

Ko Alex
Form 4
October 31, 2017

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2015
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN 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 *
Ko Alex

(Last) (First) (Middle)
3200 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 1400
(Street)

LOS ANGELES, CA 90010

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
HOPE BANCORP INC [HOPE]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
10/27/2017

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)
EVP, CFO

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	10/27/2017		S	40,000	D 18.915 10,088	D	
Common Stock (Restricted Stock)					4,997 ⁽²⁾	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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. Transaction Code	5. Number of 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Time-based Restricted Stock Units	(3)					(3) (3)	Common Stock
Performance-based Restricted Stock Units	(4)					07/27/2020(4) (4)	Common Stock
Performance-based Restricted Stock Units	(5)					07/27/2020(5) (5)	Common Stock
Incentive Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 17.18					(6) 09/01/2026	Common Stock

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Ko Alex 3200 WILSHIRE BLVD. SUITE 1400 LOS ANGELES, CA 90010			EVP, CFO	

Signatures

/s/Claire Hur as attorney-in-fact for Alex Ko 10/31/2017

**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).

The price reported in Column 4 is a weighted average price. These shares were sold in multiple transactions at prices ranging from \$18.91 to \$18.92, inclusive. The reporting person undertakes to provide to HOPE Bancorp, Inc., any security holder of HOPE Bancorp, Inc., or the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price within the ranges set forth in footnote (1) to this Form 4.

(1) 4,997 represents Restricted Stock granted on 04/08/15 and 03/16/16 which are still outstanding including any accrued dividend to date. These shares will vest in March-April 2018 and 2019 according to previously disclosed vesting schedules.

(3) Total 2,000 Restricted Stock Units (RSU) were granted on July 27, 2017 pursuant to the Hope Bancorp, Inc. ("Hope") 2017 Long-Term Incentive Plan ("2017 LTIP") and BBCN Bancorp, Inc. 2016 Incentive Compensation Plan ("2016 ICP"). Each RSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Hope common stock. Installments of 667 shares each will vest annually on July 27, 2018, 2019, and 2020.

(4) 1,000 performance-based restricted stock units ("PRSU") were granted on July 27, 2017 pursuant to the 2017 LTIP and the 2016 ICP and subject to a 3-year cliff vesting. Vesting of these PRSU depends upon Hope's achievement of a specified increase in the cumulative quarterly earnings per share during the 10-quarter period from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. Each PRSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Hope common stock at Target performance. The "Target" number of shares is reported. Possible payout ranges from 0% of Target if the Threshold goal is not met, 50% to 99% on a prorated basis if the Threshold is met but the Target goal is not met, 100% to 149% on a prorated basis if the Target goal is met but the Stretch goal is not met, and 150% if the Stretch goal is met or exceeded.

(5) 1,000 performance-based restricted stock units ("PRSU") were granted on July 27, 2017 pursuant to the 2017 LTIP and the 2016 ICP and subject to a 3-year cliff vesting. Vesting of these PRSU shares depends upon Hope's achievement of a specified relative ranking of the total stockholder return in relation to the KRX Index over a 10-quarter period from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2019. Each PRSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Hope common stock at Target performance. The "Target" number of shares is reported. Possible payout ranges from 0% of Target if the Threshold goal is not met, 50% to 99% on a prorated basis if the Threshold is met but the Target goal is not met, 100% to 149% on a prorated basis if the Target goal is met but the Stretch goal is not met, and 150% if the Stretch goal is met or exceeded.

(6) Options granted on September 1, 2016 pursuant to the 2016 ICP. Options vest annually in five equal installments on September 1st of 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

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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