Port Barry Form 4 July 30, 2012

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.

January 31, Expires: 2005

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

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or 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)

| Name and Address of Reporting Person * Port Barry | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | | |
|---|-------------------|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) | (First) (Middle | ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction | (Check all applicable) | | |
| , , | RTA REAL, SUITE 4 | (Month/Day/Year) | Director 10% OwnerX_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) Vice President | | |
| | (Street) | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person | | |
| MISSION V | IEJO, CA 92691 | | Form filed by More than One Reporting | | |

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | 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) | on(A) or D | 4. Securities Acquired n(A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | | 5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported | 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 | 07/26/2012 | | A | 2,000 | A | \$ 28.82 | 38,442 | D | |
| Common Stock | 07/30/2012 | | S <u>(1)</u> | 160 | D | \$ 28.59 | 38,282 | D | |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number on f 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 | Amoun or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Options | \$ 28.82 | 07/26/2012 | | A | 5,000 | 07/26/2013(2) | 07/26/2022 | Common Stock | 5,000 |

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/ Suzanne Snapper as Power of Attorney

07/30/2012

**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) The sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted on 3/13/2012.
- (2) These Employee Stock Options are subject to a five year vesting schedule with 20% of the shares vesting each year and were fully exercisable on the date of the grant for restricted stock subject to the same vesting schedule.

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.

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