WU PETER Form 4 January 05, 2006

FORM 4

OMB APPROVAL

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Expires: January 31, 2005

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Ad WU PETER	dress of Repo	rting Person *	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer		
			CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]	(Check all applicable)		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)	_X_ Director 10% Owner Other (specify		
777 NORTH	BROADW	AY	01/03/2006	below) below) Executive Vice Chairman/COO		
	(Street)		4. If Amendment, Date Original	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check		
			Filed(Month/Day/Year)	Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person		
LOS ANGEL	ES, CA 90	012		Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acc	quired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned		
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(City)	(State)	(Zhp) Tab	le I - Non-	Derivative Securities Acqui	red, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) oner Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (A) or Amount (D) Price	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)
Common Stock	01/03/2006		M	6,500 A \$ 11.3893	34,132	D	
Common Stock					779,654	I	Wu Trust
Common Stock					32,452	I	Spouse as cust. for children

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)

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displays a currently valid OMB control

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	Secur Acqu (A) or Dispo	erivative rities ired rosed of 3, 4,	6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year		7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securities
				Code V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount of Number of Shares
Stock Option	\$ 11.3893	01/03/2006		M		6,500	07/20/2000	01/19/2006	Common Stock	0
Stock Option	\$ 22.0075						01/01/2002(1)	01/17/2011	Common Stock	426,674
Stock Option	\$ 28.695						02/19/2005(2)	02/19/2014	Common Stock	100,000
Stock Option	\$ 37						02/17/2006(3)	02/17/2015	Common Stock	72,170

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address			Relationships	
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
WU PETER 777 NORTH BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA 90012	X		Executive Vice Chairman/COO	

Signatures

Peter Wu	01/05/2006
**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 option is fully exercisable.
- (2) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/19/05.
- (3) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Reporting Owners 2

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