CENTENE CORP Form 4 July 05, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

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subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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if no longer

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

1(b).

Thompson Tommy G Issuer Symbol CENTENE CORP [CNC] (Check all applicable) (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction X_ Director (Month/Day/Year) 10% Owner Other (specify Officer (give title 7711 CARONDELET 06/30/2006 below)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Zip)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

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

Person

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

SAINT LOUIS, MO 63105 (City) (State)

1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securitie	es Acq	uired (A)	5. Amount of	6.	Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactionr Disposed of (D)			Securities	Ownership	Indirect	
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(Instr. 3, 4	and 5)		Beneficially	Form:	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	Direct (D)	Ownership
							Following	or Indirect	(Instr. 4)
					(4)		Reported	(I)	
					(A)		Transaction(s)	(Instr. 4)	
			G 1 17		or	ъ.	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price			
Common Stock	06/30/2006		A	957.254 (1)	A	\$ 23.94	8,108.483	D	

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)

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1. Title of Derivative	2. Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. Transactio	5. orNumber	6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date		7. Title and Amount of	8. Price of Derivative	9. Nu Deriv
Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	(Month Day/ Teal)	any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	(Month/Day/Yea e	ar)	Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	Security (Instr. 5)	Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Ex Exercisable Da	•	Title Amount or Number of Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
Transfer and the same and the s	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		
Thompson Tommy G 7711 CARONDELET SAINT LOUIS, MO 63105	X					

Signatures

/s/ J. Per Brodin (executed by attorney-in-fact)

**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) Shares represent restricted stock units reserved in lieu of cash payment of fees under the Company's Non-Employee Directors Stock Compensation Plan.

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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