HILTON STEVEN J

Form 4

February 13, 2009

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

OMB APPROVAL

Expires: 2005 Estimated average

0.5

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

Check this box

obligations may continue. See Instruction

(Middle)

(Zip)

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).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HILTON STEVEN J

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

Meritage Homes CORP [MTH]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year) 02/11/2009

(Check all applicable)

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

CEO

17851 NORTH 85TH STREET, SUITE 300

> (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

> > (Month/Day/Year)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

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

Person

SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255

(City) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if

(State)

3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of Code (D) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Securities Form: Direct Indirect Beneficially (D) or Beneficial Indirect (I) Ownership Owned Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

Reported (A) Transaction(s) (D) Price

(Instr. 3 and 4)

MTH

Common

Stock (1) (2)

(Instr. 3)

02/11/2009

Α

\$0

Amount

45,000

1,951,204

D

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

A

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.

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	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exerc	cisable and	7. Title	e and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transactio	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amou	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Under	lying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securi	ties	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	·				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A		
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
							Date		Number		
				~					of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

	Relationships						
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HILTON STEVEN J 17851 NORTH 85TH STREET SUITE 300 SCOTTSDALE, AZ 85255	X		CEO				

Signatures

/s/ Steven J.
Hilton

**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) Balance represents the grant of restricted stock. The restricted stock will vest in equal increments over the three-year period beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date.
- In addition to this restricted stock grant, the reporting person was also granted 67,500 shares of restricted stock on February 11, 2009

 (2) which will also vest in equal increments over the three-year period beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date, however, vesting is also contingent upon the acheivement of pre-specified performance targets.

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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