LEE PATRICK Form 4 January 27, 2006

FORM 4

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

Check this box

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

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(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

LEE PATRICK

(Last) (First)

(Middle)

(Street)

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

1.Title of

Security

(Instr. 3)

Common

Stock

777 NORTH BROADWAY

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/25/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

below)

Officer (give title

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

X_ Director

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Person

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

Issuer

(City) (State) (Zip)

> 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities 3. TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 8)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

(A)

or

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported

(D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)

Ι

Form: Direct Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)

6. Ownership 7. Nature of

10% Owner

Other (specify

OMB APPROVAL

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January 31,

2005

0.5

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Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

258,394 (1)

Family Trust

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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 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. Num one Deri Securiti Acquire (A) or Dispose (D) (Instr. 3 and 5)	vative ies ed	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
Stock Option	\$ 10.625						01/20/2001(2)	01/20/2010	Common Stock	2,000
Stock Option	\$ 15.0475						01/18/2002(3)	01/18/2011	Common Stock	2,000
Stock Option	\$ 16.275						02/21/2003(4)	02/21/2012	Common Stock	2,000
Stock Option	\$ 19.925						01/16/2004(5)	01/16/2013	Common Stock	3,800
Stock Option	\$ 24.8						11/20/2004 <u>(6)</u>	11/20/2013	Common Stock	11,000
Stock Option	\$ 37						02/17/2006(7)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	3,500
Stock Option	\$ 36.24	01/25/2006		A	3,500		01/25/2007(8)	01/25/2016	Common Stock	3,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
LEE PATRICK 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	X						

Signatures

Patrick S.D. Lee 01/27/2006

**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) Since the reporting person's last report, 2,000 shares under his name were transferred to the Family Trust.
- (2) The option is fully exercisable.

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- (3) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/18/02.
- (4) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/03.
- (5) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/16/04.
- (6) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.
- (7) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.
- (8) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/25/07.

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.