MARTIN DARRELL D

Form 4

January 09, 2006

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB 323

Expires:

Number: 3235-0287

January 31,

OMB APPROVAL

Estimated average

0.5

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obligations

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

may continue. *See* Instruction

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * MARTIN DARRELL D | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol MARKEL CORP [MKL] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--|----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| (Last) (First) | | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction | (Check all applicate) | | | |
| C/O MARKEL CORPORATION, 4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY | | | (Month/Day/Year) 01/09/2006 | Director 10% Owner _X Officer (give title Other (specify below) Executive VP | | | |
| (Street) | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check | | | |
| GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060 | | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | | |

| (City) | (State) 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) | Code (Instr. 8) | 4. SecuritonAcquired Disposed (Instr. 3, | (A) or of (D) 4 and 5) (A) or |) or (D) nd 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 | | | Code V | Amount | (D) Pr | псе | 29,988.855 <u>(1)</u> | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 3,307.738 (2) | I | 401(K) Plan (3) |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 3,500 | I | By Spouse (4) |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | 5,000 | I | By Trust (5) |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

number.

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

| 1. Title of Derivative | 2. Conversion | 3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | | 4. Transacti | 5. onNumber | 6. Date Exerc Expiration D | | 7. Title | | 8. Price of Derivative | 9. Nu Deriv |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Security (Instr. 3) | or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | | any (Month/Day/Year) | Code (Instr. 8) | of | (Month/Day/ e | | Underl Securit | erlying rities r. 3 and 4) | (Instr. 5) | Secur Bene Owne Follo Repo Trans (Instr |
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares | | |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

MARTIN DARRELL D

C/O MARKEL CORPORATION Executive 4521 HIGHWOODS PKWY VP GLEN ALLEN, VA 23060

Signatures

Linda S. Rotz, Attorney-in-fact for Darrell Dean

Martin 01/09/2006

**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) End of period holdings reflect change in form of beneficial ownership by reason of contribution by Mr. Martin of 5,000 shares to a Grantor Retained Annuity Trust.
- (2) This Form 4 is filed to update year-end 401(K) Plan holdings.
- Holdings under the Markel Corporation 401(K) Plan are reported in units. The information reported herein is based on a plan statement (3) dated as of December 30, 2005 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$317.05 per share. As of 12/30/2005, a unit under the
- (3) dated as of December 30, 2005 and utilizes the closing stock price on that date of \$317.05 per share. As of 12/30/2005, a unit under the Plan represented one share of Common Stock.
- (4) Beneficial ownership of securities is expressly disclaimed.
- (5) Mr. Martin is a Trustee and partial beneficiary of a Grantor Retained Annuity Trust.

Reporting Owners 2

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