ENSIGN GROUP, INC

Check this box

if no longer

subject to

Section 16.

Form 4

October 31, 2008

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF **SECURITIES**

OMB APPROVAL

OMB 3235-0287 Number:

January 31, Expires: 2005

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Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Dalton Michael

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450

(Street)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

Issuer

Symbol

ENSIGN GROUP, INC [ENSG]

(Check all applicable)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Last)

Security

(Instr. 3)

(First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

(Month/Day/Year)

10/29/2008

Director 10% Owner Other (specify X_ Officer (give title

President of a subsidiary

below) below)

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Code

(Instr. 8)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

Applicable Line)

X 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

MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691

(City) (State) (Zip) 1. Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed

(Month/Day/Year)

3. 4. Securities Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or

Disposed of (D)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial (T)

(Instr. 4)

Ownership (Instr. 4)

(9-02)

(A)

(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)

Reported Transaction(s)

Following

(Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price

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

(Month/Day/Year)

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

1. Title of Derivative Security

Conversion or Exercise

3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed (Month/Day/Year)

Execution Date, if any

4. 5. Number of **Transaction**Derivative Code Securities

6. Date Exercisable and **Expiration Date** (Month/Day/Year)

7. Title and Amount of **Underlying Securities** (Instr. 3 and 4)

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(Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (A)
Derivative or Disposed of Security (D)
(Instr. 3, 4,

and 5)

Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Amount Exercisable Date or

Number of Shares

Employee

Stock Option (right to

\$ 14.87 10/29/2008

A 10,000

<u>(1)</u> 10/28/2018

Common Stock 10,000

buy)

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

Dalton Michael

27101 PUERTA REAL, SUITE 450 MISSION VIEJO, CA 92691 President of a subsidiary

Signatures

Daniel Walker, by power of attorney

10/31/2008

**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) The option vests in five equal annual installments beginning on October 29, 2009.

Remarks:

President of Bandera Healthcare, Inc.

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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