

OMB APPROVAL	
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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>10/15/2018</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	10/15/2018		M		2,000	A	\$4.56	55,984	D	
Common Stock	10/15/2018		S <sup>(1)</sup>		2,000	D	\$38.021 <sup>(2)</sup>	53,984	D	
Common Stock	10/16/2018		M		3,000	A	\$4.56	56,984	D	
Common Stock	10/16/2018		S <sup>(1)</sup>		3,000	D	\$39	53,984	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	10/15/2018		M		2,000		01/29/2010 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/29/2019	Common Stock	2,000	\$0	8,998	D	
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$4.56	10/16/2018		M		3,000		01/29/2010 <sup>(3)</sup>	01/29/2019	Common Stock	3,000	\$0	5,998	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

- The transactions reported in this Form 4 were effected pursuant to a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan adopted on September 11, 2018.
- This transaction was executed in multiple trades at prices ranging from \$38.00 to \$38.23. The price above reflects the weighted average sale price. The reporting person hereby undertakes to provide upon request by the commission staff, the issuer, or a security holder of the issuer, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- The option, representing a right to purchase a total of 10,998 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.

**Remarks:**

/s/ Chad A. Keetch, as power of attorney 10/17/2018

\*\* 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.

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