ZALE CORP Form 4 July 26, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

3235-0287 Number: January 31,

2005

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Expires:

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.

Check this box

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(b).

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading **BURTON MARY ELIZABETH** Issuer Symbol ZALE CORP [ZLC] (Check all applicable) (First) (Middle) (Last) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) _X__ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify C/O ZALE CORPORATION, 901 07/24/2006 below) WEST WALNUT HILL LANE President & CEO (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line)

IRVING, TX 75038-1033

(City)	(State) (2	Zip) Table	e I - Non-D	erivative S	ecuriti	es Acq	quired, Disposed o	of, or Beneficial	lly Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if any	Code	4. Securit on(A) or Dis (D)	sposed	of	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or	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	07/24/2006		A	25,000 (1)	A	\$ 0	26,500	D	

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.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of actionDerivative Expiration Date Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)			7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitic (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour Numb Shares
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 23.9375					08/01/2004	08/01/2013	Common Stock	10,0
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 24.61	07/24/2006		A	125,000	07/24/2007(2)	07/24/2016	Common Stock	125,0
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 27.03					11/11/2006	11/11/2015	Common Stock	3,80
Stock Options (Right to buy)	\$ 29.79					11/12/2005	11/12/2014	Common Stock	5,00

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
BURTON MARY ELIZABETH							
C/O ZALE CORPORATION	X		President & CEO				
901 WEST WALNUT HILL LANE	Λ						
IRVING, TX 75038-1033							

Signatures

Hilary Molay 07/26/2006

**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).

Time-vesting restricted stock units granted under the Zale Corporation 2003 Stock Incentive Plan that vests 100% on 7-24-2009. Does not include 25,000 performance-based restricted units granted to Ms. Burton, which entitle Ms. Burton to receive a specified number of shares of the Company's common stock based on the Company's achievement of performance targets established by the Company's Compensation Committee.

Reporting Owners 2

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(2) Granted under the Zale Corporation 2003 Stock Incentive Plan and vests in four equal annual installments beginning on 7/24/07.
Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, <i>see</i> 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.