Crowley F. Michael Form 4 March 14, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB Number:

OMB APPROVAL

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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response...

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

may continue.

See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Crowley F. Michael

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Issuer

(Last) (First) (Middle) MARKEL CORP [MKL]

(Check all applicable)

C/O MARKEL

(Street)

(State)

(Zip)

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

10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify

03/13/2012

below)

President & Co-COO

CORPORATION, 4521 HIGHWOODS PARKWAY

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Director

Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

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

GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

(City)

| (City) | (State) | (Zip) Tabl | e I - Non-I | Derivative | Secu | rities Acqu | ired, Disposed of | , or Beneficiall | y Owned |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------|------------|--|--|---|------------------|--------------------|
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. 4. Securities Acquired Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or | | | 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| Common Stock | 03/13/2012 | | Code V $J(1)$ | Amount 25 | (D) | Price \$ 426.58 | 8,548 (2) | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 38.473 | I | 401(K) Plan (3) |

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

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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 | 2. | 3. Transaction Date | 3A. Deemed | 4. | 5. | 6. Date Exerc | cisable and | 7. Title | and | 8. Price of | 9. Nu |
|-------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------|-------------|--------|
| Derivative | Conversion | (Month/Day/Year) | Execution Date, if | Transactio | orNumber | Expiration D | ate | Amount | t of | Derivative | Deriv |
| Security | or Exercise | | any | Code | of | (Month/Day/ | Year) | Underly | ing | Security | Secui |
| (Instr. 3) | Price of | | (Month/Day/Year) | (Instr. 8) | Derivative | e | | Securitie | es | (Instr. 5) | Bene |
| | Derivative | | | | Securities | | | (Instr. 3 | and 4) | | Own |
| | Security | | | | Acquired | | | | | | Follo |
| | • | | | | (A) or | | | | | | Repo |
| | | | | | Disposed | | | | | | Trans |
| | | | | | of (D) | | | | | | (Instr |
| | | | | | (Instr. 3, | | | | | | |
| | | | | | 4, and 5) | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | ^ | mount | | |
| | | | | | | | | | mount | | |
| | | | | | | Date | Expiration Date | or Title Number of | | | |
| | | | | | | Exercisable | | | | | |
| | | | | C + V | (A) (D) | | | | | | |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | | | S | hares | | |

Reporting Owners

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address

> Officer Other Director 10% Owner

Crowley F. Michael C/O MARKEL CORPORATION 4521 HIGHWOODS PARKWAY GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

President & Co-COO

Signatures

/s/ Linda S. Rotz, Attorney-in-fact for F. Michael Crowley

03/14/2012

**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) Shares acquired pursuant to, or bonus shares granted under, the Markel Corporation Employee Stock Purchase and Bonus Plan.
- The total includes 2,224 Restricted Stock Units awarded pursuant to the Markel Corporation Omnibus Incentive Plan that will vest, subject to certain conditions, on May 10, 2015. The total also includes 3,357 other Restricted Stock Units awarded pursuant to the Markel Corporation Omnibus Incentive Plan, of which 1,673 units will vest on December 31, 2015, and 1,684 units will vest on December 31,
- Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement (3) dated as of December 30, 2011 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$414.67. As of December 30, 2011, 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