diluted share of common stock attributable to the shareholders of The E.W. Scripps Company | \$ 0.84 | \$ 0.43 | \$ 1.62 | \$ 0.81 |
| Diluted weighted-average shares outstanding | 84,792 | 91,206 | 87,346 | 87,979 |

See notes to results of operations.

The sum of net income per share from continuing and discontinued operations may not equal the reported total net income per share as each is calculated independently.

Notes to Results of Operations

1. SEGMENT INFORMATION

We determine our business segments based upon our management and internal reporting structure, as well as the basis that our chief operating decision maker makes resource allocation decisions.

Our Local Media segment includes our 61 local broadcast stations and their related digital operations. It is comprised of 18 ABC affiliates, 11 NBC affiliates, nine CBS affiliates and four FOX affiliates. We also have 12 CW affiliates - four on full power stations and eight on multicast; five independent stations and 10 additional low power stations. Our Local Media segment earns revenue primarily from the sale of advertising to local, national and political advertisers and retransmission fees received from cable operators, telecommunication companies, satellite carriers and over-the-top virtual MVPDs.

Our Scripps Networks segment is comprised of nine national television networks that reach nearly every U.S. television home through free over-the-air broadcast, cable/satellite, connected TV and digital distribution. These operations earn revenue primarily through the sale of advertising.

Our respective business segment results reflect the impact of intercompany carriage agreements between our local broadcast television stations and our national networks. We also allocate a portion of certain corporate costs and expenses, including accounting, procurement, human resources, employee benefit and information technology to our business segments. These intercompany agreements and allocations are generally amounts agreed upon by management, which may differ from an arms-length amount.

The other segment caption aggregates our operating segments that are too small to report separately. Costs for centrally provided services and certain corporate costs that are not allocated to the business segments are included in shared services and corporate costs. These unallocated corporate costs would also include the costs associated with being a public company. Corporate assets are primarily cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash, property and equipment primarily used for corporate purposes and deferred income taxes.

Our chief operating decision maker evaluates the operating performance of our business segments and makes decisions about the allocation of resources to our business segments using a measure called segment profit. Segment profit excludes interest, defined benefit pension plan amounts, income taxes, depreciation and amortization, impairment charges, divested operating units, restructuring activities, investment results and certain other items that are included in net income (loss) determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Information regarding our business segments is as follows:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended December 31, | | | Years Ended December 31, | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | Change | 2022 | 2021 | Change |
| Segment operating revenues: | | | | | | |
| Local Media | \$ 433,439 | \$ 350,734 | 23.6 % | \$ 1,494,357 | \$ 1,319,468 | 13.3 % |
| Scripps Networks | 247,844 | 272,938 | (9.2)% | 961,242 | 951,883 | 1.0 % |
| Other | 3,990 | 2,546 | 56.7 % | 14,628 | 26,924 | (45.7)% |
| Intersegment eliminations | (4,332) | (3,927) | 10.3 % | (17,012) | (14,743) | 15.4 % |
| Total operating revenues | \$ 680,941 | \$ 622,291 | 9.4 % | \$ 2,453,215 | \$ 2,283,532 | 7.4 % |
| Segment profit (loss): | | | | | | |
| Local Media | \$ 151,627 | \$ 82,169 | 84.5 % | \$ 386,369 | \$ 268,140 | 44.1 % |
| Scripps Networks | 79,979 | 106,431 | (24.9)% | 310,336 | 389,278 | (20.3)% |
| Other | (5,887) | (154) | | (18,140) | 359 | |
| Shared services and corporate | (21,343) | (19,749) | 8.1 % | (82,280) | (75,576) | 8.9 % |
| Acquisition and related integration costs | — | (4,791) | | (1,642) | (40,373) | |
| Restructuring costs | — | — | | — | (9,436) | |
| Depreciation and amortization of intangible assets | (40,104) | (39,578) | | (160,433) | (161,922) | |
| Gains (losses), net on disposal of property and equipment | (215) | (679) | | (5,866) | 30,275 | |
| Interest expense | (46,703) | (38,259) | | (161,130) | (165,164) | |
| Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt | 7,355 | (1,572) | | 8,589 | (15,347) | |
| Defined benefit pension plan income (expense) | 605 | (93) | | 2,613 | (343) | |
| Gain on sale of Triton business | — | — | | — | 81,784 | |
| Losses on stock warrant | — | — | | — | (99,118) | |
| Miscellaneous, net | (3,222) | (8,585) | | (1,953) | (15,469) | |
| Income from continuing operations before income taxes | \$ 122,092 | \$ 75,140 | | \$ 276,463 | \$ 187,088 | |

