

Stapley Gregory K.  
Form 4  
December 20, 2010

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

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

|              |            |   |        |   |                             |         |                  |  |
|--------------|------------|---|--------|---|-----------------------------|---------|------------------|--|
| Common Stock | 12/20/2010 | S | 21,999 | D | \$<br>23.6683<br><u>(5)</u> | 787,909 | I <sup>(3)</sup> | April 25, 2006<br><br>By 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.**

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(9-02)

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

| 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares                                       |

## Reporting Owners

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

## Signatures

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| /s/ Suzanne Snapper, as power of 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.

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