

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL	
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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

<b>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*</b> <u>THOMPSON J KENNETH</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>19300 INTERNATIONAL BLVD</u>  (Street) <u>SEATTLE WA 98188</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	<b>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</b> <u>ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. [ ALK ]</u>	<b>5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</b> (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
	<b>3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)</b> <u>05/03/2018</u>	
<b>4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)</b>		

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
COMMON STOCK <sup>(1)</sup>	05/03/2018		A <sup>(2)</sup>		1,589 <sup>(3)</sup>	A	\$62.92	37,053	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)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date					

**Explanation of Responses:**

- TOTAL HELD IN COLUMN 5 INCLUDES 21,344 DEFERRED STOCK UNITS PREVIOUSLY GRANTED UNDER THE ISSUER'S 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN. THE DEFERRED STOCK UNITS ARE 100% VESTED ON THE DATE OF GRANT AND ISSUABLE IN COMMON SHARES UPON RESIGNATION FROM THE ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
- COMMON SHARES GRANTED UNDER ALASKA AIR GROUP'S 2016 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN IN CONNECTION WITH THE REPORTING PERSON'S RE-ELECTION TO SERVE ON THE COMPANY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNTIL THE 2019 ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS MEETING.
- THE PRICE REPORTED IN COLUMN 4 REPRESENTS THE COST BASIS FOR THE SHARES ISSUED.

/S/ JEANNE E. GAMMON,  
ATTORNEY IN FACT FOR J. 05/07/2018  
KENNETH THOMPSON

\*\* 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.

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.