Operating results for our Local Media segment were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended December 31, | | Change | Years Ended December 31, | | Change |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | | 2022 | 2021 | |
| Segment operating revenues: | | | | | | |
| Core advertising | \$ 164,188 | \$ 183,476 | (10.5)% | \$ 626,095 | \$ 663,864 | (5.7)% |
| Political | 105,559 | 11,102 | | 198,519 | 22,693 | |
| Distribution | 160,049 | 151,806 | 5.4 % | 655,499 | 617,305 | 6.2 % |
| Other | 3,643 | 4,350 | (16.3)% | 14,244 | 15,606 | (8.7)% |
| Total operating revenues | 433,439 | 350,734 | 23.6 % | 1,494,357 | 1,319,468 | 13.3 % |
| Segment costs and expenses: | | | | | | |
| Employee compensation and benefits | 109,529 | 110,143 | (0.6)% | 425,840 | 433,989 | (1.9)% |
| Programming | 120,279 | 108,415 | 10.9 % | 481,712 | 438,719 | 9.8 % |
| Other expenses | 52,004 | 50,007 | 4.0 % | 200,436 | 178,620 | 12.2 % |
| Total costs and expenses | 281,812 | 268,565 | 4.9 % | 1,107,988 | 1,051,328 | 5.4 % |
| Segment profit | \$ 151,627 | \$ 82,169 | 84.5 % | \$ 386,369 | \$ 268,140 | 44.1 % |

Operating results for Scripps Networks segment were as follows:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended December 31, | | Change | Years Ended December 31, | | Change |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | | 2022 | 2021 | |
| Total operating revenues | \$ 247,844 | \$ 272,938 | (9.2)% | \$ 961,242 | \$ 951,883 | 1.0 % |
| Segment costs and expenses: | | | | | | |
| Employee compensation and benefits | 30,533 | 30,464 | 0.2 % | 120,202 | 103,624 | 16.0 % |
| Programming | 88,495 | 85,808 | 3.1 % | 342,835 | 288,484 | 18.8 % |
| Other expenses | 48,837 | 50,235 | (2.8)% | 187,869 | 170,497 | 10.2 % |
| Total costs and expenses | 167,865 | 166,507 | 0.8 % | 650,906 | 562,605 | 15.7 % |
| Segment profit | \$ 79,979 | \$ 106,431 | (24.9)% | \$ 310,336 | \$ 389,278 | (20.3)% |

2. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| (in thousands) | As of December 31, | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 |
| ASSETS | | |
| Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 18,027 | \$ 66,223 |
| Restricted cash | — | 34,257 |
| Other current assets | 625,914 | 601,801 |
| Total current assets | 643,941 | 702,281 |
| Investments | 23,144 | 21,632 |
| Property and equipment | 458,600 | 456,945 |
| Operating lease right-of-use assets | 117,869 | 124,821 |
| Goodwill | 2,920,574 | 2,913,384 |
| Other intangible assets | 1,821,254 | 1,910,311 |
| Programming | 427,962 | 510,316 |
| Miscellaneous | 17,661 | 18,624 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | \$ 6,431,005 | \$ 6,658,314 |
| LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 82,710 | \$ 83,931 |
| Unearned revenue | 18,183 | 20,000 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 18,612 | 18,612 |
| Accrued expenses and other current liabilities | 365,500 | 389,337 |
| Total current liabilities | 485,005 | 511,880 |
| Long-term debt (less current portion) | 2,853,793 | 3,129,393 |
| Other liabilities (less current portion) | 961,382 | 1,046,607 |
| Total equity | 2,130,825 | 1,970,434 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | \$ 6,431,005 | \$ 6,658,314 |

3. EARNINGS PER SHARE (“EPS”)

Unvested awards of share-based payments with rights to receive dividends or dividend equivalents, such as our RSUs, are considered participating securities for purposes of calculating EPS. Under the two-class method, we allocate a portion of net income to these participating securities and therefore exclude that income from the calculation of EPS for common stock. We do not allocate losses to the participating securities.

