| FORM 4 |
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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).     |

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

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

#### 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

| (rint of Type Responses)                  |                                  |  |  |                                      |   |  |               |   |  |  |  |
|---|----------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------|---|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of I<br>RUBLE CHRIS C | 2. Issuer Name an<br>FORWARD AIR |  |  | 0,                                   | 1 | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br>Director 10% Owner |               |   |  |  |  |
| 430 AIRPORT ROAI                          | (First)<br>D                     | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>02/07/2013 |  |                                      |   |  |               | X_Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)    Executive VP, Operations   |  |  |  |
| GREENEVILLE, TN                           | (Street)<br>37745                | 4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)           |  |                                      |   |  |               | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)<br>_X_Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |  |  |
| (City)                                    | (State)                          | (Zip)  | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned |                                      |   |  |               |   |  |  |  |
| 1.Title of Security<br>(Instr. 3)         |                                  | 2. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year)                     | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date, if<br>any<br>(Month/Day/Year)                      | 3. Transaction<br>Code<br>(Instr. 8) |   | 4. Securities Acquired<br>(A) or Disposed of (D)<br>(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)                          |               | of (D)  | 5. Amount of Securities<br>Beneficially Owned Following<br>Reported Transaction(s) | Ownership                                      | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial |
|   |                                  |  |  | Code                                 | v | Amount   | (A) or<br>(D) | Price   | (Instr. 3 and 4)   | Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I)<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownership<br>(Instr. 4)                |
| Common Stock                              |                                  | 12/31/2012   |  | J                                    | v | 44.1321<br>(1)   | A             | \$ 0<br>(1)   | 7,003.3886   | D  |  |
| Common Stock                              |                                  | 02/07/2013   |  | А                                    |   | 2,961<br>(2)   | А             | \$ 0  | 9,964.3886   | D  |  |

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information SEC 1474 (9-02) contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| (e.g., puts, cans, warrants, options, convertible securities) |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 |                |                 |             |          |            |
|---|----------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|---|------------------|-----|------------------|------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|----------|------------|
| 1. Title of   |                |                  | 3A. Deemed         |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 |                |                 |             |          | 11. Nature |
|   | Conversion     |                  | Execution Date, if |                       |   | Expiration Date  |     |                  |            | Derivative      | Derivative     | Ownership       | of Indirect |          |            |
| Security  | or Exercise    | (Month/Day/Year) | any                | Code Derivative       |   | (Month/Day/Year) |     | Underlying       |            | Security        | Securities     | Form of         | Beneficial  |          |            |
| (Instr. 3)  | Price of       |                  | (Month/Day/Year)   | (Instr. 8) Securities |   |                  |     | Securities       |            | (Instr. 5)      | Beneficially   | Derivative      | Ownership   |          |            |
|   | Derivative     |                  |                    | Acquired              |   |                  |     | (Instr. 3 and 4) |            |                 | Owned          | Security:       | (Instr. 4)  |          |            |
|   | Security       |                  |                    | (A) or                |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 | Following      | Direct (D)      |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    | Disposed              |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 | 0              | or Indirect     |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    | of (D)                |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 | Transaction(s) |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    | (Instr. 3, 4,         |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 | · · · ·        | (Instr. 4)      |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   | and 5)           | , , |                  |            |                 |                |                 | (instr. i)  | (msu. i) |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   | and <i>S</i> )   | -   |                  | 1          |                 |                |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 | Amount         |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     | Date             | Expiration |                 | or             |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     | Exercisable      |            | Title           | Number         |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     | Excicisable      | Date       |                 | of             |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    | Code                  | V | (A)              | (D) |                  |            |                 | Shares         |                 |             |          |            |
| Stock   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 |                |                 |             |          |            |
|   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            | Comment         |                |                 |             |          |            |
| Option  | \$ 37.14       | 02/07/2013       |                    | Α                     |   | 8,080            |     | <u>(3)</u>       | 02/07/2020 | Common<br>Stock | 8.080          | \$ 0 <u>(3)</u> | 8,080       | D        |            |
| (Right to   | <i>\$ 5711</i> | 02/07/2010       |                    |                       |   | 0,000            |     |                  | 02/0//2020 | Stock           | 0,000          | <b>Ф</b> О      | 0,000       | 2        |            |
| Buy)  |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 |                |                 |             |          |            |
| ,))   |                |                  |                    |                       |   |                  |     |                  |            |                 |                |                 |             |          |            |

## **Reporting Owners**

|  | Relationships |           |                          |       |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|---------------|-----------|--------------------------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Reporting Owner Name / Address                             | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer                  | Other |  |  |  |  |  |
| RUBLE CHRIS C<br>430 AIRPORT ROAD<br>GREENEVILLE, TN 37745 |               |           | Executive VP, Operations |       |  |  |  |  |  |

## Signatures

/s/ Michael P. McLean, Attorney-in-Fact

02/11/2013 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) Includes 44.1321 shares acquired under the Issuer's employee stock purchase plan in December 2012.

(3) This option vests 33-1/3% each year over a three year period commencing on 2/7/14.

<sup>(2)</sup> Award of time-vesting restricted stock under the Forward Air Corporation Amended and Restated Stock Option and Incentive 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 2/7/14 and fully vesting on 2/7/16.

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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