Port Barry Form 4 January 24, 2018

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

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,

obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

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)

(Last)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Port Barry

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Symbol

ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450

(Street)

(First)

(Middle)

01/22/2018

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

OMB

Number:

Expires:

response...

Estimated average

burden hours per

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

January 31,

2005

0.5

Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

Vice President

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Person

MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

(City)	(State)	(Zip) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative	Secu	rities Acquir	ed, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) our Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
Common Stock	01/22/2018		M	3,428	A	\$ 4.06	128,112	D	
Common Stock	01/22/2018		S <u>(1)</u>	3,428	D	\$ 24.0161 (2)	124,684	D	
Common Stock	01/22/2018		M	16,995	A	\$ 4.77	141,679	D	
Common Stock	01/22/2018		S <u>(1)</u>	16,995	D	\$ 24.0176 (3)	124,684	D	

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative 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 Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 4.06	01/22/2018		M	3,428	12/17/2010 <u>(4)</u>	12/17/2019	Common Stock	3,42
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 4.77	01/22/2018		M	16,995	03/11/2011(5)	03/11/2020	Common Stock	16,9

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships					
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other		

Port Barry

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450 Vice President

MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

Signatures

/s/ Chad A. Keetch, as power of attorney 01/24/2018

**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).

Reporting Owners 2

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- (1) The transactions reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted on December 11, 2017.
- This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$24.00 to \$24.06. The price above reflects the weighted average (2) sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request by the commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$24.00 to \$24.07. The price above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request by the commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (4) The option was granted on December 17, 2009, and became exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on December 17, 2010, which was the first anniversary of the date on which the option was granted.
- (5) The option was granted on March 11, 2010, and became exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on March 11, 2011, which was the first anniversary of the date on which the option was granted.

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.