

WHITMIRE C DONALD JR
Form 4
February 04, 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 *
WHITMIRE C DONALD JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
FREEPORT MCMORAN COPPER & GOLD INC [FCX]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
ONE NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/02/2009

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
____ Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
VP & Controller Financial Rptg

PHOENIX, AZ 85004

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

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V Amount (D) Price			
Common Stock					754 ⁽¹⁾	I	Through 401(k) Plan
Common Stock	02/02/2009		A ⁽³⁾	6,250 A \$ 0	15,517.144	D	
Common Stock ⁽⁴⁾	02/02/2009		A ⁽⁵⁾	18,750 A \$ 0	34,267.144	D	

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

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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)	Amount or Number of Shares
Options (right to buy)	\$ 24.59	02/02/2009		A	35,000	02/02/2010 ⁽²⁾ 02/02/2019	Common Stock	35,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WHITMIRE C DONALD JR ONE NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE PHOENIX, AZ 85004			VP & Controller Financial Rptg	

Signatures

Kelly C. Simoneaux, on behalf of C. Donald Whitmire, Jr. pursuant to a power of attorney 02/04/2009

__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) Based on plan statement as of December 31, 2008.
- (2) 25% exercisable on the date indicated and 25% exercisable on each of the next three anniversaries thereof.
- (3) Represents a grant of Common Stock Restricted Stock Units.
- (4) Amount beneficially owned following the reported transactions includes 28,217 Common Stock Restricted Stock Units.
- (5) Represents a grant of Common Stock Restricted Stock Units.

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.