

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 * BELL RODNEY L			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol FORWARD AIR CORP [FWRD]			5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) Director _____ 10% Owner _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) _____ CFO, SVP & Treasurer		
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 02/08/2009					
430 AIRPORT ROAD			(Street)			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		
GREENEVILLE, TN 37745			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)					
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	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	12/31/2008		J(1)	V	22	(1)	A	\$ 0 (1)	35,638 (1)	D	
Common Stock	02/12/2009		F(2)		1,088		D	\$ 0 (2)	34,550 (2)	D	

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

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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 (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	Amount or Number of Shares				
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 22.87	02/08/2009		A		50,000	(3)	02/08/2016	Common Stock	50,000	\$ 0 (3)	50,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 23.1667						(4)	02/12/2011	Common Stock	70,686		70,686	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 18.82						(5)	02/04/2014	Common Stock	30,000		30,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 31.65						(6)	02/11/2014	Common Stock	50,000		50,000	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 28.9733						(7)	02/14/2015	Common Stock	112,500		112,500	D	
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$ 29.44						(8)	02/10/2018	Common Stock	45,000		45,000	D	

Reporting Owners

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

BELL RODNEY L 430 AIRPORT ROAD GREENEVILLE, TN 37745		CFO, SVP & Treasurer
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Signatures

/s/ Michael P. McLean, Attorney-in-Fact <small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small>		02/17/2009 <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) Includes 22 shares acquired under the Issuer's employee stock purchase plan in June and December 2008.
 - (2) Restricted stock withheld by Issuer to satisfy tax withholding obligation on vesting of restricted stock.
 - (3) This is a vesting schedule, 33-1/3% over 3 years commencing on 2/8/10.
 - (4) This is a vesting schedule, 33-1/3% over 3 years commencing on 2/12/2002.
 - (5) This is a vesting schedule, 33-1/3% over 3 years commencing on 2/4/2005.
 - (6) This is a vesting schedule, 33-1/3% over 3 years commencing on 2/11/2008.
 - (7) This is a vesting schedule, 33-1/3% over 3 years commencing on 2/14/2006.
 - (8) This is a vesting schedule, 33-1/3% over 3 years commencing on 2/10/2009.

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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