The following table presents information about basic and diluted weighted-average shares outstanding:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended December 31, | | Years Ended December 31, | |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 |
| Numerator (for basic and diluted earnings per share) | | | | |
| Income from continuing operations, net of tax | \$ 85,549 | \$ 52,817 | \$ 195,902 | \$ 115,899 |
| Less income allocated to RSUs | (1,924) | (1,145) | (3,662) | (1,855) |
| Less preferred stock dividends | (12,576) | (12,576) | (50,305) | (49,372) |
| Numerator for basic and diluted earnings per share | <u>\$ 71,049</u> | <u>\$ 39,096</u> | <u>\$ 141,935</u> | <u>\$ 64,672</u> |
| Denominator | | | | |
| Basic weighted-average shares outstanding | 83,455 | 82,533 | 83,220 | 82,327 |
| Effect of dilutive securities | 1,337 | 8,673 | 4,126 | 5,652 |
| Diluted weighted-average shares outstanding | <u>84,792</u> | <u>91,206</u> | <u>87,346</u> | <u>87,979</u> |

4. NON-GAAP INFORMATION

In addition to results prepared in accordance with GAAP, this earnings release discusses free cash flow, a non-GAAP performance measure that management and the company's Board of Directors uses to evaluate the performance of the business. We also believe that the non-GAAP measure provides useful information to investors by allowing them to view our business through the eyes of management and is a measure that is frequently used by industry analysts, investors and lenders as a measure of valuation for broadcast companies.

Free cash flow is calculated as non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDA (as defined below), plus reimbursements received from the FCC for repack expenditures, less capital expenditures, preferred stock dividends, interest payments, income taxes paid (refunded) and mandatory contributions to defined retirement plans.

Adjusted EBITDA is calculated as income (loss) from continuing operations, net of tax, plus income tax expense (benefit), interest expense, losses (gains) on extinguishment of debt, defined benefit pension plan expense (income), share-based compensation costs, depreciation, amortization of intangible assets, loss (gain) on business and asset disposals, mark-to-market losses (gains), acquisition and integration costs, restructuring charges and certain other miscellaneous items.

A reconciliation of these non-GAAP measures to the comparable financial measure in accordance with GAAP is as follows:

| (in thousands) | Three Months Ended December 31, | | Years Ended December 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 |
| Income from continuing operations, net of tax | \$ 85,549 | \$ 52,817 | \$ 195,902 | \$ 115,899 |
| Provision for income taxes | 36,543 | 22,323 | 80,561 | 71,189 |
| Interest expense | 46,703 | 38,259 | 161,130 | 165,164 |
| Loss (gain) on extinguishment of debt | (7,355) | 1,572 | (8,589) | 15,347 |
| Defined benefit pension plan expense (income) | (605) | 93 | (2,613) | 343 |
| Share-based compensation costs | 3,811 | 4,006 | 21,596 | 22,334 |
| Depreciation | 15,421 | 15,048 | 61,943 | 58,357 |
| Amortization of intangible assets | 24,683 | 24,530 | 98,490 | 103,565 |
| Losses (gains), net on disposal of property and equipment | 215 | 679 | 5,866 | (30,275) |
| Acquisition and related integration costs | — | 4,791 | 1,642 | 40,373 |
| Restructuring costs | — | — | — | 9,436 |
| Gain on sale of Triton business | — | — | — | (81,784) |
| Losses on stock warrant | — | — | — | 99,118 |
| Miscellaneous, net | 3,222 | 8,585 | 1,953 | 15,469 |
| Adjusted EBITDA | 208,187 | 172,703 | 617,881 | 604,535 |
| Capital expenditures | (9,822) | (16,181) | (43,901) | (62,378) |
| Proceeds from FCC Repack | 20 | 1,864 | 2,670 | 20,062 |
| Preferred stock dividends | (12,000) | (12,000) | (48,000) | (45,067) |
| Interest paid | (27,008) | (15,441) | (150,796) | (126,257) |
| Income taxes paid, net of tax indemnification reimbursements | (5,066) | (27,660) | (61,573) | (85,621) |
| Mandatory contributions to defined retirement plans | (788) | (257) | (1,541) | (25,117) |
| Free cash flow | \$ 153,523 | \$ 103,028 | \$ 314,740 | \$ 280,157 |