### PAYNE MELVIN C

Form 4

Common

Stock

December 15	5, 2017												
<b>FORM</b>		OMB APPROVAL											
	UNITEDSTATE	S SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE Washington, D.C. 20549	~	MB umber: 3235-0287									
Check the if no long subject to Section 1 Form 4 o	STATEMENT (6.	STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES											
Form 5 obligations may continue.  See Instruction 1(b).  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													
(Print or Type Responses)													
1. Name and A	address of Reporting Person ** ELVIN C	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer										
		CARRIAGE SERVICES INC [CSV]	(Check all	applicable)									
(Last)	(First) (Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)	_X_ Director	10% Owner									
3040 POST 300	OAK BLVD, SUITE	12/14/2017		tleOther (specify below) CEO									
	(Street)	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										
HOUSTON	, TX 77056		Person	tnan One Reporting									
(City)	(State) (Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Ac	quired, Disposed of, or	Beneficially Owned									
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	any	on Date, if Transaction(A) or Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)  /Day/Year) (Instr. 8)	Securities For Beneficially (D) Owned Ind	Ownership 7. Nature of rm: Direct Indirect Beneficial lirect (I) Ownership str. 4) (Instr. 4)									
		(A) or Code V Amount (D) Price	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)										
Common Stock	12/14/2017	G 300 D \$ 25.84	1,128,378 D										
Common Stock			21,824 I	Melvin C. Payne, Jr. 2016 Annuity Trust									

Karen P. Payne

Annuity Trust

2016

21,824

I

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Common 6,694 I Spouse Stock

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

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(9-02)

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	of			7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options	\$ 26.54					<u>(1)</u>	03/21/2027	Common Stock	116,100
Performance Award	(2)					(2)	12/31/2021	Common Stock	26,380
Stock Options	\$ 20.06					(3)	02/23/2026	Common Stock	58,500
Performance Award	<u>(4)</u>					<u>(4)</u>	12/31/2020	Common Stock	17,900
Stock Options	\$ 22.58					(5)	02/24/2022	Common Stock	100,000
Stock Options	\$ 20.49					<u>(6)</u>	03/03/2019	Common Stock	100,000
Stock Options	\$ 16.73					<u>(7)</u>	05/22/2018	Common Stock	100,000
Stock Options	\$ 5.7					(8)	02/28/2021	Common Stock	3,284

# **Reporting Owners**

Relationships Reporting Owner Name / Address 10% Owner Officer Other Director

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PAYNE MELVIN C 3040 POST OAK BLVD SUITE 300 HOUSTON, TX 77056

X CEO

## **Signatures**

/s/ Melvin C. Payne 12/15/2017

\*\*Signature of Date
Reporting Person

# **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) Stock Options granted pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan which will vest 1/5 each year on 3/21/2018, 3/21/2019, 3/21/2020, 3/21/2021 and 3/21/2022. These stock options expire on 3/21/2027.

Represents performance-based awards, payable in shares, granted under the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. The award will vest (if at all) on December 31, 2021 provided that certain criteria surrounding Adjusted

- (2) Consolidated EBITDA (Adjusted Earnings Before Interest Tax Depreciation and Amortization) and Adjusted Consolidated EBITDA Margin performance is achieved and the Reporting Person has remained continuously employed by Carriage through such date. The Adjusted Consolidated EBITDA performance represents 50% of the award and the Adjusted Consolidated EBITDA Margin performance represents 50% of the award.
- (3) Stock Options granted pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan which 1/5 vested on 2/23/2017 and 1/5 will vest on 2/23/2018, 2/23/2019, 2/23/2020 and 2/23/2021. These stock options expire on 2/23/2026.

Represents performance-based awards, payable in shares, granted under the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan. The award will vest (if at all) on December 31, 2020 provided that certain criteria surrounding Adjusted

- (4) Consolidated EBITDA (Adjusted Earnings Before Interest Tax Depreciation and Amortization) and Relative Shareholder Return performance is achieved and the Reporting Person has remained continuously employed by Carriage through such date. The Relative Shareholder Return performance represents 75% of the award and the Adjusted Consolidated EBITDA performance represents 25% of the award.
- (5) Stock Options granted pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan which vested 1/3 on 2/24/2016, 1/3 on 2/24/2017 and 1/3 will vest on 2/24/2018. These stock options expire on 2/24/2022.
- (6) Stock Options granted pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan which vested 1/3 on 3/3/2015, 1/3 on 3/3/2016 and 1/3 on 3/3/2017. These stock options expire on 3/3/2019.
- (7) Stock Options grant pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan which vested 1/3 on 05/22/2014, 1/3 on 05/22/2015 and 1/3 on 05/22/2016. These stock options expire on 05/22/2018.
- Stock Options granted pursuant to the Carriage Services, Inc. Second Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan of 44,702 options granted on 02/28/2011, of which 14,900 options vested on 02/28/2012 and 3,283 were exercised on 12/20/2012, 14,901 options vested on 02/28/2013 and 14,000 were exercised on 11/06/2015 and 24,135 options were exercised on 03/29/2016. These stock options expire on 02/28/2021.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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