FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person [®]					2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ALASKA AIR GROUP INC [ALK]									ck all ap	, ,	ng Perso	.,	
(Last) (First) (Middle)						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/17/2006]	Offic	Director Officer (give title below)		10% Owner Other (specify below)	
ALASKA AIR GROUP INC 19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD					4. lf	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)							Line	1	vidual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable			
(Street) SEATTLE WA 98188														Form	orm filed by One Reporting Person orm filed by More than One Reporting erson			
(City)	(Sta	ate) (Z	Zip)															
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																		
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) Date (Month/Day/Y					Execution Date,		Transaction		4. Securities Acquired (A Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 5)				Secur Bene Owne	ficially ed	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)		7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
								Code	v	Amount	(A) (D)) or P	rice	Repo Trans	Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		4)	(Instr. 4)
COMMON 05/17/20					006			J ⁽¹⁾		403	A	A \$	37.19 ⁽	²⁾ 5,000		D		
Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																		
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Exect if any	Deemed ution Date, / th/Day/Year)	Code	. 5. Number of of Oerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)			7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)		of D Si	Price erivative ecurity nstr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	Owr For Dire or li (I) (I 4)	nership m: ect (D) ndirect nstr.	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

Explanation of Responses:

1. GRANT OF SHARES IN PAYMENT OF BOARD ANNUAL RETAINER UNDER A PLAN EXEMPT UNDER 16b-3(d).

2. THE ACQUISITION PRICE IS THE AVERAGE CLOSING PRICE ON THE NYSE FOR 30 TRADING DAYS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE STOCK PURCHASE DATE.

Date

Exercisable

Expiration

Date

and 5)

(A) (D)

v

Shannon K. Alberts, Attorney-05/26/2006

In-Fact

Amount or Number

Shares

of

Title

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Code

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.