

Stapley Gregory K.  
Form 4  
December 20, 2010

**FORM 4**

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

Check this box  
if no longer  
subject to  
Section 16.  
Form 4 or  
Form 5  
obligations  
may continue.  
*See Instruction*  
1(b).

**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

## OMB APPROVAL

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2005  
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response... 0.5

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
Stapley Gregory K.

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading  
Symbol  
ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to  
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/16/2010

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)

Executive Vice President

(Street)

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check  
Applicable Line)  
\_\_\_\_X\_\_\_\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting  
Person

MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

(City) (State) (Zip)

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 4. Securities Acquired (A)<br>or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5) | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 6. Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of<br>Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |                          |                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                       |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V                                                                       | Amount                                                                                                             | (A)<br>or<br>(D)                                                        | Price                                                             |                          |                                                                    |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 12/16/2010                              |                                                             | S <sup>(1)</sup>                     |                                                                         | 23,423                                                                                                             | D                                                                       | \$<br>22.9737<br><sup>(2)</sup>                                   | 816,485 I <sup>(3)</sup> | By the<br>Stapley<br>Family<br>Trust<br>dated<br>April 25,<br>2006 |
| Common<br>Stock                       | 12/17/2010                              |                                                             | S <sup>(1)</sup>                     |                                                                         | 6,577                                                                                                              | D                                                                       | \$<br>22.9537<br><sup>(4)</sup>                                   | 809,908 I <sup>(3)</sup> | By the<br>Stapley<br>Family<br>Trust<br>dated                      |

|                 |            |   |        |   |                      |         |       |
|-----------------|------------|---|--------|---|----------------------|---------|-------|
| Common<br>Stock | 12/20/2010 | S | 21,999 | D | \$<br>23.6683<br>(5) | 787,909 | I (3) |
|-----------------|------------|---|--------|---|----------------------|---------|-------|

April 25,  
2006By the  
Stapley  
Family  
Trust  
dated  
April 25,  
2006

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially 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.**

SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D)<br>(Instr. 3,<br>4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Underlying<br>Securities<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Nu<br>Deriv<br>Secur<br>Bene<br>Own<br>Follo<br>Repor<br>Trans<br>(Instr |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                     |                                                                    |                                         |                                                             | Code                                 | V (A) (D)                                                                                                          | Date<br>Exercisable                                            | Expiration<br>Date                                                        | Title                                               | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares                                      |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                                                | Relationships                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Stapley Gregory K.<br>27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450<br>MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691 | Director    10% Owner    Officer    Other<br><br>Executive Vice President |

## Signatures

|                                              |            |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| /s/ Suzanne Snapper, as power of<br>attorney | 12/20/2010 |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|

\*\*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) The sales reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted by the reporting person on September 7, 2010. The reporting person cancelled this Rule 10b5(1) plan effective December 20, 2010.

(2) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from 22.83 to 23.10. The price above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request by the Commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.

(3) These shares are directly owned by the Stapley Family Trust dated 4/25/2006 and indirectly by Gregory K. Stapley as Trustee of the trust. Gregory K. Stapley is an officer of the issuer.

(4) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from 22.95 to 23.00. The price above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request by the Commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.

(5) This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$23.50 to \$24.11. The price above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request by the Commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.

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.