

CANNON JAMES ANTHONY
 Form 4
 December 11, 2009

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 *
CANNON JAMES ANTHONY

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
**ZIOPHARM ONCOLOGY INC
 [ZIOP]**

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/09/2009

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

BBDO, 1285 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS

(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

NEW YORK, NY 10019

(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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price |
| Common Stock, \$.001 par value | 12/09/2009 | | P | A | 175,000 | D | \$ 3.1 <u>(6)</u> |

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) | | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|-----|---|-----------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Director Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 4.31 | | | | | | | <u>(1)</u> | 12/22/2014 | Common Stock, \$.001 par value | 15,029 |
| Director Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 5.01 | | | | | | | 04/26/2006 | 04/26/2016 | Common Stock | 15,000 |
| Director Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 6.49 | | | | | | | <u>(2)</u> | 12/13/2016 | Common Stock | 15,000 |
| Director Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 4.85 | | | | | | | <u>(3)</u> | 06/18/2017 | Common Stock | 15,000 |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 2.73 | | | | | | | <u>(4)</u> | 12/12/2017 | Common Stock | 20,000 |
| Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 0.7 | | | | | | | <u>(5)</u> | 05/13/2019 | Common Stock | 15,000 |
| Warrants to Purchase common stock | \$ 4.02 | 12/09/2009 | | P | | 87,500 | | 12/09/2009 | 12/09/2014 | Common Stock | 87,500 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| CANNON JAMES ANTHONY BBDO 1285 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10019 | X | | | |

Signatures

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| /s/ James A. Cannon | 12/09/2009 |
| **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) 7,515 shares vest on 12/22/05 and 7,514 shares vest on 12/22/06.
- (2) 5,000 shares vest on each of 12/13/07, 12/13/08 and 12/13/09.
- (3) 5,000 shares vest on each of 6/18/08, 6/18/09 and 6/18/10.
- (4) 6,667 shares vest on each of 12/12/08 and 12/12/09; 6,666 shares vest on 12/12/10.
- (5) 5,000 shares vest on each of 12/31/09, 6/30/2010 and 12/31/2010.
- (6) Pursuant to purchase of units, each comprised of one share of common stock and a warrant to purchase 0.5 of a share of common stock, for a price per unit equal to \$3.10.

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.