Port Barry Form 4 July 26, 2017

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

January 31, Expires: 2005

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Addr Port Barry	ess of Reporting Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
(Last)	(First) (Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction				
		(Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% Owner			
27101 PUERT.	A REAL, SUITE 450	07/24/2017	X Officer (give title Other (specify below)			
			Vice President			
	(Street)	4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check			
MISSION VIE	JO, CA 92691	Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person			

(City)	(State)	Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	erivative S	Securi	ties Acq	uired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	ly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)			Securities For Beneficially (D) Owned Ind	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	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	07/24/2017		M	10,000	A	\$ 4.06	135,642	D	
Common Stock	07/24/2017		S <u>(1)</u>	10,000	D	\$ 23	125,642	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)

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			7. Title and Amount Underlying Securition (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha	
Employee Stock Option	\$ 4.06	07/24/2017		M	10,000) 12/17/2010 <u>(2)</u>	12/17/2019	Common Stock	10,0	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Port Barry

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450 MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

Vice President

Signatures

/s/ Chad A. Keetch, as power of attorney

07/26/2017

Date

**Signature of Reporting Person

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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 transactions reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted on November 30, 2016.
- (2) The option was granted on December 17, 2009, and became exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on December 17, 2010, which was the first anniversary of the date on which the option was granted.

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.

Reporting Owners 2