

Price Ben Gil
Form 4
May 21, 2009

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 *
Price Ben Gil

(Last) (First) (Middle)

4575 SW RESEARCH WAY,
SUITE 200

(Street)

CORVALLIS, OR 97333

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
AVI BIOPHARMA INC [AVII]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
05/19/2009

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)

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| Common Stock | 05/19/2009 | | A | (A) or (D) 5,000 (1) | \$ 0 86,982 | D | |

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

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(9-02)

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

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| 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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 1.1 | 05/19/2009 | | A | 20,000 | 06/19/2009 ⁽²⁾ 05/19/2019 | Common Stock |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 1.55 | | | | | 06/20/2008 ⁽²⁾ 05/20/2018 | Common Stock |
| Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 2.83 | | | | | 10/29/2007 ⁽⁴⁾ 10/29/2017 | Common Stock |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Price Ben Gil 4575 SW RESEARCH WAY, SUITE 200 CORVALLIS, OR 97333 | X | | | |

Signatures

Ben Gil Price,
MD

05/21/2009

**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) Restricted Stock Award granted 5/19/2009 to active non-employee Director. Award vests one year from date of grant and will be released provided the Director still is an active member of the Board.
- (2) Option Grant vests monthly until all shares are vested one year from date of grant.
- (3) Price not required on initial report of stock option granted.
- (4) Vesting: 25% of the shares vest each year from the date of grant with all shares vesting in four years.

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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