

CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP
 Form 4
 February 25, 2008

FORM 4

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

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 OF 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 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
WONG IRWIN

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
CATHAY GENERAL BANCORP [CATY]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
777 NORTH BROADWAY
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
02/21/2008

____ Director _____ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) _____ Other (specify below)
EVP - Branch Administration

LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
 (City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 ___ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D) Price			
Common Stock					9,918.33 ⁽¹⁾	D	
Common Stock					15,940.59	I	By ESOP

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

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.

SEC 1474 (9-02)

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) Includes 21.64 shares acquired through dividend reinvestment year-to-date.
- (2) The option is fully exercisable.
- (3) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 11/20/04.
- (4) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/17/06.
- (5) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 1/25/07.
- (6) The option vests in 5 equal annual installments beginning 2/21/09.

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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