

Markert Thomas Edward
 Form 4
 May 11, 2018

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
 Expires: January 31, 2015
 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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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 *
 Markert Thomas Edward

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 190 SE 5TH AVENUE, APT 567
 (Street)

DELRAY BEACH, FL 33483

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 State Auto Financial CORP [STFC]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
 (Month/Day/Year)
 05/11/2018

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Code V Amount (D) Price | | |

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.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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 | 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 | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|

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| Derivative Security | (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | Code | V | (A) | (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------|------|---|-------|-----|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | |
| Restricted Share Units | | A | | 2,885 | | (2) | (2) | Common Stock | 2,885 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
| | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Markert Thomas Edward 190 SE 5TH AVENUE APT 567 DELRAY BEACH, FL 33483 | | | X | |

Signatures

Thomas E. Markert by Melissa A. Centers, attorney in fact, pursuant to a POA filed with the Commission 5-9-16. 05/11/2018

__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) Each restricted share unit represents a right to receive either one share of STFC common stock or the cash equivalent thereof, as further described in the Outside Directors Restricted Share Unit Plan.
- (2) The restricted share units become payable, in cash or common shares, at the election of the reporting person, upon the reporting person's termination of services as a director, following a 6 month vesting period.
- (3) Includes restricted share units previously granted under Outside Directors Restricted Share Unit Plan and restricted share units credited with dividends, equivalent in value to those declared and paid on one share of STFC common stock; 129 restricted share units acquired on 6/30/17; 129 restricted share units acquired on 9/30/17; 119 restricted share units acquired on 12/31/17 and 121 restricted share units acquired on 3/31/18.

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.