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## 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

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 193/

#### OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden 0.5

|                                      |         |   | or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940                                 |                        |   |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---|--|------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1. Name and Addro                    | LLIAM R |   | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>CADENCE PHARMACEUTICALS INC</u> [ CADX] |                        | tionship of Reporting Per<br>all applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title<br>below) | on(s) to Issuer<br>10% Owner<br>Other (specify<br>below) |  |
| (Last)<br>C/O CADENC<br>12481 HIGH B |         | (Middle)<br>CEUTICALS, INC.<br>E, SUITE 200 | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>03/18/2009                         |                        | SVP, CFO, Treas, Asst Sec   |  |  |
| (Street)<br>SAN DIEGO                | СА      | 92130                                       | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                               | 6. Indiv<br>Line)<br>X | idual or Joint/Group Filin<br>Form filed by One Rep<br>Form filed by More tha<br>Person   | orting Person  |  |
| (City)                               | (State) | (Zip)                                       |  |                        |   |  |  |

### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. | Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Date Execution Date, |      |   | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and<br>5) |               |       | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership |
|----|------------------------------|--|----------------------|------|---|---|---------------|-------|---|---|---|
|    |                              |  |                      | Code | v | Amount  | (A) or<br>(D) | Price | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |   | (Instr. 4)  |

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

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | 5. Numb<br>of<br>Derivati<br>Securiti<br>Acquire<br>(A) or<br>Dispose<br>of (D) (II<br>3, 4 and | ve<br>es<br>d<br>ed<br>nstr. | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative<br>Security (Instr. 3<br>and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|---|------------------------------|--|--------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A)   | (D)                          | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title   | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |  |  |
| stock<br>option<br>(right to<br>buy)                | \$8.35  | 03/18/2009                                 |   | A                            |   | 63,000  |                              | (1)  | 03/17/2019         | common<br>stock   | 63,000                                 | (2)   | 63,000   | D  |  |

**Explanation of Responses:** 

1. 25% of the number of shares of common stock subject to the option vest one year after the date of grant, and 1/48th of the original number of shares of common stock subject to the option vest on the first day of each full month thereafter.

2. Not applicable to this transaction.

**Remarks:** 

### Hazel M. Aker Attorney-in-fact 03/20/2009

\*\* 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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