UNITED FIRE GROUP INC

Form 4

February 23, 2016

FORM 4

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

OMB

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

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

3235-0287 Number: January 31, Expires:

2005

OMB APPROVAL

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

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

burden hours per response... 0.5

Estimated average

See Instruction 1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

02/19/2016

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * ERNST BARRIE W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)		
			UNITED FIRE GROUP INC [UFCS]			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)	Director 10% OwnerX Officer (give title Other (specification) below)		
118 2ND AVE SE			02/19/2016	VP/Chief Investment Officer		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1212			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Toble I. Non Donivetive Securities	acquired Disposed of or Papaficially Owns		

						-	•	· *	~
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date	2A. Deemed	3.	4. Securi	ties A	cquired	5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	on(A) or Di	spose	d of (D)	Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	(Instr. 3,	4 and	5)	Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)				Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership
							Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)
							Reported		
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
					or		(Instr. 3 and 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	,		
C						\$			
Common	00/10/0016		A (1)	2 202		20.01	12.700	D	

2.382

Stock (2)

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

 $A^{(1)}$

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.

D

13,790

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

39.91

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. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exerc Expiration D (Month/Day/	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 (right to buy)	\$ 39.91	02/19/2016		A	11,286	(3)	02/19/2026	Common Stock	11,286	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

ERNST BARRIE W 118 2ND AVE SE CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401-1212

VP/Chief Investment Officer

Signatures

/s/ Barrie W. Ernst by Michael T. Wilkins, Attorney-in-Fact

02/23/2016

Date

**Signature of 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) This transaction represents a grant of restricted stock shares to the Reporting Person under the Issuer's Stock Plan.
- (2) The price per share is the closing price of the Issuer's common stock on the date of the reported transaction.
- Options become vested and exercisable in equal installments on 02/19/2017, 02/19/2018, 02/19/2019, 02/19/2020 and 02/19/2021, respectively.

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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