

WONG IRWIN  
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  
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

**OMB APPROVAL**

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31,  
2005  
Estimated average  
burden hours per  
response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
**WONG IRWIN**

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
**CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP  
[CATY]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

**777 NORTH BROADWAY**

(Street)

**LOS ANGELES, CA 90012**

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
☒ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

**EVP - Branch Administration**

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock					4,561.93 <sup>(1)</sup>	D	
Common Stock					20,337	I	By ESOP

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  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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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. 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 Number Shares
Stock Option	\$ 10.625							01/20/2005 <sup>(2)</sup>	01/20/2010	Common Stock	3,570
Stock Option	\$ 15.0475							01/18/2005 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/18/2011	Common Stock	6,440
Stock Option	\$ 16.275							02/21/2005 <sup>(4)</sup>	02/21/2012	Common Stock	11,080
Stock Option	\$ 19.925							01/16/2005 <sup>(5)</sup>	01/16/2013	Common Stock	30,060
Stock Option	\$ 24.8							11/20/2004 <sup>(6)</sup>	11/20/2013	Common Stock	143,040
Stock Option	\$ 37							02/17/2006 <sup>(7)</sup>	02/17/2015	Common Stock	32,580
Stock Option	\$ 36.24	01/25/2006		A		31,000		01/25/2007 <sup>(8)</sup>	01/25/2016	Common Stock	31,000

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
	Director 10% Owner Officer Other
WONG IRWIN 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	EVP - Branch Administration

## Signatures

Irwin Wong 01/27/2006  
 \*\*Signature of Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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) Includes 11.78 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment year-to-date.

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- (2) The option is fully exercisable.
- (3) The option vests in 2 equal annual installments beginning 1/18/05.
- (4) The option vests in 3 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/05.
- (5) The option vests in 4 equal annual installments beginning 1/16/05.
- (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.

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