

Hook Brian Stephen  
 Form 4  
 January 15, 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 \*  
 Hook Brian Stephen

(Last) (First) (Middle)

7 ST. PAUL STREET, SUITE 1140

(Street)

BALTIMORE, MD 21202

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 ADAMS EXPRESS CO [ADX]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
 (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/31/2009

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

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

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

**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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
|                                 |                                      |  | Code                           | V Amount (D) Price (A) or (D)                                     |   |  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/31/2009                           |  | J                              | V 8 <u>(1)</u> A \$ 0 <u>(1)</u>                                  | 3,073   | D  |                                   |
| Common Stock                    | 12/31/2009                           |  | J                              | V 1,067 <u>(2)</u> A \$ 0 <u>(2)</u>                              | 1,175   | I  | By Issuer's Thrift Plan Trust     |
| Common Stock                    | 01/14/2010                           |  | A                              | 2,899 A \$ 0 <u>(3)</u>   | 5,972   | D  |                                   |

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**

SEC 1474 (9-02)

displays a currently valid OMB control number.

**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 Owned Following Reporting Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|---|
|  |  |                                      |  | 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 |
| Hook Brian Stephen<br>7 ST. PAUL STREET<br>SUITE 1140<br>BALTIMORE, MD 21202 |               |           | Treasurer |       |

## Signatures

Brian S. Hook                      01/15/2010  
 \_\_Signature of                      Date  
 Reporting Person

## 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) These shares were acquired in exempt transactions as a result of dividend reinvestment. The Issuer's stock traded in a range of \$6.06-\$10.28 during 2009.

The number of shares reported as held by the Issuer's Thrift Plan Trust represents the undersigned's proportionate beneficial interest in such stock held in the Trust. Such number is based on information as of December 31, 2009, the most recent date as of which such information is available. This number reflects periodic contributions made during 2009, shares acquired by the Trustee through dividend reinvestment, and changes in the number of shares previously reported due to fluctuations in the market price and interests in the Trust. Shares were acquired by the Trustee at various times during 2009. The Issuer's stock traded in a range of \$6.06-\$10.28.

(3) N/A. Restricted Stock Grant. Shares will vest in 2013.

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.