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FERNANDEZ FELIX S

Form 3

December 28, 2012

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0104

Expires:

response...

Reporting Person

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

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

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

(City)

(State)

1. Name and Address of Reporting 2. Date of Event Requiring 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol Person * Statement CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY] FERNANDEZ FELIX S (Month/Day/Year) 12/20/2012 (Last) (First) (Middle) 4. Relationship of Reporting 5. If Amendment, Date Original Person(s) to Issuer Filed(Month/Day/Year) CATHAY GENERAL (Check all applicable) BANCORP, Â 9650 FLAIR DRIVE 10% Owner _X_ Director (Street) Officer Other 6. Individual or Joint/Group (give title below) (specify below) Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person EL MONTE. CAÂ 91731 Form filed by More than One

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

(I) (Instr. 5)

1. Title of Security 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4)

3. 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership Ownership Form: (Instr. 5) Direct (D) or Indirect

Common Stock 0

(Zip)

Â D

SEC 1473 (7-02)

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.

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

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

2. Date Exercisable and 3. Title and Amount of **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)

4. 5. Ownership Conversion or Exercise Form of

6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)

Price of Derivative Derivative Security:

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Date Expiration Title Exercisable Date

ÂΧ

Amount or Security Number of

Shares

Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

FERNANDEZ FELIX S

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP 9650 FLAIR DRIVE

Â Â

EL MONTE, CAÂ 91731

Signatures

Felix S. Fernandez 12/28/2012

**Signature of Date
Reporting Person

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(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).

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.

Reporting Owners 2