#### **CONSECO INC**

Form 3

September 14, 2006

# FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

Expires:

response...

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person \* Statement CONSECO INC [CNO] Menzel Susan L (Month/Day/Year) 09/06/2006 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) 11825 N. PENNSYLVANIA (Check all applicable) **STREET** (Street) 6. Individual or Joint/Group 10% Owner Director \_X\_\_ Officer \_ Other Filing(Check Applicable Line) (give title below) (specify below) \_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting EVP, HR Person CARMEL, INÂ 46032 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial 1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Ownership Ownership (Instr. 4) (Instr. 5) (Instr. 4) Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) Â Common Stock 10,000 D Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially SEC 1473 (7-02) owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a

currently valid OMB control number.

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 Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security:	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
		Title	Security	Direct (D)	

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	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date		Amount or Number of Shares		or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	
Stock Options	(1)	05/31/2015	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 20	D	Â
Stock Options	(2)	06/30/2016	Common Stock	42,500	\$ 23.1	D	Â

### **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
. 9	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
Menzel Susan L 11825 N. PENNSYLVANIA STREET CARMEL, IN 46032	Â	Â	EVP, HR	Â	

## **Signatures**

Karl W. Kindig, Attorney-in-Fact 09/14/2006

\*\*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).
- (1) The options vest in four equal annual installments beginning May 31, 2006.
- (2) The options vest in four equal annual installments beginning June 30, 2007.

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.

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