WONG IRWIN Form 4 May 10, 2012

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

January 31, Expires: 2005

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

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * WONG IRWIN	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
	CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]	(Check all applicable)		
(Last) (First) (Middle) 777 NORTH BROADWAY	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/08/2012	Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specification) EVP - Branch Administration		
(Street) LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	4. 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		
(City) (State) (Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acc	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Own		

(City)	(State) (Z	Table	I - Non-De	erivative S	ecurities Acc	quired, Disposed	of, or Beneficial	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any	3. Transactio	4. SecuritionAcquired Disposed	(A) or	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8) Code V	(Instr. 3, 4	(A) or (D) Price	Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock						10,499.82 (1)	D	
Common Stock						16,726	I	By ESOP

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

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.

Edgar Filing: WONG IRWIN - Form 4

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. Transacti Code (Instr. 8)	Securities	6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Yea		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amoun Number Shares
Stock Option	\$ 19.925					01/16/2005(2)	01/16/2013	Common Stock	30,06
Stock Option	\$ 24.8					11/20/2004(2)	11/20/2013	Common Stock	143,0
Stock Option	\$ 37					02/17/2006(2)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	32,58
Stock Option	\$ 36.24					01/25/2007(2)	01/25/2016	Common Stock	31,00
Stock Option	\$ 23.37					02/21/2009(3)	02/21/2018	Common Stock	20,00
Restricted Stock Units	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(5)</u>	(5)	Common Stock	3,84
Restricted Stock Units	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(6)</u>	<u>(6)</u>	Common Stock	4,77
Restricted Stock Units	<u>(4)</u>	05/08/2012		A	3,810	<u>(7)</u>	<u>(7)</u>	Common Stock	3,81

Reporting Owners

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

WONG IRWIN 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

EVP - Branch Administration

Signatures

Irwin Wong	05/10/2012		
**Signature of Reporting Person	Date		

Reporting Owners 2

Edgar Filing: WONG IRWIN - Form 4

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) Includes 3.357 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment year-to-date.
- (2) The option is fully exercisable.
- (3) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/09.
 - Consists of long term restricted stock units within the meaning of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, as amended from
- (4) time to time, and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder ("EESA"). Each unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of CATY Common Stock.
- (5) These restricted stock units are scheduled to vest in a single installment on March 23, 2013, or earlier in the event of death or disability, and are subject to certain transfer restrictions under EESA.
- (6) These restricted stock units are scheduled to vest in a single installment on December 15, 2013, or earlier in the event of death or disability, and are subject to certain transfer restrictions under EESA.
- (7) These restricted stock units are scheduled to vest in a single installment on May 8, 2014, or earlier in the event of death or disability, and are subject to certain transfer restrictions under EESA.

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.