

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP
 Form 4
 February 22, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
CHIU THOMAS C T

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/17/2005

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

777 NORTH BROADWAY

(Street)

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

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

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(City) (State) (Zip)

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Code V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock					166,570 ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾	I	By Family Trust
Common Stock					59,732 ⁽¹⁾	I	By Pension Fund

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 (Instr. 8)	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 Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
Stock Option	\$ 11.0595 <u>(1)</u>					01/01/2001 12/31/2009	Common Stock 5,120 <u>(1)</u>
Stock Option	\$ 21.0935 <u>(1)</u>					01/01/2002 12/31/2010	Common Stock 5,120 <u>(1)</u>
Stock Option	\$ 17.285 <u>(1)</u>					01/01/2003 12/31/2011	Common Stock 5,120 <u>(1)</u>
Stock Option	\$ 11.3435 <u>(1)</u>					01/01/2004 12/31/2012	Common Stock 5,120 <u>(1)</u>
Stock Option	\$ 37	02/17/2005		A	3,500	02/17/2006 ⁽³⁾ 02/17/2015	Common Stock 3,500

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
CHIU THOMAS C T 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012		X		

Signatures

Thomas C.T.
Chiu 02/22/2005

**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) Adjusted to reflect a 2-for-1 stock split effective 9/28/04.
- (2) Since the reporting person's last report, 137,660 shares previously owned directly and 28,910 shares previously owned by spouse have been contributed to the Family Trust.

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(3) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/05.

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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