Crouch Nora N Form 3 May 19, 2010

FORM 3

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

OMB APPROVAL

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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 *

Crouch Nora N

(Last)

(First)

(Middle)

Statement

(Month/Day/Year)

05/10/2010

2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

MARKEL CORP [MKL]

4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

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

C/O MARKEL CORPORATION, Â 4521

HIGHWOODS PARKWAY

(Street)

Director

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

(Check all applicable)

Controller and CAO

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

Person

Form filed by More than One

Reporting Person

4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial

GLEN ALLEN. VAÂ 23060

(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security

(Instr. 4)

2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

(Instr. 4)

3. Ownership Form:

Ownership (Instr. 5)

Direct (D) or Indirect (I)

(Instr. 5)

Common Stock

416.4802

D

Common Stock

147.443

Â Ι 401(K) Plan (1)

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

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying

Conversion

Ownership

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership

Derivative Security Form of or Exercise (Instr. 5)

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(Instr. 4) Price of Derivative Derivative Security: Date **Expiration Title** Amount or Direct (D) Security Exercisable Number of or Indirect Shares (I) (Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Crouch Nora N

C/O MARKEL CORPORATION 4521 HIGHWOODS PARKWAY GLEN ALLEN, VAÂ 23060

Relationships

Other

A Â Controller and CAO Â

Signatures

/s/ Linda S. Rotz, Attorney-in-fact for Nora N. Crouch 05/19/2010

**Signature of Reporting Person Date

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(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).

Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan information (1) dated as of May 10, 2010 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$355.80. As of May 10, 2010, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.

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.

Reporting Owners 2