DARBY JAMES A Form 4

September 18, 2009

FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Check this box

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * DARBY JAMES A

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

below)

Symbol SAIA INC [SAIA]

(Last)

(Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

11465 JOHNS CREEK PARKWAY, 09/16/2009

(Street)

(First)

SUITE 400

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title _ Other (specify

VP of Finance & CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Person

JOHNS CREEK, GA 30097

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities | | | | rities Acquir | 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) | Code (Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A) tionor Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or | | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | | Code V M | Amount 6,644 | (D) | Price \$ 4.209 | 13,644 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | | M | 3,457 | A | \$ 4.363 | 17,101 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | | S | 10,101 | D | \$ 19.7822 | 7,000 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | | M | 9,735 | A | \$ 4.363 | 16,735 | D | | |
| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | | S | 9,735 | D | \$ 19.155 | 7,000 | D | | |

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| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | M | 5,000 | A | \$ 4.363 | 12,000 | D |
|-----------------|------------|---|-------|---|----------|--------|---|
| Common Stock | 09/16/2009 | F | 2,340 | D | \$ 19.52 | 9,660 | D |

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)

| 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. 5. Number Transaction Derivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) 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 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 4.209 | 09/16/2009 | | M | 6,644 | 07/20/2002 | 07/20/2010 | Common Stock | 6,644 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 4.363 | 09/16/2009 | | M | 3,457 | 10/25/2002 | 10/25/2010 | Common Stock | 3,457 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 4.363 | 09/16/2009 | | M | 9,735 | 10/25/2002 | 10/25/2010 | Common Stock | 9,735 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 4.363 | 09/16/2009 | | M | 5,000 | 10/25/2002 | 10/25/2010 | Common Stock | 5,000 |
| Phantom Stock | <u>(3)</u> | | | | | <u>(1)</u> | (2) | Common Stock | 24,893.59 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 23 | | | | | 02/03/2008 | 02/02/2012 | Common Stock | 1,300 |

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| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 27.38 | 01/28/2009 | 01/27/2013 | Common Stock | 2,170 |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 26.72 | 02/02/2010 | 02/01/2014 | Common Stock | 3,710 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 14.71 | 02/01/2011 | 01/31/2015 | Common Stock | 8,220 |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy) | \$ 11.96 | 02/03/2012 | 02/02/2016 | Common Stock | 7,070 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|-------|--|--|--|
| . 0 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| DARBY JAMES A | | | VP of | | | | |
| 11465 JOHNS CREEK PARKWAY, SUITE 400 | | | Finance & | | | | |
| JOHNS CREEK, GA 30097 | | | CFO | | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Stephanie R.

Maschmeier

**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) Immediate
- (2) The shares of phantom stock become payable, in stock, upon reporting person's termination of service as an employee, in accordance with the terms of the Plan.
- (3) The conversion rate of this derivative security on September 16, 2009 is 0.8338 resulting in 20,755.56 shares of common stock (underlying security in column 7).

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