

# 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 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * Hance Michael L <small>(Last) (First) (Middle)</small> 1915 SNAPPS FERRY ROAD, BUILDING N <small>(Street)</small> GREENEVILLE, TN 37745 <small>(City) (State) (Zip)</small>		2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FORWARD AIR CORP [FWRD]		3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/06/2017		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <small>Director</small> _____ <small>10% Owner</small> _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <small>Officer (give title below)</small> Senior VP, CLO and Secretary <small>Other (specify below)</small> _____	
		4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/06/2017		A		2,300 (1)	A	\$ 0	19,352.3062 (2)	D	
Common Stock	02/06/2017		F(3)		129	D	\$ 0	19,223.3062	D	

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

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SEC 1474 (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. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 47.82	02/06/2017		A		9,098	(4)	02/06/2024	Common Stock	9,098.00	\$ 0	9,098	D	

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Hance Michael L 1915 SNAPPS FERRY ROAD BUILDING N GREENEVILLE, TN 37745			Senior VP, CLO and Secretary	

## Signatures

/s/ Michael P. McLean, Attorney-in-Fact <small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small>	02/08/2017 <small>Date</small>
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## 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) Award of time-vesting restricted stock under the Forward Air Corporation 2016 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan in a transaction exempt from Section 16(b) under Rule 16b-3. The stock vests equally in one-third increments over three years commencing 2/6/18 and fully vesting on 2/6/20.
- (2) Includes 6,587 shares acquired under the Issuer's employee stock purchase plan in June and December 2016.
- (3) Restricted stock withheld by Issuer to satisfy minimum tax withholding obligation on vesting of restricted stock.
- (4) This option vests 33-1/3% each year over a three year period commencing on 2/6/18.

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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