

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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Wittekind Beverly B.</u> (Last) (First) (Middle) 27101 PUERTA REAL, STE 450 (Street) MISSION VIEJO CA 92691 (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>VP and General Counsel</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>10/30/2018</u>	
4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)		

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)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	10/30/2018		s ⁽¹⁾		168	D	\$37.079	53,816	D	
Common Stock	11/01/2018		M		5,998	A	\$4.56	59,814	D	
Common Stock	11/01/2018		M		12,000	A	\$4.35	71,814	D	
Common Stock	11/01/2018		s ⁽²⁾		4,000	D	\$40	67,814	D	
Common Stock	11/01/2018		s ⁽²⁾		4,998	D	\$41	62,816	D	
Common Stock	11/01/2018		s ⁽²⁾		4,000	D	\$42	58,816	D	
Common Stock	11/01/2018		s ⁽²⁾		5,000	D	\$43	53,816	D	

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 Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$4.56	11/01/2018		M			5,998	01/29/2010 ⁽³⁾	01/29/2019	Common Stock	5,998	\$0	0	D	
Common Stock	\$4.35	11/01/2018		M			12,000	07/23/2010 ⁽⁴⁾	07/23/2019	Common Stock	14,664	\$0	2,664	D	

Explanation of Responses:

- The transactions reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted on December 14, 2016.
- The transactions reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted on September 11, 2018.
- The option, representing a right to purchase a total of 10,988 shares, was granted on January 29, 2009 and became exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on January 29, 2010, which was the first anniversary of the date on which the option was granted.
- The option, representing a right to purchase a total of 14,664 shares, was granted on July 23, 2009 and became exercisable in five equal annual installments beginning on July 23, 2010, which was the first anniversary of the date on which the option was granted.

Remarks:

/s/ Chad A. Keetch, as power of attorney 11/01/2018

** Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

* 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).

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

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 Number.