

WONG IRWIN
Form 4
January 27, 2006

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 *
WONG IRWIN

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)
777 NORTH BROADWAY
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
01/25/2006

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP - Branch Administration

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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) Price			
Common Stock				V	4,561.93 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock					20,337	I	By ESOP

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 Number Shares
Stock Option	\$ 10.625					01/20/2005 ⁽²⁾	01/20/2010	Common Stock	3,570
Stock Option	\$ 15.0475					01/18/2005 ⁽³⁾	01/18/2011	Common Stock	6,440
Stock Option	\$ 16.275					02/21/2005 ⁽⁴⁾	02/21/2012	Common Stock	11,080
Stock Option	\$ 19.925					01/16/2005 ⁽⁵⁾	01/16/2013	Common Stock	30,060
Stock Option	\$ 24.8					11/20/2004 ⁽⁶⁾	11/20/2013	Common Stock	143,040
Stock Option	\$ 37					02/17/2006 ⁽⁷⁾	02/17/2015	Common Stock	32,580
Stock Option	\$ 36.24	01/25/2006		A	31,000	01/25/2007 ⁽⁸⁾	01/25/2016	Common Stock	31,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
WONG IRWIN 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	Director 10% Owner Officer Other EVP - Branch Administration

Signatures

Irwin Wong 01/27/2006
 **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) Includes 11.78 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment year-to-date.

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- (2) The option is fully exercisable.
- (3) The option vests in 2 equal annual installments beginning 1/18/05.
- (4) The option vests in 3 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/05.
- (5) The option vests in 4 equal annual installments beginning 1/16/05.
- (6) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.
- (7) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.
- (8) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/25/07.

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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