FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

| OMB APPROVAL | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number: | 3235-0287 | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated average burden | | | | | | | | | |
| hours per response: | 0.5 | | | | | | | | |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* HOLCOMB G STEPHEN | | | | | | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol KIRBY CORP [KEX] | | | | | | | | | Check all ap Dire | plicable) | | ssuer Owner (specify | |
|--|---|--|---|---------------|---|---|---------|--------------------|--|----------|---|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 55 WAUGH DRIVE SUITE 1000 | | | | | | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/21/2004 | | | | | | | | | ^ belo | w) Ü | below restor Relation |)` | |
| (Street) HOUSTON TX 77007 (City) (State) (Zip) | | | | | 4. If | 4. If Amendment, Date of 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 Person | | | | |
| | | Tabl | e I - Non | -Deriv | ative | Sec | curitie | s Acc | uired, | Disp | osed o | f, or | Bene | ficia | ally Own | ed | | | |
| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transac Date (Month/Date) | | | | Day/Year) E | | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | | Transaction Dispos | | Disposed | rities Acquired (A) ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, | | | nd Secur Benet | icially d Following | 6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | v | Amount | Amount (A) or (D) | | Price | Trans | action(s) 3 and 4) | | (111511.4) | |
| Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share 12/21/. | | | | | L/2004 | /2004 | | G | | 400 | | D | (1) | | 5,150 | D | | | |
| Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2,626 | I | 401K Plan | | |
| 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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8) | | n of | | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | | | 7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4) | | tr. 3 | 8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4) | |
| | | | | | Code | v | (A) | | Date Exercisal | | Expiration Date | Title | Amo or Num of Shar | ber | | | | | |

Explanation of Responses:

Bona fide gift for no consideration of any kind.

Remarks:

G. Stephen Holcomb 12/23/2004

** 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.

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 Number.