

STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL  
 Form 4  
 March 01, 2010

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
 Expires: January 31, 2005  
 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 OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION, 100 BROOKWOOD PLACE

(Street)

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 PROASSURANCE CORP [PRA]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 02/26/2010

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 Chairman / Chief Executive Officer

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

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**

| 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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | Code V  | Amount (A) or (D) Price   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 03/01/2010                           |  | P                              | 297 <sup>(1)</sup>  | A \$ 53.95  | 33,323   | D                                 |
| Common Stock                    | 02/26/2010                           |  | A                              | 7,600 <sup>(2)</sup>  | A \$ 53.32  | 33,026   | D                                 |

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

**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 control number.**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

Edgar Filing: STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL - Form 4

**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 Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |              |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title        | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Restricted Stock Units                     | (3)  |                                      |  |                                |   | (3)  | (3)   | Common Stock | 4,000                      |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 54.28   |                                      |  |                                |   | 09/01/2008 <sup>(4)</sup>                                | 09/01/2018  | Common Stock | 20,000                     |
| Employee Stock Option (Right to Buy)       | \$ 56.16   |                                      |  |                                |   | 01/03/2008   | 07/01/2017  | Common Stock | 100,000                    |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |          |                         |
|---|---------------|-----------|----------|-------------------------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer  | Other                   |
| STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL<br>C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION<br>100 BROOKWOOD PLACE<br>BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811 | X             |           | Chairman | Chief Executive Officer |

## Signatures

W. Stancil  
Starnes 03/01/2010

\*\*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).

## Edgar Filing: STARNES WILLIAM STANCIL - Form 4

- (1) Shares acquired in the amended and restated ProAssurance Stock Ownership Plan. Purchases under this plan are exempt under Rule 16b-3(c)  
  
Payout of Performance Shares awarded to the reporting person upon completion of a three year performance period at year-end 2009. The
- (2) Compensation Committee (consisting entirely of independent directors) of the ProAssurance Corporation Board of Directors reviewed the company's performance against the defined criteria and approved this award.

Each Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) represents a contingent right to receive one share of ProAssurance Corporation common stock, issueable from the ProAssurance 2008 Equity Incentive Plan. The RSUs will vest if the reporting person remains continuously employed by ProAssurance or one of its subsidiaries until February 26, 2012 (three years from date of grant). Vesting will accelerate upon

- (3) termination of employment as the result of (i) death; (ii) disability; or (iii) Good Reason, as defined in the reporting person's employment agreement with ProAssurance Corporation, or by action of the Compensation Committee of the ProAssurance Corporation Board of Directors. The RSUs will be settled in shares of ProAssurance Common Stock and in cash, with the cash portion being approximately equal to the federal, state, and local taxes.
- (4) The options vest in five equal, yearly installments commencing on September 1, 2008

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.