Dalton Michael Form 4 February 02, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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SECURITIES Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

may continue. See Instruction 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * **Dalton Michael**

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Last)

ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Check all applicable)

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450

(First)

(Street)

(Month/Day/Year)

Director 10% Owner _X__ Officer (give title Other (specify

01/29/2009

below) below) President of a subsidiary

(Middle)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Instr. 8)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Person

MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)

2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (I) Ownership

(Instr. 4)

(Instr. 4)

Following Reported

Owned

Transaction(s)

(A) (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

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

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Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security

Conversion or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number Transaction of Derivative Expiration Date Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of 8 **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr.	8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)					
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 16.7	01/29/2009		A		6,000		<u>(1)</u>	01/29/2019	Common Stock	6,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Dalton Michael

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450 MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

President of a subsidiary

Signatures

Daniel H. Walker, as

attorney-in-fact 02/02/2009

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * 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).
- (1) The option vests in five equal annual installments beginning on January 29, 2010.

Remarks:

President of Bandera Healthcare, Inc.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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