

NUVEEN CALIFORNIA DIVIDEND ADVANTAGE MUNICIPAL FUND 3
 Form 3
 January 10, 2011

FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0104
 Expires: January 31, 2005
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Â CITIGROUP INC (Last) (First) (Middle) 399 PARK AVENUE (Street) NEW YORK, Â NY Â 10043 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 03/16/2010	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NUVEEN CALIFORNIA DIVIDEND ADVANTAGE MUNICIPAL FUND 3 [NZH]	4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) ___ Director ___X_ 10% Owner ___ Officer ___ Other (give title below) (specify below)	5. If Amendment, Date Original 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
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Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
Auction Rate Preferred	335 ⁽¹⁾	I	By Subsidiary

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of	

Shares (I)
(Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CITIGROUP INC 399 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10043	^	^ X	^	^

Signatures

Citigroup Inc., By: /s/ Ali L. Karshan, Assistant Secretary 01/10/2011

Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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 Auction Preferred Shares ("Shares") reported in Table I represent 335 Shares beneficially owned by Citigroup Global Markets Inc. ("CGMI"). Citigroup Financial Products Inc. ("CFP") is the sole stockholder of CGMI. Citigroup Global Markets Holdings Inc. ("CGMH") is the sole stockholder of CFP. Citigroup Inc. ("Citigroup") is the sole stockholder of CGMH.

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Remarks:

The 335 Shares reported herein represent Citigroup's combined holdings in multiple series of auction

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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