O NEIL FRANK B

Form 4

February 27, 2009

## FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

OMB Number:

3235-0287

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

Estimated average burden hours per

**OMB APPROVAL** 

response...

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5

obligations

**SECURITIES** Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, may continue.

Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section

30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1(b).

(Last)

(Print or Type Responses)

See Instruction

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* O NEIL FRANK B

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

PROASSURANCE CORP [PRA]

(Check all applicable)

C/O PROASSURANCE

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)

02/26/2009

Director below)

10% Owner \_X\_\_ Officer (give title \_\_X\_\_ Other (specify

below)

Senior Vice-President / Assistant Secretary

CORPORATION, 100 **BROOKWOOD PLACE** 

4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

(Street) Filed(Month/Day/Year)

(Middle)

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811

| (City)                               | (State)                                 | (Zip) Tak   | ole I - Non- | -Derivativ   | e Secu           | ırities A  | cquired, Dispose                               | ed of, or Bene  | ficially Owned                  |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--------------|--------------|------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------|
| 1.Title of<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code (D)     |              |                  | 5. Amount of 6. Securities Ownership Beneficially Form: Owned Direct (D) Following or Indirect |  | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) |                                 |
|                                      |   |   | Code V       | Amount       | (A)<br>or<br>(D) | Price  | Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) | (I)<br>(Instr. 4)                                     |                                 |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 02/26/2009                              |   | A            | 1,563<br>(1) | A                | \$0  | 26,439   | D   |                                 |
| Common<br>Stock                      | 02/26/2009                              |   | A            | 1,045<br>(2) | A                | \$<br>47.7   | 24,876   | D   |                                 |
| Common<br>Stock                      |   |   |              |              |                  |  | 629  | I   | In Trust (3)                    |
| Common<br>Stock                      |   |   |              |              |                  |  | 2,025  | I   | Shares held in the ProAssurance |

**Group Savings** 

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|  |  |   | and<br>Retirement<br>Plan   |
|--|--|---|---|
| Common<br>Stock  | 598  | I | Shares held in childrens' UTMA accounts for which the reporting person is the trustee |
| Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities benefic | cially owned directly or indirectly.                           |   |   |
|  | Persons who respond to the co information contained in this fo |   | SEC 1474<br>(9-02)  |

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 control number.

 $\label{thm:convertible} \begin{tabular}{ll} Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned \\ (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities) \end{tabular}$ 

| 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 Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | e 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code   | 5. Number iomf Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | ation Date         |                 | 7. Title and Amount Underlying Securitie (Instr. 3 and 4) |  |
|---|---|---|---|--------|---|--|--------------------|-----------------|---|--|
|   |   |   |   | Code V | (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable                                     | Expiration<br>Date | Title           | Amous<br>or<br>Numb<br>of<br>Shares                       |  |
| Restricted<br>Stock<br>Units                        | <u>(4)</u>  | 02/26/2009                              |   | A      | 1,040   | <u>(4)</u>   | <u>(4)</u>         | Common<br>Stock | 1,04  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)    | \$ 54.28  |   |   |        |   | 09/01/2008 <u>(5)</u>                                | 09/01/2018         | Common<br>Stock | 6,25  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)    | \$ 51.48  |   |   |        |   | 09/10/2007 <u>(6)</u>                                | 09/10/2017         | Common<br>Stock | 6,25  |  |
| Employee<br>Stock                                   | \$ 51.38  |   |   |        |   | 09/11/2006(7)  | 09/11/2016         | Common<br>Stock | 1,25  |  |

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| Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy)                      |          |                       |            |                 |      |
|--|----------|-----------------------|------------|-----------------|------|
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy) | \$ 41.15 | 09/10/2005 <u>(8)</u> | 09/10/2015 | Common<br>Stock | 5,00 |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy) | \$ 33.28 | 09/10/2004 <u>(9)</u> | 09/10/2014 | Common<br>Stock | 5,00 |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy) | \$ 56.43 | 11/15/2008(10)        | 12/02/2009 | Common<br>Stock | 737  |
| Employee<br>Stock<br>Option<br>(Right to<br>Buy) | \$ 56.43 | 11/15/2008(10)        | 12/01/2008 | Common<br>Stock | 1,03 |

## **Reporting Owners**

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

O NEIL FRANK B C/O PROASSURANCE CORPORATION 100 BROOKWOOD PLACE BIRMINGHAM, AL 35209-6811

Senior Vice-President Assistant Secretary

### **Signatures**

Frank B. O'Neil 02/27/2009 \*\*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).

Payout of Performance Shares awarded to the reporting person upon compleition of a three year performance period in 2009. (1)

The Compensation Committee (consisting entirely of independent directors) of the ProAssurance Corporation Board of

Directors reviewed the company's performance against the defined criteria and approved this award.

These shares are exempt under Rule 16b-3. Bonus shares awarded to the reporting person under the terms of the **(2)** ProAssurance 2008 Equity Incentive Plan by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. The Compensation

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Committee is comprised solely of independent, non-employee directors

(3) Shares are held in the George O'Neil Generation-Skipping Trust, Non-Exempt, fbo Frank B. O'Neil. The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership because the Trustee retains sole investment control over the shares.

Each Restricted Stock Unit (RSU) represents a contingent right to receive one share of ProAssurance Corporation common stock, issueable from the 2008 Equity Incentive Plan. The RSUs will vest if the reporting person remains continuously employed by ProAssurance or one of its subsidiaries until February 26, 2012 (three years from date of grant). Vesting will accelerate upon termination of employment as the result of (i) death; (ii) disability; or (iii) Good Reason, as defined in the reporting person's employment agreement with ProAssurance Corporation, or by action of the Compensation Committee of the ProAssurance Corporation Board of Directors. The RSUs will be settled in shares of ProAssurance Common Stock and in cash, with the cash portion being approximately equal to the federal, state, and local taxes.

- (5) The options vest in five equal, yearly installments commencing on September 1, 2008
- (6) The options vest in five equal, yearly installments commencing on September 10, 2007
- (7) The options vest in five equal, yearly installments commencing on September 11, 2006
- (8) The options vest in five equal installments commencing on September 10, 2005
- (9) The options vest in five equal installments commencing on September 10, 2004

These are automatic reload rights resulting from the exercise of options under an existing grant to purchase shares under the ProAssurance Corporation Incentive Compensation Stock Plan. These reload options vest one year from the date of grant, provided that the Reporting Person maintains ownership of the ProAssurance shares that were purchased upon the exercise of the subject options. The grant of reload options to purchase ProAssurance shares reported herein is exempt from Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended ("the Act") by virtue Rule 16b-3(d) promulgated under the Act.

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.

**(4)**