

LaRocca John
Form 4
February 21, 2018

FORM 4

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

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

OMB APPROVAL

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(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
LaRocca John

2. Issuer Name **and** Ticker or Trading
Symbol
AERIE PHARMACEUTICALS INC
[AERI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to
Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
C/O AERIE
PHARMACEUTICALS, INC., 4301
EMPEROR BLVD., SUITE 400

3. Date of Earliest Transaction
(Month/Day/Year)
02/19/2018

____ Director ____ 10% Owner
____X____ Officer (give title below) ____ Other (specify below)
General Counsel

(Street)
DURHAM, NC 27703

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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	02/19/2018		A	(A) or (D) Amount 18,000 (1)	Price \$ 0	18,000	D

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

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information contained in this form are not
required to respond unless the form
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SEC 1474
(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 Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Date (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 54.9	02/19/2018		A		70,000	(2) 02/19/2028	Common Stock 70,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LaRocca John C/O AERIE PHARMACEUTICALS, INC. 4301 EMPEROR BLVD., SUITE 400 DURHAM, NC 27703			General Counsel	

Signatures

/s/ John
LaRocca

02/21/2018

__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).

These shares of Common Stock were granted under the Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Amended and Restated Inducement Award Plan (the (1) "Plan") and are scheduled to vest, subject to the reporting person's continued employment with the issuer through the applicable vesting date, in equal installments on each of the first four anniversaries of February 19, 2018.

This option was granted under the Plan and is scheduled to vest, subject to the reporting person's continued employment with the issuer (2) through the applicable vesting date, as to 25% of the underlying shares on February 19, 2019 and as to the remaining underlying shares in substantially equal installments on each of the first 36 monthly anniversaries of February 19, 2019.

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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